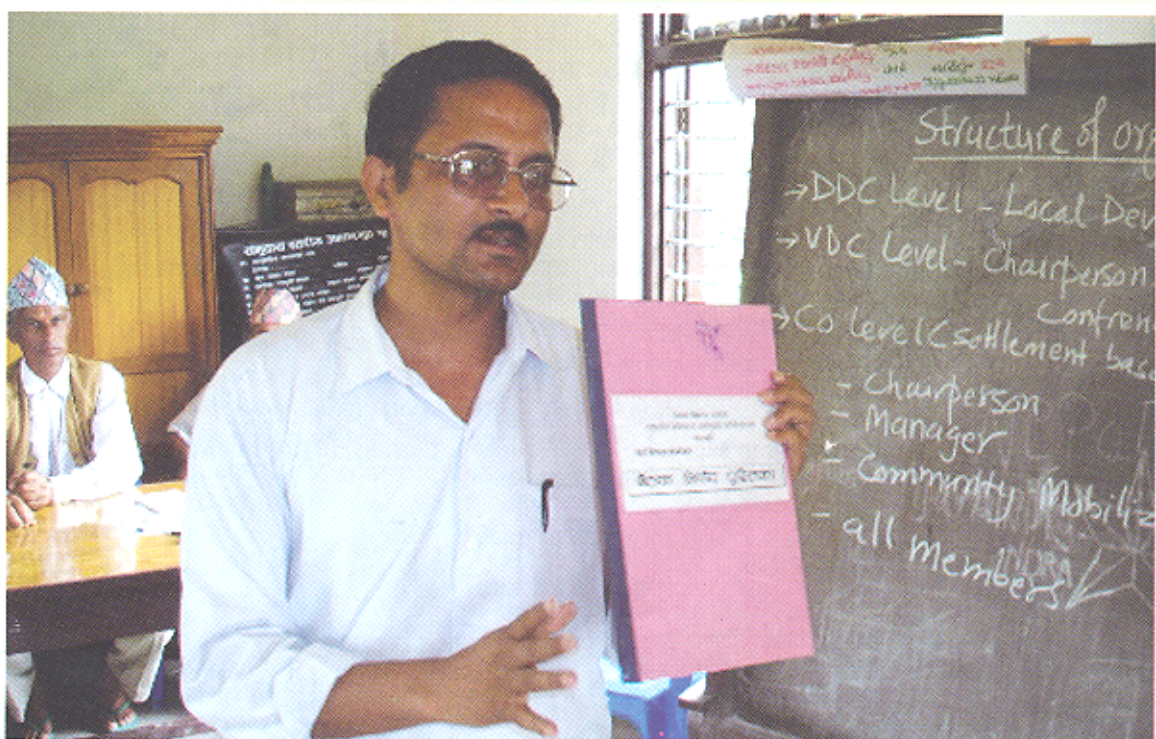


CDD

CIRDAP Development Digest



CIRDAP

Centre on Integrated Rural Development for
Asia and the Pacific

CIRDAP

Contents

The Centre on Integrated Rural Development for Asia and the Pacific (CIRDAP) is a regional, inter-governmental, and autonomous institution, established in July 1979 at the initiative of the countries of the Asia-Pacific Region and the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations with support from several other UN bodies and donors. Its member countries include Afghanistan, Bangladesh (Host State), India, Indonesia, Iran, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan, the Philippines, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Vietnam.

The main objectives of CIRDAP are to (i) assist national action; (ii) promote regional cooperation, and (iii) act as a servicing institution for its member countries for promotion of integrated rural development (IRD) through research, action research, pilot project, training and information dissemination. Amelioration of rural poverty in the Asia-Pacific region has been the prime concern of CIRDAP. The programme priorities of CIRDAP are set under four Areas of Concern: 1) Agrarian development; 2) Institutional / Infrastructural development; 3) Resource development including human resources; and 4) Employment. Within these areas of concern, the thematic areas identified for the Third Six-Year Plan (2002-2007) are: Poverty alleviation through participatory approaches with emphasis on social sector development (e.g. health, education and nutrition); Employment generation through micro-credit support, infrastructure development and local resource mobilisation; GO-NGO collaboration; Gender issues; Governance issues; and Environmental concerns for sustainable rural development.

Operating through designated Contact Ministries and Link Institutions in member countries, CIRDAP promotes technical cooperation among nations of the region. It plays a supplementary and reinforcing role in supporting and furthering the effectiveness of integrated rural development programmes in the Asia-Pacific region.

About CDD

CIRDAP Development Digest (CDD) is published four times a year (March, June, September and December). The purpose of the CDD is to highlight various facets of IRD in the Asia-Pacific region. Any uncredited article or information appearing in the CDD may be reproduced without prior permission but with due acknowledgement and a copy to the Editor. The designations employed and the presentation of materials in CDD do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of CIRDAP concerning the legal status of any country, city or area, or of its authorities or boundaries. News items, viewpoints on IRD and related issues are welcome. All correspondence should be addressed to the Editor.

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Cover photo shows officials of the village development committee of a village of Pokhara district in Nepal briefing the participants of CIRDAP training programme.

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