For the month ending: 31/5/04 Date of the report: 7/6/04 Project # CIMP-004

Project Title: Development and Partial Implementation of an Education and Awareness Program for the Comprehensive Integrated Management Plan for the Mayagüez Bay Watershed Project

Name of Contact (PI): Dr. Jorge Rivera Santos

Telephone: (787) 833-0300 Fax (787) 832-0119 email riveraj@uprm.edu

Names of Co-Pis: Dr. Marla Pérez Lugo

Percentage of Work completed in this month (%). 4%

Accumulative Percentage of work completed (%). 46%

Summary of Progress on Project in this month by task as listed in the work schedule: (attach additional sheets, if necessary)

Throughout this month, the research team visited the rest of the nine schools of the sample. The purpose of each visit was the recruitment of k to 12 teachers of Sciences and Social Studies for the assessment of the educational materials compiled by the team. In each presentation, we delivered a brief description of the current state of the Mayaguez Watershed, the goals of the CIMP and an explanation of the methodology to be used in the design and assessment of the proposed educational campaign. We also explained the level of involvement that we were expecting from each participant teacher. From each participant teacher, the team was expecting the following: a) the assessment of the materials using the provided questionnaire, b) the willingness to integrate the materials into the curriculum during the academic year 2004-05, and c) allowing the distribution of a questionnaire among their students at three points in time during the same academic year.

In total, 56 teachers attended to the project’s presentation at their schools and 50 accepted participating in the assessment of the educational materials. 25 teachers were from schools at Las Marías and 31 were from Añasco. 27% of the teachers that attended to the school presentations teach level k-3rd grade, 18% teach 4th-6th grade, 30% teaches 7th-9th grade and 34% are 10th to 12th grade teachers. Some of the teachers fall into more than one category, mostly in the lower grades. The average years of experience in that academic level was 12.27, but the range was 30 with a minimum of 1 year and a maximum of 31. The standard deviation was almost 9 years. 34% of the teachers are in natural sciences, 29% are in social sciences and 27% teach both disciplines. 11% of the teachers are in other disciplines, mostly agriculture and environmental sciences.

At this point, the research team is analyzing the results form the assessment survey that the 56 teachers responded to after each school presentation. The survey included questions about their satisfaction with the way in which the current curriculum addresses environmental issues, their willingness to use the educational materials and their assessment of the quality of the materials provided.

Problems Encountered on Project in this month: (attach additional sheets, if necessary)
The greatest problem that the research team encountered throughout this stage was the teacher’s perception of the project as a director’s imposition. The teachers in some schools were reluctant to express dissatisfaction with the project because they did not want to openly disagree with the director or with a perceived good opportunity.

Status (Please check were appropriate)

**Project Status (x)**

__X__ On Schedule _____Delayed _____Suspended _____Cancelled _____Completed