# Institutional and Capacity Building for Sustainable Rural Development in India for the Coming Decade

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- "The long arms of the state' is shortening and the reach of the market forces is being extended but unevenly.....The question is no longer whether decentralised collective action can be effective, but under what circumstances it is appropriate, and how positive synergy between the state, market and civil organisations can most efficiently and fairly supply public goods...
  - Norman Uphoff

I. Introduction

II. Literature Review

III. Review of Rural Development Programmes in India

IV Study of Selected Institutions

### I. Introduction

- Rural Development in India in two phases
- Between 1952 and 1990 Phase I
- Centralised Planning and States to follow Centre's priorities, from community development to schemetised programmes
- Between 1990 and present Phase II
- New Economic Reforms and role of State diminishing
- Market not the only institution to deliver to the poor and ensure their livelihoods

#### II. Literature Review

- On form and content of the programme in the context of Welfare State as the saviour
- Limited success of most programmes
- Should employment and wage labour be the key strategy or creating economic assets ensuring regular income flow.
- Whether focus on special target groups produced desired results
- Is it a case of good design bad implementation or bad design – bad implementation?

- Issues arising due to natural resources degradation and need for regeneration
- Institutional mechanisms: Top-down versus bottom-up planning
- Impact of the reforms in Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) on institutions for rural development needs to be examined. Some reviews have started appearing.
- Debate on NGO versus PRIs has surfaced

### III Review of Rural Development Programmes in India

- Broad features for Rural Development Programmes in Five Year Plans
- Began as a comprehensive development effort to rebuild rural life and livelihood.
- Community Development Programme was the main programme until the Third Five year plan.
- Became a bundle of special programmes with focus on poverty alleviation.
- RDP has also been a top-down centrally guided and centrally sponsored programme.

- Hardly any state government has made special resource commitment for RD Programmes.
- A large body of literature shows limited impact on poverty removal / reduction through RDPs.

#### C. D. P. as a Mini Plan for RD Provision in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Five Year Plan

Rs. in Crore

	i to	
1.	Personnel and Equipments	52
2.	Agricultural, Animal Husbandry, Minor Irrigation land reclamation etc.	55
3.	Communication	18
4.	Rural Arts and Crafts	5
5.	Education	12
6.	Social Education	10
7.	Health and Sanitation	20
8.	Housing (Project Staff + Rural Housing)	16
9.	CD Centre	12
	TOTAL	200

- 4.2% of total plan outlay.
- 3,100 blocks and 3,70,000 villages were covered by the beginning of the third plan.
- 1 crore = 10 million

### Features of Community Development as National Extension Programme

- Areas of intensive efforts for over all development of social and economic life.
- Different development agencies of Government to work as a team.
- Villagers came together for bringing about social changes are assisted to seek and enable their participation in execution of economic development programs self-help and co-operation are recognised as principles to guide.
- Cover all rural families especially those who are "underprivileged".

- Co-operatives Co-operative farming
- Development Panchayats actively responsible
- Landholding consolidation / Land Reforms Agricultural.
- Development Small and village industry
- Women and Youth get special focus
- Intensive work in Tribal area

#### **Third Five Year Plan**

- The village production plan Glimpses of Sustainable economic development?
- Agricultural Production Programs
  - Full utilisation of irrigation facilities
  - by maintaining field channels
  - repair and maintain commu. Irrigation works.
  - > increases area under multiple cropping.
  - spread of improved seeds
  - composting and green manure, fertilisers
  - Improved agricultural practices Soil conservation, contour bunding, dry farming, drainage, land reclamation, plant protection.
  - individual and community minor irrigation projects
  - improved implements
  - production of vegetables and fruits

- Development of poultry, fish, dairy
- Animal Husbandry stud bulls castration
- Development of Village fuel plantation and pastures.
- Panchayat Development Sociopolitical
- DPAP DDP Focus on Natural Resources
- Aims:
- Optimum utilisation of land, water and livestock resources.
- Restoration of ecological balance
- Stabilising the income of poor
- Arrest desertification advancement

#### **Key Elements:**

- 1.Development & Management of water resources
- 2. Soil and Moisture conservation
- 3.Afforestation—Social + Farm forestry
- 4. Development of pasture lands
- 5. Livestock and dairy development
- 6. Restructuring cropping pattern
- 7. development subsidiary occupation

Financial Resources	Centre's share (50:50 basis)	
	Rs.crores (10 million)	
IRDP	750	
DPAP	175 (Rs.15 lakh per block)	
DDP	50	
NREP	980	
+ Special Areas Programme		

- Water Resources over exploited crisis
- Land Resources degradation on rise
- Forest Resources degraded and under threat
- Common Property Open access & degraded
- Resources mostly

#### **Fourth Five Year Plan**

- By the end of 3<sup>rd</sup> Five Year Plan coverage is all villages in 5265 blocks
- Welding together Panchayati Raj and CD
- Balwant Rai Mehta Committee The three-tier system village, block, district link Government, and elected representative.
- Studies on Area Planning Concept of Growth Centre introduced growth centre to be promoted and woven into district plans.

#### Fifth Five Year Plan

#### The Slimmest Volume!

- In 1975 20 point programme is introduced.
- Community Development Programme does not find place in text and discussion.

