

The Asian Workshop on Research Methodologies on the Green Revolution

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This is a brief report on the international seminar as titled above, to which I was a participant. Portions of this report have been adapted from a draft report prepared by the organizer of the seminar.

The workshop on research methodologies on green revolution was jointly sponsored by the Asian Association of Development Research and Training Institutes, the School of Economics of the University of the Philippines and the International Development Research Centre at Ottawa, Canada. The workshop was held for five days from 19th to 23rd February in Manila. Twenty two participants representing eight Asian countries and four international organizations attended the workshop. Since the Graduate School of Public Administration, Seoul National University, has been a member institute of the Asian Association of Development Research and Training Institutes, representation of the School was requested by the Association.

Objectives of the workshop were to exchange green revolution research experiences, to identify problem areas for research, and to probe into meaningful ways of international cooperation.

First two days of the workshop were devoted

to the discussion of methodological problems and findings of two research projects in the area of rice production. Titles of the two research projects are: "Changes in Rice Farming in Selected Areas of Asia," being carried out by the International Rice Research Institute, and "The Social and Economic Implications of the Large-Scale Introduction of High Yielding Varieties of Food Grain" carried out by the United Nations Research Institute of Social Development.

The IRRI study covers 14 villages of six Asian countries, and the UNRISD study is global in scope.

Purposes, methods and findings of both cross-country research projects were presented to the meeting and discussions on them followed. Participants raised various questions and made comments on conceptual problems and research techniques. Critical issues brought out in the course of discussion seemed centered around the problem of developing valid criteria and indicators of comparison in cross-country studies.

The third day was spent in field trips to agricultural research institutes including the International Rice Research Institute and the School of Agriculture of the University of the Philip-

pines.

The fourth day meeting was devoted to the discussion of probable research projects proposed by participants. Twelve tentative titles of research projects were presented to the workshop. A question and answer session followed brief explanations of proposed projects by individual proponents. None of the projects proposed was of comparative nature. The majority of the projects were concerned with the study of socio-economic effects of the green revolution. Some others were concerned with problems of introducing high yielding varieties and input supplies, while a few were of very broad scope encompassing nearly all the problem areas of rice production. The outline of my presentation is shown below:

Title:

A Study of Agricultural Productivity Development System in Korea --A Study of Action Programs for Improvement of Rice Production--

Objectives:

This study purports to evaluate "agricultural productivity development system" for rice production in Korea. The system includes subsystems or action sectors for the improvement of agricultural productivity in individual farms or holdings.

The first step of this study would be to develop a meaningful conceptual scheme on the productivity development system which comprehends all the relevant elements or indicators contributive to the improvement of agricultural productivity.

The second step would be to apply the model in field studies, and to analytically describe quantitative and qualitative indicators of the system.

The third step would be to develop prescriptions for improvement.

Contents:

Tentatively identified subfields or action sectors of the agricultural productivity development system include:

I. Material Input Sector

1. Provision of production requisites such as improved seeds, fertilizers, pesticides, and implements, handtools and sources of mechanical power

2. Agricultural credits and other financial and monetary measures

3. Land improvement and irrigation

II. Technical Input Sector

Provision of information and training on

(a) application of production requisites;

(b) husbandary practices;

(c) farm organization and management; and

(d) mechanization

III. Motivational Input Sector

1. Education and indoctrination programs to change attitudes

2. Provision of material incentives (a prospect of profits)

a. Tax policies

b. Price policies: eg., "dual price" systems or protection against undue economic risks such as establishment of "price floors"

IV. Supportive Sector

1. Logistics: provision of transportation networks

2. Arrangements for marketing

3. Determination of patterns of land tenure and size of holdings, and of other institutions

4. Labor policies and measures for public health and general education.

Titles of research projects proposed by members of the workshop are listed below.

LIST OF PROJECTS

| Institut | Title | Presented By |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 1. Small Industry Extension Training Institute, Hyderabad, India | Impact of Green Revolution on Employment: A Projection for Pochampad Ayacut | B.K. Narayan |
| 2. Faculty of Economics and Administration, University of Malay, and School of Social Sciences, University Sains Malaysia, Penang, Malaysia (Jointly) | The Impact of Double-Cropping on Problems of Income and Land Distribution in Western Malaysia | V. Selvaratnam U.N. Bhati |
| 3. Institute for Social Studies and Research, Tehran, Iran | Social and Economic Conditions of Landless Rural Families | A.H. Keshavarz |
| 4. Institute for Social Studies and Research, Teheran, Iran | Social Change in the Rural Families in South of Iran | A.H. Keshavarz |
| 5. Bureau of Economic Research, Dacca University and Institute of Statistical Research and Training (Jointly) | The Effect of the Green Revolution on the Pattern of Income Distribution | A. Farouk A. Samad |
| 6. Centre for Economic Development Administration, Kathmandu, Nepal | Problems of Introducing High Yielding Varieties of Maize in the Hills of Nepal | V.R. Sharma |
| 7. Institute for Social and Economic Change, Mysore, India | A Study on Socio-Economic Impact of Green Revolution: A Micro-Analysis | N.V. Rao |
| 8. National Council of Applied Economic Research, New Delhi, India | A Socio-Economic Study of the Cultivation of HYV of Rice in India | M.T.R. Sarma |
| 9. Academy of Administrative Studies, Colombo, Sri Lanka | A Study of the Employment Opportunities Created in the Rural Sectors by Mechanization of Rice Farming | K.U. Kamalgoda |
| 10. Academy of Administrative Studies, Colombo, Sri Lanka | Socio-Economic Impact of the Green Revolution on the Cooperative Movement as an Agricultural Enterprise | K.U. Kamalgoda |
| 11. Economics Faculty, Thammasat University, Bangkok, Thailand | Some Consequences of the Expansion of Irrigation System in Thailand | Ammar Siamwalla Tawee Muennikon |
| 12. Graduate School of Public Administration, Seoul National University, Seoul, Korea | Agricultural Productivity Development System in Korea | Suck Hong Oh |

In the morning session of the fifth day the workshop was concluded. At the session the workshop adopted a series of recommendations to the Asian Association of Development Research and Training Institutes. Recommendations are:

1. The research work of the participating Institutes would be very much facilitated if the Association undertakes to provide them with information regarding the activities of each other. In particular, sample designs, questionnaires, methods of analysis and tentative results should be communicated to each other.

2. The Association should try to hold one or two other workshops like the present one after the Institutes have made some progress in their

work, particularly when they are ready with their tentative results.

3. The Association should compile a bibliography with the help of the member Institutes and circulate it to the participating Institutes.

4. The Association may also consider to appoint one of the Institutes as the coordinating Institute and obtain the necessary fund to enable it to help the other Institutes in developing a coordinated approach in their studies.

5. In view of scarcity of resources available to the member Institutes, the workshop requests the Association to approach various funding agencies to provide their support to the research proposals submitted to the workshop.