

Survey Design And Field Implementation: Rapati Baseline

November, 1979



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by APROSC in future.

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Mr. Jashar Lal Amatya assisted in designing questionnaires and
analysis. They all deserve many thanks. Thanks are due to
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for improving the content of this report. Last but not the least,
The Typing Pool of APROSC deserves **November, 1979** thanks for their assistance.
Finally Mr. Kamal Banskota, **APROSC** of the Baseline Survey
deserves special acknowledgements for coordinating the whole efforts
and preparation of this report.

November 5, 1979

Dr. Ram Prakash Yadav
Executive Director
APROSC

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This report explains important features of baseline survey carried out in Integrated Rural Development Project area (Rapati Zone) and the Resource Conservation and Utilization (RCU) Project area (Kali-Gandaki, Daraudi and Kulekhani Catchment areas). It is designed to provide all the important steps involved in the survey design and methodology as well as the reactions of the field supervisors.

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Dr. Ram Prakash Yadav
Executive Director
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I. Introduction

As agreed upon between His Majesty's Government/Nepal (HMG) and USAID/N, the Agricultural Projects Services Centre (APROSC) carried out a Baseline Survey of the Rapati Zone as part of the Overall Rapati Integrated Rural Development Project (RAPIRD) ^{1/}.

The present report covers the following subjects:

- i. Description of Survey Design and Objectives.
- ii. Pre-Field Preparation and Training.
- iii. Sampling Design and Procedures.
- iv. Summary of field survey work, including list of Village Panchayats and Wards sampled and,
- v. Summary of supervisors and enumerators comments on the implementation of the survey, and general comments on rural development needs/programs for the zone.

II. Description of Survey Design and Objectives

a) The need for a Baseline Survey:

Rapati Zone, which comprises the five districts of Rukum, Rolpa, Salyan, Pyuthan and Dang is the area under study. It is situated in the Far-Western Development Region.

^{1/} The necessary details of the Baseline Study are contained in RAD/RCUP Design Project No. 367-0133, Project Implementation Letter No. 10 (USAID/N No. 367-0133-A-21) and provided for in Annex 2 of the Project Grant Agreement. Furthermore, the details of the Baseline Survey are contained in the Implementation Letter No. 10 and requires that APROSC submit a report (Attachment II) to the Ministry of Home Panchayat and USAID/N, for the release of funds (second installment) amounting to US\$ 13,696.

Except for census and agricultural data at the macro level, this zone lacks socio-economic data at the micro level, thereby, severely limiting the scope of research. Moreover, one of the important objectives of the RAPRID is to provide a quantifiable basis for assessing the overall impact of the Integrated Project on the socio-economic conditions of the populace at large. Keeping in view the lack of data and the impact measurement criteria of the project (RAPRID), the Rapati Baseline Survey has therefore, been conducted.

b) Objectives of the Baseline Survey:

Integrated Rural Development Projects basically aim at improvements in all the major sectors of the economy with a view to bringing about a balanced growth in income and employment opportunities and, RAPRID is no exception. Given the diversified nature of the economy along with deteriorating agricultural productivity, a high rate of out-migration, low levels of education opportunity, high rates of infant and child mortality, lack of productive employment opportunities, acute problems of transport and communication etc., the idea of a concentrated development approach encompassing projects in isolation does not appear to be truly rational. Moreover the prevalence of subsistence economics scattered throughout the country does not make a 'projects in isolation' approach economically viable. A program aimed to cover all sectors of the economy (i.e. zone in the present case) is thus called for. Such an approach to the overall development of the zone has, therefore, to be an integrated one, with a view to mobilise local manpower and resources and thereby increase the quality of life of the neglected rural poor.

Resources are, however, scarce and thus a priority criteria for project implementation becomes necessary. What are the most urgent needs of the rural population, and who among the rural population are in most need of the projects ? Several years after the implementation of the project, we also want to know if the quality of life of the rural poor has increased, if any ? Has there been any development and an equitable sharing of benefits ? Economic history has revealed that although development is a continuous process, it has inherent problems that are extremely difficult to perceive a priori. It is, therefore, essential to conceive this issue at least at the start and provide a basis for project development and analysis.

