

## Appendix A

House Committee on Science and Technology Request Letter

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## U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

## COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

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October 17, 1986

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Dr. John H. Gibbons, Director Office of Technology Assessment U.S. Congress Washington, DC 20510

Dear Dr. Gibbons:

An increasing awareness exists in the Congress technical assistance programs for developing countries depends on a clear understanding of the physical and biological environment. Commonly, there is a fundamental difference between the developing country's ecological setting and that of the donor nation. Numerous failures of technology transfer have been related to the donor's lack of a keen understanding and appreciation of the ecology of the particular developing country. Therefore, the need exists for development assistance organizations to improve their own ability to integrate environmental and developmental concerns, and to transfer the methods that can assure that technologies promoted will fit the environmental situation in the recipient country.

Consequently, I request that the Office of Technology Assessment undertake an exploratory study or workshop that will identify methods which can improve the capability of aid agencies to assess the compatibility of development technologies with the environment of developing countries. The study would be most useful to our Committee if results were available by April, 1937. Mr. Michael Rodemeyer, of the subcommittee staff, will be the contact person for this project.

Sinceraly,

DON FUQUA

Chairman

SCHEUER

Chairman

Subcommittee on Natural Resources, Agriculture Research and Environment HAMUEL R. LUJAN.

Ranking Republican Member

CLAUDINE SCHNEIDER

Ranking Republican Member Subcommittee on Natural Resources, Agriculture Research and Environment