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MIRI-BINTULU REGIONAL PLANNING STUDY

FOR

THE GOVERNMENT OF MALAYSIA

AND

THE STATE OF SARAWAK

PROGRESS REPORT

No. 7

JUNE 1973

MIRI-BINTULU REGIONAL PLANNING STUDY
FOR THE
GOVERNMENT OF MALAYSIA & THE STATE OF SARAWAK

PROGRESS REPORT NO. 7

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INTRODUCTION

This report covers the period from 1st of April to the end of May, 1973. The period has been dominated by the discussion of the Perspective Plan at the Steering Committee meeting on 18th April and of follow-up discussions and correspondence aiming at transforming the more general conclusions and recommendations of the Perspective Plan into the more concrete planning of Phase II.

Several memoranda have been prepared and sent to the Government for distribution to members of the Steering Committee. These papers ask for clarification of some important guidelines for the detailed planning. Early reactions to these matters are necessary.

A detailed Working Programme has been set up for the team from which a "Plan of Operations and Monthly Progress Chart" has been derived. The Progress Chart has been attached to this Progress Report. Several Working Papers have been completed and distributed.

PROJECT MANAGEMENT

1. Staffing - additional to Report No. 6.

	<u>Position and Name</u>	<u>Chargeable dates</u>
14.	F. H. Andersen, Financial Analyst	from 17.5.73
21.	R. J. Spooner, Director and Area Manager, H.T.S.	16-24.4.73
C3	W. J. A. Payne, Livestock Specialist	to 7.5.73
C4	J. Joyce, Head Economist, H.T.S.	6-16.5.73
	Non chargeable leave of absence:	
	H. A. Rancom, Administrative Manager	7 days
	Amendment to Report No. 6	
C3	W. J. A. Payne, chargeable date should read	from 17.3.73

2. Administration and Finance

- (a) Supplies and Services - satisfactory
- (b) The eleventh and twelfth Statements of Account were submitted on the due dates.
- (c) The seventh and eighth (part) deposits of local funds have been received.

3. Schedule of Work

The programme of work for the next reporting period is as set out in the progress chart at cover.

4. Survey Maps and Reports

The mapping programme for the final set of resources maps has now been finalised and work is in hand on the preparation of the final drawings for

the sample area maps and compilation of the semi-detailed master plan maps.

A request has been made to Economic Planning Unit through the State Financial Secretary for details of the numbers of the final report that will be required for printing, and work is in hand on the nature and content that the supporting volumes will take.

PROGRESS

SECTION A

NATURAL RESOURCES STUDIES

1. SOILS

The Research Branch of the Department of Agriculture has issued a revised soil classification referred to in Progress Report No. 6. This document called "A Draft Reclassification of Soils in Central and North Sarawak" is now the basis for soil mapping by the Consultants.

1.1 Study of Soil Erosion

Routine maintenance and checking of the trial sites has been carried out.

1.2 Sample Areas

Mapping

The four sample areas previously mapped have been remapped on the basis of the modified soil classification.

Terrain and Soil maps for Sample Area A, B, C and Sungai Karabungan have been handed to the Drawing Office for fair drawing. These maps are at 1:25 000 scale for Sample Area A, B and C and at 1:20 000 scale for Sungai Karabungan Sample Area.

A draft Land Capability map for Sungai Karabungan Sample Area has been completed (scale 1:20 000) and handed over for fair drawing.

1.3 Semi-Detailed Master Plan Area

During this period 3 km of survey trace lines have been cut, bringing the total to 221 km for the study of this area.

Soil Survey

Soil survey of the Semi-Detailed Master Plan Area was completed. The

total of trace lines surveyed amounted to 221 km, with a total of 793 observation sites including 40 soil pits. The soil pits were sampled for chemical and mechanical analyses. A large number of unrecorded checkbores were employed to aid the soil mapping.