The Baseline Survey keeping in view all these issues has been designed to fulfill the following objectives:

- i. assist in the delineation of the target population and potential project sites,
- ii. provide a basis for the quantitative evaluation of changes in selected indicators of project impact; and
- iii. provide a quantitative basis for project development and analysis.

c) Scope of the Baseline Survey:

One of the most serious tasks faced by researchers when dealing with integrated projects is that of inclusion or exclusion of information. The scope of such a project is multi-dimensional in nature and hence a careful delineation of the scope of information is necessary. This is further justified

if one is to consider the constraints imposed by the availability of funds and manpower. There ought to be certain limitations on the information to be gathered in one cross-sectional survey. The scope of information of the Baseline Survey encompasses information on household demographic characteristics, agriculture income and expenditure, education and awareness of limited improved agricultural practices and agri-extension and awareness of environment and physical resources.

d) Preparation of the Questionnaire:

Questionnaires provide the main foundation of information gathering required in surveys of this nature. Lack of proper specification or clarity in the questions asked can give rise to misleading information. The interviewer as well as the respondent must be able to easily understand the questions in the questionnaire. Since this information provides the basis for research analysis, its accuracy or lack of it will be reflected in the research findings. In other words a cumulative basis effect in the overall findings becomes inevitable.

Also questionnaires should not be made too lengthy. A questionnaire should be designed keeping in view the objectives and scope of the survey. The designers should keep in mind that interviews should not take much time.

While designing the RAPIRD Baseline Questionnaire, five important issues were always being considered.

1. To make the questions easily readable and understandable by the enumerator as well as the respondent. What may be called easily readable to enumerators may not always be so to the respondent and hence the understandability

criteria was given relatively more importance. Even though the questionnaires design team was aware of the language diversification in the zone, only the Nepali language was used in the questionnaire. Spoken language was emphasized as opposed to written language. It was assumed here, that the use of spoken language would facilitate a better understanding of the questionnaire.

- ii. Unnecessary questions were avoided, keeping in view the objectives and scope of the baseline survey.
- iii. The comments from the members of the group were gathered to structure the questions and was finalized only when all the members of the group agreed upon its simplicity and understandability.
- iv. To facilitate the work of the enumerators the questions were systematically sequenced and the table lay-outs were made as simple as possible.
- v. Questions that were likely to provoke a prejudiced answer from the respondent were avoided.

It should be added here that the baseline questionnaire had already been prepared by another team, assigned earlier to carry out this task. This earlier team also spent a considerable amount of time preparing the questionnaire and was pre-tested then in Rapati Zone in the month of May 1978. Their pre-test, revealed a number of issues. Language used in the questionnaire had to be simplified. Measurement units had to be more explicit and a variety of measurement units had to be built within the questionnaire. Later on when a new team took over the Baseline study, it was felt that the previous questionnaire had to be

enlarged in scope, given the broad objectives of the Baseline Survey. This was agreed upon in a meeting held at the main office of APROSC between USAID and APROSC personnel.

After spending a considerable amount of time (over a month), the first draft of the new questionnaire was ready. This new questionnaire did not deviate much from its older version in terms of the broad coverage-but it did in terms of the details. As a result the implemented questionnaire is lengthier than its former version. It can thus be judged that in all about 3 months was spend in designing the questionnaire. This questionnaire (new version), however, also had to be pre-tested prior to sending it to the project area.

Besides a household level questionnaire two sets of panchayat level questionnaires were also developed. Part A of the Panchayat level questionnaire was a follow up of the household level questionnaire. Some macro-level information required for the study was collected at the panchayat level. It was assumed that information that were common to majority of the households, thus representing macro level information could be obtained from the Pradhan Pancha, or Upa-Pradhan Pancha. This was one because it would save a considerable amount of time of the respondents as well as interviewers. This part of the questionnaire intended to gather information on the prevailing prices of various cereal grains livestock, wage rates for males, females and children etc. Like the household level questionnaire this part of the panchayat level questionnaire was also pre-coded.

