

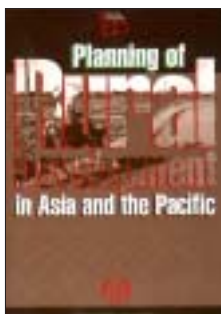
### **PLANNING PROCESS OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT** **Village Development Plan**

APO 332 pp. February 2002

Local communities are plagued by underdevelopment, imbalanced development, and poverty. A key strategy to deal effectively with these issues is the introduction of development planning, which involves data collection, situation analysis, preparation of village profiles, formulation of plans, consensus building, implementation, monitoring, and evaluation. Such a process, however, should not be undertaken solely by governmental officials in some distant locations. It should be participative. This means involving the local people so that their needs are taken into consideration, and the implementation of the plan will be more effective. The process itself could be an important learning and empowerment opportunity for local people and local administrative personnel.

To facilitate an in-depth study of what constitutes an effective village development planning process, the APO hosted a seminar on “Comparative Study on Planning Process of Local Community Development: Village Development Plan” in Nepal in May/June 1999. The objective of the seminar was to identify the basic principles of sustainable village development planning by analyzing the experiences of actual village development planning practices in APO member countries, and to determine ways to improve the process further.

This publication is a report on the proceedings of the seminar. It also includes the 11 resource papers and 17 country papers from 12 nations presented. It is intended for use by those who are involved in local community development.



### **PLANNING OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN ASIA AND THE PACIFIC**

APO 266 pp. January 2002

Rural development has long been a major concern of developing countries in Asia and the Pacific. In most instances, rural development is closely linked to agriculture as this sector is a significant source of livelihood for rural people, most of whom are small, landless farmers. However, rural development over the past decades had only a limited impact in alleviating poverty. There is clearly a need for a paradigm shift in the way rural development is managed. This calls for the introduction of strategies for productivity enhancement, human resources development, and institutional building.

In December 1999, the APO organized a seminar on “Planning of Rural Development.” Held in the Philippines, its objectives were to acquire a better appreciation of rural development issues and to seek measures for strengthening rural development planning capacity. This publication is a report on the proceedings of the seminar, and a compilation of seven resource papers and 17 country papers from 15 nations presented at the meeting. This publication is a useful for reference for those involved in rural development planning and implementation.

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