Mapping

The total area covered by Terrain and Soil mapping is about 1.5 mn acres of which the Semi-Detailed Master Plan Area only covers a small part, the remainder is land unsuitable for agriculture interspersed among land possibly suitable for agricultural development.

The Terrain Classification maps at a scale of 1:50 000 have been completed; these have been photographically reduced to a scale of 1:100 000. Compilations of the Terrain Classification maps to this scale is progressing satisfactorily.

Soil mapping at 1:50 000 scale is in progress, but due to field work commitments for the Detailed Plan Area the completion of these maps will have to be postponed until early July.

1.4 Detailed Plan Area

Areas required for soil survey have been selected, these are shown on Figure 1.

Rentis Cutting

A total of 169 km of trace lines has been cut in the Sungai Galasah, Sungai Sawai and Beluru Areas.

The Rentis Cutting Team working in the Beluru Area reported that local longhouse people had repeatedly tampered with distance markers on the survey trace lines. This matter has been reported to the Officials concerned.

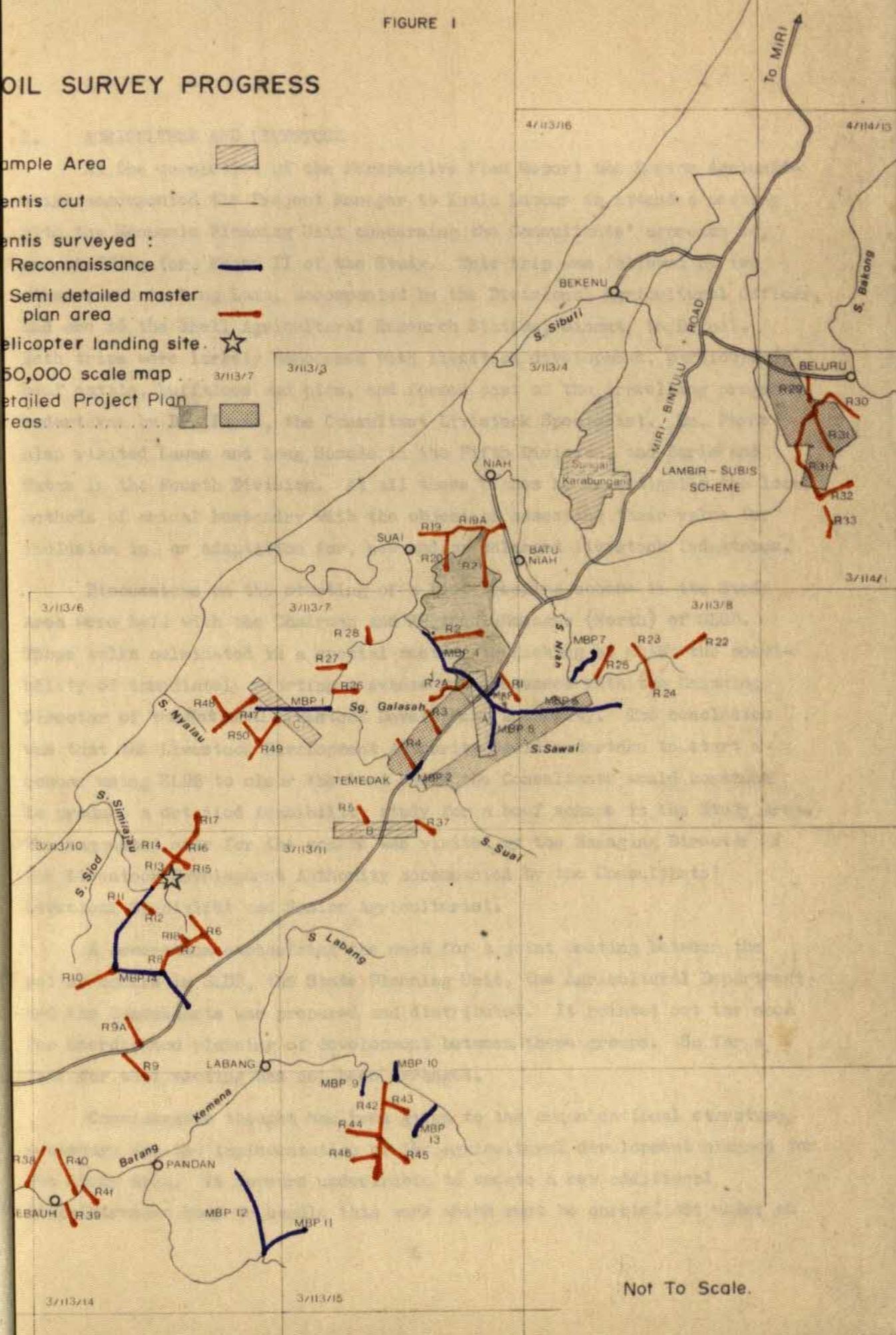
Soil Survey

During the period under review the semi-detailed survey, of the Sungai Galasah Area has been completed; about 11 000 acres were surveyed.

FIGURE 1

OIL SURVEY PROGRESS

- Sample Area 
- Access cut 
- Access surveyed :
Reconnaissance 
- Semi detailed master plan area 
- Helicopter landing site 
- 50,000 scale map 
- Detailed Project Plan areas 



Not To Scale.

2. AGRICULTURE AND LIVESTOCK

At the completion of the Perspective Plan Report the Senior Agriculturist accompanied the Project Manager to Kuala Lumpur to attend a meeting with the Economic Planning Unit concerning the Consultants' approach to, and staffing for, Phase II of the Study. This trip was followed by two others; one to Long Lama, accompanied by the Divisional Agricultural Officer, and one to the Shell Agricultural Research Station, Sinaut, in Brunei. Both trips were largely concerned with livestock development, particularly beef cattle, buffaloes and pigs, and formed part of the travelling programme undertaken by Dr. Payne, the Consultant Livestock Specialist. Dr. Payne also visited Lawas and Long Semado in the Fifth Division, and Bario and Tatau in the Fourth Division. At all these places he investigated the local methods of animal husbandry with the object of assessing their value for inclusion in, or adaptation for, new and/or enlarged livestock industries.