The second part (part B) of the panchayat level questionnaire is rough in many ways. The intended purpose of this questionnaire was also to gather informations at the village level in order to

bring out a tentative profile of the village panchayat. At this stage it is felt that the respondent of questionnaire may not be able to provide accurate informations of village panchayats but we ought to give a try. Most of the information yielded is guesstimate rather than estimate and it is advised that the data should be interpreted with caution.

The household questionnaire covers the following "concerns"

- i. Demographic concerns
- ii. Economic concerns
- iii. Social concerns and,
- iv. Resource and Environment concerns

i. Demographic Concerns: This part of the questionnaire intends to gather information on the demographic characteristics of household. It thus covers age and sex distribution of household members, information relating to seasonal and permanent migration, and fertility and mortality.

ii. Economic Concerns: This section covers household ownership of land, by type of land and irrigation status, production and yield rates of various crops, livestock and horticultural practices, cottage industry, income, expenditure and credit.

iii. Social Concerns: Literacy status and educational attainment by sex of household members, awareness of improved agricultural practices, people's participation in development and felt needs of sample households are contained in this section.

- iv. Resource and Environment Concerns: This part of the questionnaire aims to gather information regarding public resource availability and consumption i.e. drinking water availability and time required to fetch it, forest depletion, consumption of fuel wood and fodder etc. An attempt is also made to collect information that will reflect the household's awareness of the physical environment. For this purpose, such information as, cutting of river banks due to floods, depletion of forest resources etc. are gathered.

In all, the household questionnaire contains 62 questions.

Part A of the panchayat level question designed to gather macro-level information covers the following:

- i. Ethnic composition of the panchayat
- ii. Existing prices of various types of land, cereal and cash crops, adult livestock and poultry birds,
- iii. Wage rates of males, females and children
- iv. Existing institutions within the panchayat and
- v. Panchayat level projects and people's participation.

It contains 11 (eleven) questions.

Part B of the panchayat level questionnaire, designed to gather information in order to prepare panchayat profiles, covers the following main subjects:

- i. Land use within the panchayat.
- ii. Agricultural practices and irrigation.

- iii. Exports and imports of the panchayat and marketing centres.
- iv. Employment and,
- v. Income sources of the panchayat and expenditure.

Since the Resource Conservation and Utilization Project (RCUP), was also making use of the same set of questionnaires and Tistung Panchayat was a neighbouring panchayat of one of the RCU project sites (Khulekhani Catchment area), the pre-testing of questionnaire was done at Tistung Panchayat. The pre-test revealed a number of things of which some of the important ones are the following:

- i. It was found that in some parts of the questionnaire language had to be further simplified.
- ii. The section on fertility had to be simplified.
- iii. The section on sales and purchase of cereals had to be revised and simplified.
- iv. The livestock section (inventory and products) had to be more informative.
- v. The section on expenditure, because of its high level of dis-aggregation, proved to be very time consuming and at the same time respondents felt that it was virtually impossible to remember the information asked as such this section was relatively shortened, however, without losing much information.

Keeping in view these and other minor problems that had arisen during the pre-test, the working questionnaire was prepared.

III. Pre-Field Preparation and Training

After spending a considerable amount of time in preparing the questionnaire, the pre-field preparation began. The following things were given importance:

- a) Recruitment of Enumerators
- b) Identification of Supervisors
- c) Group Formation and their itinerary
- d) Other logistic support necessary for the teams.
- e) Training.

a) Recruitment of Interviewers:

Besides Six supervisors, another 15 enumerators had to be assembled, some of whom consisted of persons already working in APROSC and some of whom had to be recruited. The new recruits were mostly fresh students who had completed their B.A. or equivalent. They were selected on the basis of their merits.

