

COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

Directorate-General for Development Aid

European Development Fund Directorate

REPORT TO THE COUNCIL

ON

FINANCIAL AND TECHNICAL COOPERATION

IN 1969

OVERSEAS COUNTRIES, TERRITORIES AND DEPARTMENTS

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CHAPTER 1 .- GENERAL

1.1 INTRODUCTION

This report to the Council on financial and technical cooperation in the overseas countries, territories and departments is submitted by the Commission in accordance with Decision 64/349/EEC, dated 25 February 1964. It constitutes a sequel to the reports which have been prepared each year since 1967.

The review of the utilization of completed projects financed under the first EDF - which appeared for the first time in the 1969 report - is repeated this year. It confirms the encouraging results noted on previous occasions.

It is not possible to break down global credits for general surveys, scholarships, in-service training, symposia, information programmes and financial and administrative expenses between the AASM and the OCT and OD. This information is therefore given in the Commission's report to the Association Council on Financial and Technical Cooperation in 1969, prepared pursuant to Article 27 of the Yaoundé Convention. The same is true of the rate at which projects are executed, as reflected in the number of contracts signed and payments made.

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AASM = Associated African States and Madagascar;
OCT = Overseas Countries and Territories;
OD = Overseas Departments.

1.2 NEW COMMITMENTS AND THE OVERALL POSITION

1.2.1 In 1969 new EDF commitments to the overseas countries, territories and departments covered seven economic and social investment projects, at a total cost of 11.7 million u.a., and one technical assistance project, at a cost of 50 000 u.a. These bring the cumulative total of commitments to the CCT and OD under the second EDF to 52.5 million u.a., or 81% of the 64 million u.a. available for distribution (see Table 1).

Expenditure connected with the 134 scholarships awarded to nationals of the OCT and OD during 1968/69 must also be borne in mind. This can be estimated at about 309 000 u.a.

The cumulative total for expenditure on scholarships can be put at more than 1.5 million u.a. over the years 1964/65 to 1968/69.

In addition to these new EDF commitments the European Investment Bank made available a loan of 2 025 000 u.a.

1.2.2 As regards applications for financing under the transitional arrangements applicable to the third EDF, a number of projects which could not be accommodated under the second Fund were relodged by the authorities in the Dutch overseas countries in spring 1970 for consideration in connection with the allocation of resources from the third Fund.

Up to the end of 1969 no application for the financing of a programme or project from the third EDF had been lodged by the French overseas territories and departments.

1.2.3 As far as the preparation of dossiers is concerned, considerable delays occurred in correspondence between the Commission and both Surinam and the Netherlands Antilles because of staff shortages in the cervices competent. Two technical assistants were therefore placed at the disposal of

the Curação Office of Public Works at the request of the authorities there. They took up their duties in February 1969.

The pace at which projects submitted by the French overseas territories and departments are being examined is also slackening because national services are rather slow to answer correspondence and supply the information needed by the Commission.

1.3 METHODS OF FINANCING

The seven projects approved in 1969 (at a total cost of 11.7 million u.a.) were financed by grants. This brings the cumulative total of subsidies for investment projects from the second EDF to 49.6 million u.a.

This represents 94.4% of the cumulative total of commitments at the end of 1969, special loans representing no more than 5.6% of the total. If funds earmarked for training scholarships and other technical cooperation schemes - always non-repayable - were taken into account, the percentage figure for grants would even be somewhat higher.

The 2 025 000 u.a. loan approved by the EIB in 1969 was the Bank's first transaction from its own resources in the OCT and OD.

CHAPTER 2 - INVESTMENTS AND RELATED TECHNICAL COOPERATION

2.1 GEOGRAPHICAL BREAKDOWN AND RATIO OF COMMITMENTS TO AVAILABLE RESOURCES (see Tables 1 and 2)

A comparison of the overall situation with regard to commitments to the Dutch overseas countries on the one hand and the French overseas territories and departments on the other shows that commitments to the Dutch zone expanded appreciably in 1969.

It should be remembered, however, that the funds allocated to the OCT and OD are equally divided between the two zones, each being entitled to 32 million u.a.