Discussions on the starting of a beef breeding scheme in the Study Area were held with the Chairman and Regional Manager (North) of SLDB. These talks culminated in a special meeting in Kuching at which the possibility of immediately starting a scheme was discussed with the Managing Director of the National Livestock Development Authority. The conclusion was that the Livestock Development Authority would undertake to start a scheme using SLDB to clear the land while the Consultants would continue to produce a detailed feasibility study for a beef scheme in the Study Area. The suggested site for the scheme was visited by the Managing Director of the Livestock Development Authority accompanied by the Consultants' Livestock Specialist and Senior Agriculturist.

A memorandum emphasising the need for a joint meeting between the policy makers in SLDB, the State Planning Unit, the Agricultural Department and the Consultants was prepared and distributed. It pointed out the need for coordinated planning of development between these groups. So far a date for this meeting has not been arranged.

Considerable thought has been given to the organisational structure necessary for the implementation of the agricultural development planned for the Study Area. It appears undesirable to create a new additional administrative body to handle this work which must be carried out under an

overall controlling organisation in order to ensure its coordination with other development aspects. The conclusion so far reached is that all agricultural development planned within 'Development Units', to be delineated by the Consultants, should be carried out by the SLDB. This organisation will need to be expanded, in this Northern Region, by the addition of a Section to undertake small-holder settlement and road-based improvement schemes which will form an integral part of the total development within a 'Development Unit'. These ideas were briefly described by the Project Manager and the Senior Agriculturist at a briefing given to Dr. Sulaiman bin Hj. Daud, the Minister for Land and Mineral Resources, during his recent visit to Miri. A paper outlining the organisation envisaged is being prepared.

3. AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS

In conjunction with the Senior Agriculturist steady progress has been made on activity analyses for the major agricultural enterprises. Oil palm, pepper, selected diversification crops, pork, poultry and small-holder beef have been covered so far. This work will continue as agronomic details are finalised.