In the case of Dang district, where the Tharu community is predominant, it was deemed necessary that the group assigned here had at least one enumerator who could speak the Tharu language fluently and accordingly one such enumerator was recruited.

b) Identification of Supervisors:

Research assistants who had a wide range of experience in interviewing farmers and who had already been to Rapati Zone in connection with the pre-feasibility study were given the top most priority. Four research assistant fulfilled this criteria and were assigned the task to supervise their teams (See supervisor's manual). The remaining two supervisors were also APROSC staff

and were economists.

c) Groups Formation and Their Itinerary:

In all, there were six groups. The groups were not formed on the basis of the district but on the basis of accessibility. As such one group could be conducting interviews in different panchayats of two district. See Annex 1 for the group division, coverage of panchayats, number of questionnaire delivered and field itinerary.

d) Other Logistic Supports:

This included the purchase and distribution of sleeping bags, medical kit, pencils, questionnaires, note-books, etc. and identification letters. Identification letters included one from APROSC and the other from Ministry of Home Panchayat. The latter was a letter requesting the various institutions in the zone to provide the necessary cooperation and help to the field survey teams. Finally, chartered flights were arranged to take the teams out to the field.

e) Training:

The training of enumerators (See Annex 2 for the detailed training schedule) can be divided into two parts namely: office training and on-the-job training. For office training, an enumerator is expected to realize the significance and importance of the work, to study all the instructions, to understand the meaning of each item in the questionnaire or schedules, to learn the technique of collecting information from farmers, and to familiarize himself with the method of handling the forms. Some of the highlights of the training are summarized below.

In order to fulfill the first criteria, i.e. to realize the significance and importance of the work, the enumerators and supervisors were briefed on the purpose of the Baseline Survey (both RAPIRD and RCU). This was necessary to let the enumerators and supervisors know what the purpose of the project was and moreover it would facilitate interviews while in the field. In the field one of the fundamental question raised by farmers is: what is this project going to do for us? Without the enumerators and supervisors knowing what the Baseline Survey sought, it would be impossible for them to explain this to the farmers. Therefore, the first part of training explained the purposes and objectives of the RAPIRD and RCU projects and the need for a Baseline Study.

Two manuals were prepared as guide to the administration of the questionnaires. The first manual was the Enumerator's Manual. This explained the questions in the questionnaire in detail. Since the data processing was to be computerized, the manual also made an attempt to explain the precision required to facilitate computer processing. The other manual was the Supervisor's Manual. This Manual attempts to explain the responsibilities of the supervisors. (See attached Manuals for the details - we shall not discuss their content here). Besides handing over the manuals and questionnaire to all enumerators and supervisors, a detailed explanation and discussion on each and every question was also done. A computer programmer was asked to deliver half a days lecture on the need for accurately entering data in their respective columns. Therefore, an attempt was also made to enlighten the enumerators and supervisors on the need for precision of information recording in the questionnaire.

In order to fulfill the technique of collecting information from farmers, mock interviews were conducted. A supervisor who was a permanent employee of APROSC and had demonstrated his excellence in conducting interviews was assigned the role of an interviewee. He was asked to carry out the role of an interviewee for two reasons:

- i. With his experience he was aware of the types of responses that could be expected to a question.
- ii. This awareness would therefore prepare other supervisors and enumerators for "what type of response" they could expect from interviewees.

This mock interview proved to be an excellent component of the overall training.

The second part of the training i.e. on the job training, dealt with taking all enumerators and supervisors to a suitable area and asking them to interview farmers. The area chosen for this purpose was Indrayani Panchayat east of Kathmandu. This on-the-job training consisted of two parts:

- i. The first part dealt with acquainting supervisors with sampling technique (for details see section on sampling technique).
- ii. The second part consisted of carrying out interviews with farmers or household heads, identified from the sampling procedure. All enumerators, as well as supervisors were also reminded to accurately note down all difficulties they faced resulting from the questions contained in the questionnaire as well as any suggestions that would help facilitate the overall questionnaire.