2.1.1 French zone

The EDF financed two transport infrastructure projects in the French zone in 1969 at a total cost of 3.26 million u.a., or 22% of total commitments to the OCT and OD during the year. These projects brought total EDF commitments to the French zone to 26.7 million u.a., or 84% of the 32 million u.a. earmarked for this zone under the second EDF.

The credits still available for allocation from the second EDF will probably be absorbed by grants to a project in Guadeloupe which was still under examination at the end of the period under review.

French Guiana saw its first project approved in 1969. It involves the construction of a port on the Mahury river following a preparatory study financed by the EDF in 1968.

This new port in French Guiana will be jointly financed by the EDF and FIDOM, the Community providing 43.5% of the necessary funds (5.8 million u.a.).

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The EIB loan of 2 025 000 u.a. mentioned earlier was to a nickel company which plans to extend its installations in New Caledonia. This will make it possible to make more intensive use of New Caledonia's considerable nickel ore resources and to step up total earnings, public revenue and export receipts in the territory.

2.1.2 Dutch zone

In 1969 grants totalling 8.5 million u.a. were made available to the Dutch overseas countries, bringing the cumulative total committed to this zone to 24.2 million u.a., or 75% of the 32 million u.a. availability for the current five-year period.

The new EDF decisions for Surinam cover four investments largely concerned with education. These school-building
schemes will help to bridge the present gaps in the country's
educational facilities. Compulsory education was introduced
in Surinam in 1876 and the country has had schools for many
years. However, many of these now fall short of present-day
standards; they are dilapidated, and sanitary facilities are
inadequate. Furthermore, because of lack of funds, the
authorities have not been able to provide enough new schools
to cater for a rapidly growing population.

The school-building programme (third phase) has been considerably increased since the initial application, following the Surinam Government's decision to withdraw an earlier request connected with the establishment of a semi-university educational institute at Paramaribo.

Since initial planning on this withdrawn project is already at an advanced stage, however, this scheme figures amongst the projects to be financed from the third EDF.

One project was approved for the Netherlands Antilles in 1969. This involves the construction of a wharf on Bonaire at a total cost of 1.22 million u.a. The scheme to build a hospital on Aruba was withdrawn by the Antilles Government.

The scheme to improve the port of Willemstad (Curação) presented to the EDF Committee on 11 June 1969 must also be mentioned. In this instance the Committee went against the Commission's proposal and decided to finance at least part of the cost of this scheme by means of a loan.

Since the European Investment Bank was not in favour of financing this scheme even partially by repayable grants, the initial proposal was presented to the EDF Committee again early in 1970 and later approved by the Commission.

The Netherlands Antilles will also receive aid from the undistributed credits of the first EDF. These will be used in particular to finance the construction of a wharf on St. Eustatius (Windward Islands). A preliminary survey, also financed from left-over EDF credits, is now under way. If sufficient funds are still available following a decision on the St. Eustatius project, the scheme for the provision of a psychiatric unit at Willemstad, already the subject of an EDF-financed survey, could be the final project to receive aid from the first EDF.

2.2 INTERVENTION BY SECTOR (see Table 2)

In contrast to 1968, most of the projects approved in 1969 were social infrastructure projects (53%). Transport infrastructure schemes accounted for the remaining 47%, as against 80% of total commitments in 1968.

The social infrastructure projects approved were concerned with education and health:

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Education

- (a) The building of a secondary boarding-school at Paramaribo (Surinam) to enable young people from outlying areas to get a secondary education. Secondary schools are only available in Paramaribo, their provision in outlying districts not being justified as yet;
- (b) The third phase of a school-building programme which forms part of Surinam's National Development Plan. The first and second phases were financed from the first and second EDF. Under the present scheme 49 schools (35 kindergarten and primary, 12 post-primary, one for household management and another specializing in teacher training) will be built, involving the provision or replacement of 414 classrooms.

Health

(a) The provision of a central supply store for the pharmaceutical service in Paramaribo (Surinam). This will make it possible to rationalize the distribution system for pharmaceuticals throughout the territory. Provision is made for the manufacture of pills in this store, thus considerably reducing import costs.

In transport infrastructures the EBF concentrated on roads and ports:

- (a) Construction of a wharf on Bonaire (Netherlands Antilles).