A major part of the Agricultural Economist's time was taken up in work associated with the Consultant Livestock Specialist during his visit and the formulation of ideas for the development of livestock enterprises in the Study Area including beef, pork, poultry and small stock.

Preliminary discussions and analysis of the possible content and location of first stage development projects have taken place with members of the Study Team to which the Agricultural Economist has contributed on the following aspects:-

- i) development units and activity mix;
- ii) organisation structure and staff requirements.

Good progress has been made with the farm survey for which the field work has been virtually completed. The smooth operation of this programme which has been supervised by the Counterpart Agricultural Officer would not have been possible without the considerable assistance given by the District

Agricultural staff and the Agricultural Economics Section of the Department of Agriculture. Tabulation and analysis of the data collected has now commenced.

Other activities which have occupied the agricultural economics section during the period included the following:-

- a) attending the Steering Committee meeting in Kuching on 18th April which was followed by discussions with the SPU, SLDB and Department of Agriculture on the Perspective Plan and Phase II developments;
- b) discussions with the Senior Economist from Hunting Technical Services who visited Miri for ten days. The discussions involved a review of work carried out to date and the work programme required for Phase II of the study;
- c) discussions with staff from ICI and Chemara Agricultural Services on various technical and economic aspects connected with the major agricultural activities being considered for development of the Study Area;
- d) visits were made to the Sinaut Agricultural Station in Brunei and to Bario in the Kelabit Highlands in connection with the Livestock Specialist's programme of work. Useful information was collected for the economic evaluation of livestock development.

4. FORESTRY

The agreed diagnostic sample survey of roughly 385 acres involving about 8 000 chains of transects was completed at the end of May, despite unusually adverse weather conditions. The Consultants wish to record their appreciation of the team leaders' hard work in completing the programmes so expeditiously; they also wish to thank the Forest Department, particularly the Silvicultural Section in Sibuluan, for their cooperation in this work.

The Consultant Forester is due to rejoin the Project in August 1973, when the final assessment of the Survey will be undertaken with the Conservator and his Silvicultural staff who are already analysing the field data.

5. WATER RESOURCES

Recording of hydrological and climatological data continues.

GENERAL SUMMARY

The collection of hydrological and climatological data continues at the various stations of the Study for each particular station of the country. An additional Bulletin Paper on the more general aspects of recording of the water resources is in the process of being prepared. The results of the studies made in connection with the International Year of Water Resources have been summarized.

GENERAL AND SPECIFIC OBSERVATIONS

The General Summary has mentioned observations and specific studies which are considered suitable for the Study. In all cases, where necessary, in addition with appropriate reference to the specific studies, the following are mentioned: (1) THE STUDY OF THE WATER RESOURCES OF THE COUNTRY, (2) THE STUDY OF THE WATER RESOURCES OF THE COUNTRY, (3) THE STUDY OF THE WATER RESOURCES OF THE COUNTRY, (4) THE STUDY OF THE WATER RESOURCES OF THE COUNTRY, (5) THE STUDY OF THE WATER RESOURCES OF THE COUNTRY.

The General Summary has mentioned the activities and investigations by the various stations and the results obtained. In all cases, where necessary, in addition with appropriate reference to the specific studies, the following are mentioned: (1) THE STUDY OF THE WATER RESOURCES OF THE COUNTRY, (2) THE STUDY OF THE WATER RESOURCES OF THE COUNTRY, (3) THE STUDY OF THE WATER RESOURCES OF THE COUNTRY, (4) THE STUDY OF THE WATER RESOURCES OF THE COUNTRY, (5) THE STUDY OF THE WATER RESOURCES OF THE COUNTRY.

