

# IT for enhancing agriculture extension services

At the start of 2003, on 8–14 January, 19 agriculture extension personnel from 15 Asia-Pacific countries (including 13 APO members) met in New Delhi, India, as participants in an APO study meeting to discuss promoting the use of IT for more effective agricultural extension services. These services have a major influence on the effective transfer of technology from research institutions to farmers and in providing feedback from farmers to researchers to ensure that the new technologies meet the needs of the farming community. IT is seen as a promising tool to improve this process. The study meeting reviewed the current status of IT-based agriculture extension services and proposed suggestions for more intensive IT applications, including capacity building.



*Participants in a field trip to Ramapura Dabri Village where they observed the functioning of an IT kiosk for farmers*