 When it is built cruise liners will be able to call, making it possible for the islanders to reap the benefits of the Caribbean's booming tourist trade.
- (b) Improvements to 77 kilometres of road on three of the Comoro Islands. This should make it possible to step up copra, coffee, rice and vanilla production by facilitating access to fertile areas hitherto little used in the interior of these islands and to increase productivity by improving communications and lowering transport costs.

- (c) Improvements to the 36-km Coppename-Ingikondre stretch of Surinam's east-west coast road. Another stretch of this trunk road the Saramacca-Coppename section was covered by a 1968 EDF decision. The scheme will give an indirect boost to production, since the road in question serves the coastal area in which 90% of the country's population lives and in which most economic activity, notably farming (which employs 30% of the population in this area) and industry (timber, bauxite), is concentrated.
- (d) Construction of a commercial port on the Mahury river (French Guiana) ensuring access for medium-tonnage vessels at all times, thus facilitating the large-scale marketing of forest products. This scheme will also stimulate efforts being made by local producers to process their own timber, one of the department's main natural resources, by creating an industrial zone close to the port and building saw-mills, a wood-peeling plant and so on.

To sum up the situation with regard to cumulative funds made available from the second EDF, it can be said that the social projects approved in 1969 helped to shift the emphasis from infrastructure projects, which by the end of the year under review had absorbed 59% of the funds available for the five-year period.

Education came next with 15%, followed by drainage and water supply (13%) and rural production (12%). As in previous years, the relative concentration on transport and communications in 1969 reflects the Commission's concern to encourage

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increased production in the OCT and OD. The infrastructure projects approved will make an effective contribution here by opening up inland or peripheral areas and improving maritime transport. This is of prime importance because the majority of the OCT and OD are islands and most of their produce is marketed in their respective mother countries.

In its aid programme for the OCT and OD the Community does, of course, work in close collaboration with those responsible for bilateral aid.

2.3 RELATED TECHNICAL COOPERATION (see Table 4)

No preparatory technical assistance project was financed in 1969. Two pre-investment studies approved in 1968 did, however, lead to the financing of two schemes - a secondary boarding-school and a pharmaceutical store - in Surinam.

New decisions were concerned rather with concomitant technical assistance involving either development studies or scheme supervision. They are covered by the figure given in the financing contracts for the schemes in question; it represents 4.8% of total expenditure on the Coppename-Ingikondre road and 7.6% of the cost of the central pharmacoutical store in Paramaribo.

All in all, expenditure on related technical assistance from 1 June 1964 to the end of 1969 amounted to 1 283 000 u.a., or 2.7% of total funds earmarked for investment.

2.4 EXECUTION OF PROJECTS

Work continues to progress in a very satisfactory manner. There has also been a considerable cut down on the delays which used to occur in the early stages of a project. In particular, the preparation of tenders for international competition has been speeded up.

Thus, by the end of 1969, contracts and estimates approved for economic and social investment projects represented 14.3 million u.a., or 30% of the funds committed, as against 4 million u.a., or 11%, at the end of 1968.

There was also a marked increase in payments. These rose from 1.46 million u.a. at the end of 1968 to 6.97 million u.a. a year later. The increase affected investment projects in the main.

By the end of 1969, expenditure represented 13.3% of commitments, as against 3.5% a year earlier.

2.5 UTILIZATION OF COMPLETED PROJECTS

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The 1969 report on the utilization of completed projects financed under the first EDF concentrates on social infrastructure schemes. It deals with two public health schemes in New Caledonia (provision of a dispensary in Poindimé and the building of a pediatric unit and an operating block in Nouméa), an educational project in New Caledonia (centre for crash vocational training courses in Nouville) and an urban development project on Réunion (drainage scheme for St Denis).

With regard to rural production, the study covers a water engineering scheme in Nickerie, Surinam. More detailed information supplements last year's report.

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In all instances the results obtained seem to tally with the objectives set, which means that EDF action has been successful.

- (i) Schemes have been properly executed on the whole.