The following are the main activities and investigations of the various stations and the results obtained. In all cases, where necessary, in addition with appropriate reference to the specific studies, the following are mentioned: (1) THE STUDY OF THE WATER RESOURCES OF THE COUNTRY, (2) THE STUDY OF THE WATER RESOURCES OF THE COUNTRY, (3) THE STUDY OF THE WATER RESOURCES OF THE COUNTRY, (4) THE STUDY OF THE WATER RESOURCES OF THE COUNTRY, (5) THE STUDY OF THE WATER RESOURCES OF THE COUNTRY.

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SECTION B

POPULATION AND PRODUCTION

1. MANPOWER TRAINING

The question of manpower training will be covered by the various sections of the Study for each particular sector of the economy. In addition a Working Paper on the more general aspects of training is now under preparation. The results of the studies made in Sarawak by the International Labour Organisation have been asked for.

2. GENERAL AND INDUSTRIAL ECONOMICS

The General Economist has continued investigations into specific industries which are considered suitable for the Study Area. He has discussed these matters in Kuching with representatives of Borneo Development Corporation, SEDC, MIDF, FIDA, SPU, SFS and FAO. A representative for FAO has visited Miri for further investigations on the spot-together with our economist.

The General Economist has continued his contacts and investigations by a tour to Sibu, Singapore and Kuala Lumpur, commenced on the 19th May and expected to be completed on the 2nd June. He is visiting a number of public agencies, such as FIDA, MIDF and EPU, as well as several private enterprises in order to collect information on technical and economic aspects of producing and marketing special products.

The studies so far seem to indicate the desirability of a coordination of the efforts of industrialisation of Sarawak in general and of the Study Area in particular; the establishment of a special institution or section of an already existing body for carrying out promotional work within and outside Malaysia will be considered.

When the results of the above mentioned tour has been studied it may be necessary to reconsider the scope of the Consultants' task in connection with the industrialisation programme. These considerations will be concerned

with how to relate the industrial development in the Study Area with planning of similar development in other parts of Sarawak and Peninsular Malaysia and with the actual cooperation between the Consultants and existing organisations working with industrialisation.

During the period under review the Counterpart Economist was largely occupied with the examination of low costs housing in Sarawak, pre-fabricated housing and a market survey of glass bottles requirements in Sarawak, Sabah and Brunei. In this connection, field visits were made (2nd April to 5th April, 1973) to the silica sand concession area at Sungai Kidurong in Bintulu for the glass-bottling study. A visit (10th April to 19th April, 1973) was also made to Kuching, where discussions were carried out with heads of relevant Departments and organisations on their views on housing in the State.

The Financial Economist joined the team Friday, 18th May. On his way to Miri he visited the head office of UNIDO in Vienna. The main purpose of the visit was to examine to what extent and on which conditions UNIDO could offer us help in the elaboration of the industrialisation programme.

After arriving in Miri the Financial Economist has familiarised himself with the job and prepared a Working Programme covering the financial problems. He has concentrated on reading, the Perspective Plan, the Association Papers "Present State" and "Development Strategies" and other papers describing the programme of work for Phase II.

The preliminary programme for the procedure in the financial planning include the following main points:-

- 1) Clarification of the problems arising in connection with the choice of using fixed prices in the financial planning process;
- 2) Defining the planning bricks:
 - demarcation of sectors and
 - description of projects with regard to: contents, costs, effects, links and possibilities of financing;
- 3) Ranking of projects within each sector; this point will require periodical political decisions;
- 4) Computations of financial requirements for implementing the

proposed projects;

- 5) Estimates of the financial potentials and constraints;
- 6) Ranking of projects across sectors in order to establish the action programme and the financial plan connected with it. Here the political decisions are also extremely important.

SECTION C

TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS

During this period a field trip, together with the Project Manager, was made to Marudi and to the Upper Baram as far as Long San. The purpose was familiarisation with this part of the Study Area and the bordering areas, and to discuss development potentials and associated problems with Government officials and local leaders. The people in this area see the marketing and transport of their produce as their main problems which emphasises the importance of a road connection between Long Lama and the Miri-Bintulu Road.