#### **Sixth Five Year Plan**

- RD Through Special Programmes
- Achievements in previous plan lauded

Network of extension and development service established

Rural community aware and ready to adopt technical advances (GRT adoption as evidence).

Land reforms successful

Special area programmes introduced.

DPAP mid 1970s Drought Areas

DDP late 1970s Desert Areas

SFDA, MFAL since 1971 Small, marginal farmers and Agricultural labourers.

- RD to focus on special employment and income generation programmes for poor. Focus shifted to individual Household based support.
- All individual / Household Programme merged and Integrated Rural Development Programme is born (IRDP).

#### **Seventh Five Year Plan**

- "The approach to the Seventh Plan reiterates the goal of bringing down the percentage of population below the poverty line to less than 10 by 1994-95"
- ...Therefore, the special programmes will be continued at an accelerated rate.

#### **Eighth Five Year Plan**

#### List of Programmes Reviewed

IRDP	(1980)
TRYSEM	(1979)
DWCRA	(1982)
NREP	(1980)
RLEGP	(1983)
JRY	(1990)
MEGS	(1971-72) Maharashtra
SEPG	(1991) Gujarat
DPAP	(1973)
DDP	(1978)

Voluntary sector to help. Rest same as 7th F.Y.P.

#### **Ninth Five Year Plan**

- Introduction of Integrated Watershed Development Programmes
- DPAP, DDP + People in Centre
- Contradictions between Agricultural Irrigation and RD Programmes
- Impact of GRT (agro mechanical + biochemical) on ecological / environmental parameters.
- District Planning and RD Programmes
- People as if they matter
  - Assessment of local area, resource base, people – existing situation.
  - Natural Resource base as unit for improving resource productivity.
  - Use of individual, social, local and indigenous knowledge.
  - Formulation of sustainable development plans.
  - Community Development Facilitation.

#### **Tenth Five Year Plan**

- Strategy for Equity and Social Justice
- "Agricultural Development must be viewed as a core element of plan, since growth in this sector is likely to lead to the widest spread of benefits especially to the rural poor. The first generation of reforms concentrated on the industrial economy and reforms in the agricultural sector were neglected. This must change in the Tenth Plan."

Box 1.3, p.9, Volume-I Five Year Plan 2002-2007 P.C. Gol, 2002

#### **Growth Strategy**

- Creating Gainful Employment Opportunities
- Deal with policy constraints that discourage growth in employment.
- Agriculture in extended sense
- Construction III. Special groups
- Tourism, Transport Special Programs
- Retailing
- SSI
- IT & Communication enabled service
- Other New services

#### **Problem Analysis**

- Low Cropping Intensity
- Water 40% irrigation only (Gujarat 29-30%)
- Public investment in irrigation has fallen
- Agricultural Research weakened

#### **Prospects**

- Major revival of Investment in Irrigation
- Rural Roads
- Agricultural Technologies Oil Seed, Pluses ↑
- Agricultural research and extension Horticulture
- Diversification of Agricultural Production Agricultural Clinics, Farm Management.
- Forests: Resource 23% area 41% degradation
- Regeneration of degraded forests
- Wasteland Development
- Development of medicinal plants
- Energy Plantation
- Minor Irrigation
- Bamboo & bamboo products
- Food Processing
- KVIC Non-Farm
- Small and Medium Industry
- Service Sector, Health, Nutrition, Education, IT & Communication

### IV. Study of Selected Institutions

- Two Organisations sponsored by the Government of India specifically for the Rural development will be studied for their role in institution and capacity building
- 1. National Institute of Rural Development (NIRD) More than 50 years of existence is an apex body for undertaking.
  - Training
  - Research
  - Action research
  - Consultancy functions

2. Council for Advancement of People's Action and Rural Technology (CAPART)

Founded in 1986

CAPART works with the objective of improving the quality of life in the rural areas, particularly the poor and socially disadvantaged sections of society. Thus, people below the poverty line, people belonging to the scheduled castes and tribes, bonded labour, women and people with disabilities are priority focus groups for CAPART.

#### The major goals of CAPART are:

- To support voluntary organisations in implementing projects for sustainable development in rural areas.
- To act as a national nodal point for development and promotion of appropriate rural technologies.
- To promote and support voluntary action and people's participation for rural development, through capacity-building for voluntary organisations and rural communities.

#### To act as a data bank and clearing house for information on the voluntary sector, rural technologies and rural development.

- Facilitating community action for development.
- Building awareness on critical development issues.
- Building and strengthening villagelevel people and organisations.
- Promoting the development and dissemination of appropriate rural technologies.

- Strengthening the capacities of voluntary organisations in rural areas.
- Creating employment opportunities and economic self-reliance.
- Creation of community assets and fulfilment of basic needs.
- Conservation and regeneration of the environment and natural resources.
- Enabling women, persons with disabilities and other disadvantaged groups to participate in development

## Two Non Government Organisations (NGOs) based in Gujarat will be taken up for study

- Gujarat has largest partnerships in implementing rural development programmes among all Indian States
- Gujarat also has an organisation UNNATI which builds capacity in Institutions building and Panchayati Raj.

#### Field Work to be done during 2005-06

- Probable Date of Preparing
   Draft Report after Studies
- May 2006