 Special comments were made in two cases only. The delay in getting the vocational training centre in Nouville operational was due among other things to a shortage of teachers and the enrolment of new students who were relatively inexperienced. With the water engineering scheme in Nickerie (Surinam) the sprinkler irrigation originally planned proved far too costly and was replaced by a "flooding" system at a third of the cost.
- (ii) In contrast to the situation with regard to many completed schemes in the AASM, maintenance has been highly satisfactory in the OCT and OD. In one instance (the pediatric unit and operating block in New Caledonia) the funds included in the operating budget for the maintenance of the investment are in fact several times higher than the amount provided for in the financing contract.
- (iii) The supplementary investments provided for have been efficiently executed by the authorities in the OCT and OD. With health schemes, in particular, these are vital to success since the smooth operation of the entire scheme largely depends on them (for example, water and electricity supplies, equipment, fitting out, housing for medical staff, and so on). Furthermore, numerous supplementary schemes are being or will be financed by bilateral (FIDOM funds and Dutch aid) or multilateral aid (ILO).
 - (iv) As far as utilization and functioning are concerned, results everywhere have been highly satisfactory and consistent with the aims set. Details are given in the tables on pages 13 and 14. A few words might be said about two of these schemes.

First, the dispensary at Poindim (New Caledonia). Consultations and hospitalizations tripled from 1964 to 1969. The small staff can cope with running the dispensary but is unable to care for tribes in the surrounding area.

Second, the Vocational Training Centre at Nouville (New Caledonia). Job opportunities for students graduating from the Centre are closely linked to industries in the area capable of employing them. Thanks in particular to the rapid expansion of the nickel industry, helped by the European Investment Bank, which made a loan of 2 025 000 u.a. in 1969, the number of jobs will increase further in the future. It is therefore planned to increase the present capacity of the Training Centre from 80 to 120 students.

Although in theory all the students can find employment, barely 30% do so at the present time. This is probably because the students who graduate are not yet capable of working as skilled personnel without guidance and supervision. The effectiveness of the Centre could therefore be improved by the establishment of a body which would keep an eye on students after they leave the Centre, making representations on their behalf to their employers, and facilitate return visits to the Centre for refresher courses.

UTILIZATION OF COMPLETED PROJECTS

(Financed under the 1st EDF)

(a) SOCIAL SECTOR

4	nigher led finan- not iry		ary y the ori-
Comments	Operating budget is higher than provided for in the finan- cing contract Supplementary schemes properly executed		Supplementary investment financed by the local authorities and ILO
Maintenance	Very satisfactory	Very good	Satisfactory; large-scale rapairs were nacessary as a result of cyclone damage
Utilization/results	Attendance very satisfactory; (a) Beds for inpatients fully occupied; (b) Out-patients increased from 3 990. in 1966 to 5 051 in 1968 (26.6%)	(a) Well run; staff large enough to cope with the dispensary tut not with the mobile unit (b) In 1969, 2 330 out-patients attended on 4 132 occasions; the increase over the years 1964 to 1969 was 18% and 33% respectively	Very satisfactory, except for the marine carpentry workshop which has been closed for lack of students
Aims and objectives	(i) To modernize and extend existing hospital facilities by providing a new pediatric unit and a modern operating tlock (ii) Beds increased from 340 to 400	To build a medical centre providing medical and dental care and a medical service for schools Care provided at the dispensary and by a mobile unit	To provide three additional workshops to train masons, mechanics and ship's carpenters
Type of scheme	Pediatric unit and operating block	Dispensa r y a t Poindim à	Vocational training centre in Nouville for courses
COUNTRY (Scheme number and date on which it became operational)	New Caledonia (11.24.501) June 1962	(11,24,502) 1962	(11,24,504) 1962/1963