The following day was spent entirely on the problems and suggestions raised by the enumerators and supervisors from the previous days experience. Listed below are some of the main problems/suggestions raised.

- i. Enumerators as well as supervisors were mainly confused with the coding procedure, since, this was the first time such a questionnaire was being designed for interview purposes at APROSC.
- ii. The section on demography and fertility provided space to collect information on 16 individuals and 4 months respectively. The question raised was what if the number of individuals exceeds 16 and mothers exceeds 4 in a household. This was indeed a genuine question. It was therefore, advised that in such cases additional sheets should be used and enumerators were accordingly asked to take extra sheets (as well as questionnaires) for the purpose.
- iii. When the same crop is cultivated twice, in a year, it was decided that the area under cultivation and production each time should be added to arrive at total area under cultivation and production of different crops.

IV. Sampling Design and Procedure

a) One of the most important component of any survey is the sampling design. Any sampling frame-work should be able to represent the characteristics of the population concerned. Especially when enumeration of the entire population concerned is very often limited by time, funds and manpower, only a part of

the population can be enumerated. Keeping this in view a sample was conducted for the Rapati baseline study.

The sampling frame-work adopted generates a random sample i.e. the probability of any household being selected should be equal. After having agreed upon this the next question that comes up is, what ought to be the sample size i.e. given the population size, what portion of the population should be enumerated? The sampling frame-work adopted helped us to determine the required sample size for the survey, the details of which are discussed below.

There are five districts in Rapati Zone and the number of panchayats and households within each panchayat is not constant as can be seen from the following table.

Districts	Panchayats ^{2/}	Households	Percent of Households
Rukum	31	19,451	15.5
Rolpa	52	28,166	22.4
Sallyan	42	24,929	19.8
Pyuthan	49	24,702	19.6
Dang	44	28,492	22.7
Total:	218	125,740	100.0

Households are the ultimate sampling unit. Households were selected only after randomly selecting two wards from each sampled

^{2/} The number of village panchayats in Rapati Zone has recently been reduced by merging different wards from existing panchayats. There are now only 188 panchayats.

panchayat (all panchayats have only 9 wards), which were themselves selected on a random basis i.e. a three stage sampling frame-work. This had to be done because the list of households at the district level is not available.

In order to arrive at the estimated size of a representative sample there has to be some basis. The 1971 agricultural sample census provides information on the individual land holding for Rapati Zone at the district level. In Nepal where data is severaly lacking, the land holdings of households, given the over-influencing nature of agriculture, is assumed to reflect the economic status of households. This information was utilized to calculate the mean (\bar{x}) and variance (s) of the land holdings of households and was plugged into the standard formula given by:

$$n = \frac{\left(\frac{ts}{e\bar{x}}\right)^2}{1 + \frac{1}{N} \left(\frac{ts}{e\bar{x}}\right)^2}$$

where,

n, is the required sample size

N, is the population size

t, depends on the probability chosen and

e, depends on the error allowed.

Claculations for the mean and variance gave 57.851 and 142.574 respectively, thereby giving the required sample size $n = 1613$ when a ten percent error (e) is allowed and $n = 8590$ when five percent error is allowed. The sample size 1613 was accepted given time, money and manpower constraints.

After calculating the required sample size of 1613 households, the allocation of this number over the various panchayats in the five districts was done on a proportionate basis to arrive at the following result:

Districts	Sample Size
Rukum	250
Rolpa	362
Sallyan	319
Pyuthan	316
Dang	366
Total:	1613

This solved our first stage task i.e., we obtained the number of households to be interviewed, in each district. It is then necessary to allocate these households over the various panchayats and wards for each district. Since the variance of land holding in panchayats, wards and household level is not known, the optimal combination of panchayats, wards and households cannot be obtained. However, it is known that in general as the number of village panchayats increases, the variance decreases but the cost of survey increases. And as the number of households per ward increases the cost decreases but the variance increases. Also in multi-stage sampling it is expected that the variation between first-stage units is greater than the variation between second stage units and the variation between third stage units and so on. Therefore considering all the factors carefully it was finally decided to cover 20 percent of the total panchayats. After selecting the number of panchayats and wards, the required number of households per ward was automatically determined to reach the pre-estimated sample size of the corresponding districts.