A detailed Work Programme for Phase II of the Study has been prepared and the work on Phase II is progressing. In this period the following working papers have been completed and distributed:-

- WP No. 41: Water Transport in and to/from the Study Area;
- WP No. 42: Sample Surveys of Road and Water Transport in the Study Area;
- WP No. 46: Road Administration and Construction in Sarawak;
- WP No. 47: Airport Development in the Study Area.

A request for a Counterpart Transport Planner, preferably a road engineer, has been sent to the PWD through the State Financial Secretary. The counterpart urgently needed now to assist with the planning and calculations of the numerous roads necessary for the envisaged development. In the next few months the process of working out action programmes on transport will continue and in June the Consultants Senior Port Engineer will join the team for one month to study and make specific recommendations on port development in the Study Area.

SECTION D

SETTLEMENTS AND INSTITUTIONS

1. SETTLEMENTS AND INFRASTRUCTURE

In compliance with the Phase II working programme of the Regional Planning Section work is in progress on the Planning Manual for Housing and Public Services. This includes the assumptions, standards and costs of various services presented in Working Paper No. 40 'Temedak' New Town, and in a memorandum on Housing and Services. Discussions concerning the standards adopted for the Manual were held with the Divisional representatives of the Departments involved in Miri (6th May to 12th May) and with their headquarters in Kuching (14th May to 19th May).

A study of the settlement pattern in the Lambir-Subis Development Area has been started. Two objectives are aimed at:-

- (a) to assist SLDB review their settlement pattern;
- (b) to establish a basis for settlement proposals connected with large scale agricultural development elsewhere in the Study Area.

The core of this problem is to find the type of settlements best suited for a large scale agricultural development. Questions to be raised are whether the estate workers should live in smaller villages evenly dispersed over the area or be gathered in one or a few towns of 5 000 to 10 000 people. The size of a town will largely determine the standard and variety of services that can be supplied to its population and the costs of its supply. However, the more concentrated the estate workers live, the longer will be their journey to work. In the determination of an adequate settlement pattern there are a series of such conflicts that should be 'compromised'.

The current study of the Lambir-Subis Development Area covers the settlement pattern for estate workers. Small-holder settlements will be treated in a later study.

2. SOCIOLOGICAL ASPECTS

The Sociologists have been occupied during this period primarily with finalising the last of their working papers based on field surveys completed in Phase I. They have also begun work on their final summary report. Discussions were held in Kuching with Mr. Effendi Nawawi of the SLDB Planning Unit and the chief Settler Development Officer in regard to recruitment policies and objectives, scheme settlement planning and the role and organisational structure of the settler development divisions. Similar discussions were held with the Permanent Secretary to the Welfare Department and other welfare officers in Miri and Kuching and with the Director of the Labour Department in connection with welfare planning and social security and compensation programmes. The results of these discussions will form the background for appropriate sections of the final summary report which is now in progress.