* ca / c = 4

Caledonia (contd.) Maximum of 20 students per section or par instructor. 825 students and 20 student 20 students and 20 students and 20 student 20 student 20 students and 20 student 20 studen						
Drainage in along 6 km of street exploitation according for a street to prevent floods ing to plan specific area Water engineer— (i) To improve ing at Nickerie existing polders (a) Creation of 920 has existing polders (b) 350 ha of virgin polder area (c) Production increased on 10 000 has of rice-fields Scheme entirely	1			mum of section ruc tor. s enrol-1968; the Ce a diple		Despite guaranteed employment in expanding industries, barely 30% of trained students find employment; the others return to their villages
Water engineer- ing at Nickerie water supplies in and a 800 ha ric (10 coo ha) (ii) To equip a new (b) 350 ha of vi polder area sown with rice (c) Production increased on 10 of rice-fields Scheme entirely	nion .26.401) ober 1966	l I	To provide drains along 6 km of street to prevent floods occurring in a specific area	Utilization and exploitation accord- ing to plan	Good	Supplementary investment carried out by the local administration
Water engineer— ing at Nickerie water supplies in of banana planta existing polders and a 800 ha ric (10 c00 ha) (ii) To equip a new (b) 350 ha of vi polder area sown with rice (c) Production increased on 10 of rice-fields Scheme entirely						
<pre>ip a new (b) 350 ha of vi land cultivated sown with rice (c) Production increased on 10 of rice-fields Scheme entirely</pre>	inam •41•101) ch 1966	Water engineer- ing at Nickerie	(i) To improve water supplies in existing polders (10 COO ha)	(a) Creation of 920 ha of banana plantations, and a 800 ha rice polder		Supplementary investment financed by bilateral aid (Netherlands)
			(ii) To equip a new polder area	(b) 350 ha of virgin land cultivated and sown with rice		Scheme not yet complete; a further 1830 ha to
		,			:	Dearordxe ed
Tnissasons				successful		

CHAPTER 3 - GENERAL TECHNICAL COOPERATION

3.1 TRAINING PROGRAMMES

Community activities under this head are still confined to the awarding of scholarships for full-time and for correspondence courses.

3.1.1 Scholarships for full-time and in-service training

During the 1968/69 academic year, 114 scholarships for full-time or in-service training were awarded to nationals of the OCT and OD, as against 100 in 1964/65, 137 in 1965/66, 114 in 1966/67 and 124 in 1967/68.

The number of scholarship holders from the Dutch zone (Netherlands Antilles and Surinam) remains more or less stable; there were 99 in 1968/69, as against 96 in 1967/68.

Full details, giving country of origin, and country of study and type of training, will be found in Tables 5 and 6.

Technical training gained considerable ground (57% as against 47.6% in 1967/68) at the expense of the economics sector (22.8%, as against 30.6% in 1967/68). Agriculture showed a slight increase (16.7%, as against 14.5% in 1967/68).

Only four scholarships were awarded for occupations for women. This represents 3.5% of the total, as against 7.3% in 1967/68.

The breakdown by country of study revealed no great change. In all 98 (of 99 from the Dutch zone) of the 114 scholarship holders studied in the Netherlands. As in previous years the percentage of successes amongst nationals of the OCT and OD was extremely high (97.4%).

3.1.2 Scholarships for training by correspondence course

Twenty of these were awarded, as in 1967/68. The breakdown is given below:

Country of origin: New Caledonia : 6

French Polynesia : 1

St Pierre et Miquelon: 13

Total 20

Types of training: Economics: 6

Agriculture: Technical: 14

Total 20

On 31 December 1969, 14 scholarship holders were still continuing their studies. Seven scholarships had been withdrawn because the students lacked application.

Table 1

PROJECTS: COMMITMENTS AND EXECUTION

('000 u.a.)

		Situation at 3	1 December 1969)
	Con	nmitments	Contracts	Payments
	Grants	Special loans	contracts	rayments
Dutch zone				
Investments	21 384	1 856	5 381	2 021
Related technical assistance and supervision	910	•	889	552
Zone total	22 294	1 856	6 270	2 573
French zone				·
Investments	26 159	1 000	8 942	3 504
Related technical assistance and supervision	1 185		1 133	894
Zone total	27. 344	1 000	10 075	4 398
GRAND TOTAL (2nd EDF)	49 638	2 856	16 345	6 971
	5	2 494		
EIB loan (French zo	ne)	2 025		

Table 2

SUMS COMMITTED TO THE OVERSEAS COUNTRIES, TERRITORIES

AND DEPARTMENTS

Breakdown by sector

					·	-
		1.1.196 .12.196		Total to	31.12.	1969
Sector	2nd EDF	EIB		2nd EDF	EIB	7
	'000 u.a.	'000 u.a.	%	'000 u.a.	'000 u.a.	%
Industry	-	2 025	14.8	12	2 025	3.82
Manufacturing	· 	- <u>-</u>		12	12	0.02
Mines		2 025	14.8	 .	2 025	3.8
Rural production and fisheries		: ;	~	5 973	gellos vo = ge	11.3
Agriculture Plantations Improvements	 ~	812. 1886	»-	4 625 1 316	•••	8.7 2.5
General and other	, \	. -		33		0.1
Transport and communications	5 509	·	40.2	29 761	, i °-∴	56.5
Roads and bridges	1 749	·	12.7	17 130	-	
Ports	3 760	-	27.5	11 894		22.6
Airports	-	; -		, 737;		1.4
Water engineering, urban infrastructure	e prince of prince of prince of the second o		S Comment of the comm	6 667	· · · · · - · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	12.7
Urban water supply	ema e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e	-	(c.)	2 997	***	5.7
Urban infrastruc- ture and drainage			e in er Ago so den	3 670		7.0
Education and training	5 528	- 	40.3	7 397		14.0
Education infrastructure	5 528	; ;	40.3	-7-397-	11 m 127 m	14.0
Scholarships, symposia and in-service training		-		Memo- randum item	-	•••
Health	645	-	4.7	878	-	1.7

Table 3

SUMS COMMITTED TO THE OVERSEAS COUNTRIES, TERRITORIES

AND DEPARTMENTS

Geographical breakdown

Country, territory or department		.1.1969 12.1969	Tota. 31.12	
	EDF	EIB	EDF	EIB
Netherlands Antilles	1 22೮	••	10 274	
Surinam	7 315	-	13 299	-
Technical control OC	-	_	577	
Total Dutch OC	8 535		24 150	din
As % of total	66		44	
Comoro Islands French Territory of the	-217	•	2 561	-
Afars and Issas			1 831	-
Guadeloupe	 ,		2 636	-
French Guiana	2 590	-	2 800	_
Martinique	-		3 700	-
New Caledonia	~	2 025	4 066	2 025
French Polynesia		••••	869	, -
Réunion			8 102	
St Pierre et Miquelon			466	~
Wallis and Futuna Islands			607	
Technical control OT and OD	-		706	,
Total French OT and OD	2 373	2 025	28 344	-2 025
·	4 3	398	30	356
As % of total	34		56	`
Total OCT + OD	<u>10 908</u> 12	2 <u>825</u> 933	<u>52 494</u> 54	2 <u>925</u> 519

Table 4

SURVEYS AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE RELATED TO INVESTMENTS

Sector	Separate tech- nical assist- ance projects	Technical assistance included in projects	Total 1 June 19 31 Decembe	964 to
	From 1 Jan 31 Decembe			
	1000 u.a. 10		1000 u.a.	%
Industry	***	-	12	0.9
Rural production		_	301	23.5
Transport and communications	-	56	677	52.8
Water engineering, urban infrastructure	-	_	194	15.5
Health	- ·	49	59	4.6
Education and training	-	_	40	3.1
Miscellaneous	-		-	, - ;
Total		185	1 283	100

Table 5

SCHOLARSHIP HOLDERS FROM THE OVERSEAS COUNTRIES, TERRITORIES AND DEPARTMENTS (1968/69)

By home country and type of training

Home country	Economics	Agri- culture	Technical	Occupa- tions for women	Total
Netherlands Antilles	10	6	, 35	1	52
Comoro Islands	1	-	1		2
New Caledonia	-	1	1	2	4
French Polynesia	1	 .	-	-	. 1
St Pierre et Miquelon	-	***	2	1	3
Surinam	14	12	21	-	47
French Territory of the Afars and Issas	_		5		. 5
TOTAL (by type of training)	26	19	65 [*]	4	114
Percentage	22.8%	16.7%	57.0%	3 : 5%	100.0%

Table 6

SCHOLARSHIP HOLDERS FROM THE OVERSEAS COUNTRIES, TERRITORIES AND DEPARTMENTS (1968/69)

By home country and country of study

Country of study Home country	Belgium	Germany	France	Italy	Netherlands	Cameroon	Total
Netherlands Antilles	Н	ı	ŀ	ı	53		52
Comoro Islands	1	ı	m	ı	1	H	2
New Caledonia	ı	ı	М	щ	1	ı	4
French Polynesia	1	i	н	ı	1	:	rd
it Pierre et Miquelon	1	ı	W	ı	ſ	1	K
furinam	ı	i	ı	ı	47	1	47
French Territory of the Afars and Issas	ı	ı	ì	4	î	1	. v
TOTAL (by country of study)	H	Н	80	5	86	1	114
			7				