APPENDIX I

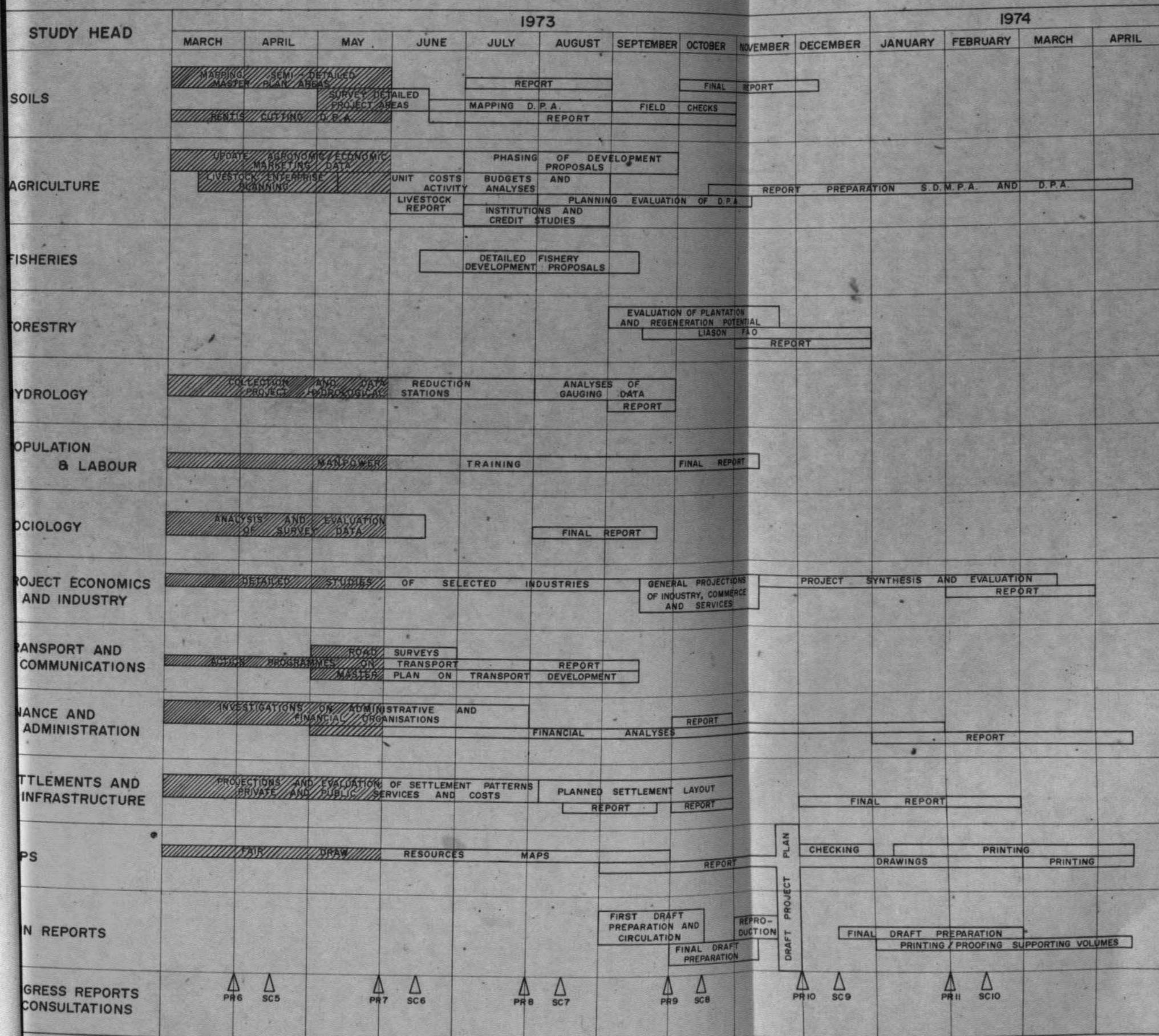
WORKING PAPER INDEX

<u>No.</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Author</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>File reference</u>
43	May 2	H. Solhee	Report of the Sociological Study of Urban Malays in Miri	MB/3/SOC/ECON/22
44	Apr 25	C.A. Sather	Socio-Economic Survey of the Riam Road Chinese Community	MB/3/SOC/ECON/23
45	May 7	C.A. Sather	Land Tenure and the Land Code	MB/3/SOC/GEN/38
46	May 15	Dennis Chua	Road Administration and Construction in Sarawak	MB/3/TRAN/40
47	May 25	T.E. Wetteland	Airport Development in the Study Area	MB/3/TRAN/AIR/6

/al/30.5.73

PLAN OF OPERATIONS & MONTHLY PROGRESS CHART

MIRI - BINTULU REGIONAL PLANNING STUDY



IN HAND

DELAYED

PR - PROGRESS REPORT

SC - STEERING COMMITTEE

D.P.A. - DETAILED PROJECT PLAN AREA

S.D.M.P.A. - SEMI DETAILED MASTER PLAN AREA