The combination of panchayats, wards and households selected for each district were as follows:-

Districts	Panchayats	Wards per Panchayats	Households Per Ward	Total Sample of Households
Rukum	6	2	21	252
Rolpa	10	2	18	360
Sallyan	8	2	20	320
Fyuthan	10	2	16	320
Dang Deukhuri	9	2	20	360
Total:	43			1610

Village panchayat and ward lists are readily available and hence using random number tables, the required panchayats were identified. But household list is not available at the project office and therefore the household sampling had to be conducted in the field itself.

b) Simple Random Sampling at Field Level:

Supervisors were assigned the task of field sampling besides the other tasks outlined in the supervisor's manual. After reaching a sample panchayat, households sampling process consisted of the following details:-

- i. It was decided at the Project Office that 2 wards per sampled panchayats should be randomly selected. The supervisors were assigned this task and were told that after writing the number of wards (1 to 9) in nine equal bits of paper, a by-stander and the Pradhan Pancha should be asked to draw two bits to arrive at the required two wards.

- ii. After reaching a sample panchayat, the existing voters list of the wards sampled were up-dated. This up-dating was advised to be done in a group of villagers, such that households were not missed from the list. (See section V for field details).
- iii. In order to select households from the two sample wards, supervisors were provided with two decks of cards and these cards were numbered serially from 1 to 104. Since the number of households exceeding 104 in a ward was not possible, only two deck of cards were used. These cards were thoroughly shuffled and with the numbers faced down, a child or an old man or woman sitting around were asked to pick out the cards of their choice. The number corresponding to the card was encircled on the voters list and thus households to be interviewed were identified.

Other details regarding sampling is contained in the Supervisors Manual. This method of random sampling at the household level proved to be a very efficient method mainly because it was very well understood by the villagers themselves.

An error reveals ignorance and is realized when one becomes aware of it. This is a case in point in the sampling frame-work adopted. As can be noticed, the frame-work does not assign equal probability of selection of households. Irrespective of the size of a wards (household density), we have selected approximately 40 households from each sample panchayat distributed over two wards. Thus the probability of an i th household being selected from a j th ward differs with the probability of an n th household

being selected from an m th ward, in the same sampling frame-work i.e. same population. This undoubtedly will cause biasedness in the results. This however was only recently realized and for this we owe thanks to Dr. Jane Bergaten, Statistician of SECID, presently working with RCU project. Efforts are being made to correct for these mistakes in the analysis using the principle known to statisticians as the Design Effect or simply DEFF.

V. Field Survey Work:

There were six teams for the baseline survey of Rapati Integrated Rural Development Projects consisting of one supervisor and about five enumerators in each team. According to schedule, the teams were supposed to leave Kathmandu on the 4th of December, 1978, but due to lack of aircraft, team A was dropped in Tulsipur on 8th December, 1978 and teams B,C, D and E were dropped in Tulsipur on 10th December, 1978 and team F was dropped in Chaurijhar on 9th December, 1978.

All the panchayats which were to be sampled were identified at the centre by using random numbers table. The ward selection was also done on the basis of simple random sampling and here, the Pradhan Pancha and bystander were requested to draw one bit of paper each containing the ward numbers. After selecting two wards from each panchayat in this manner, the list of households of the selected wards was prepared and updated. In some panchayat the voter's list were available so the teams had only to update the list but in some panchayat where voter's list was not available they had to prepare a complete sampling list. The updating of the household list was done in the presence of a good number of villagers including at least one members of the village panchayat so that no households were left out and households that had migrated were not included. The selection

of households was made in the presence of Panchas and villagers by using two or more packs of playing cards depending upon the number of households in the ward which was numbered serially from one on the inside.

In drawing the sample, the villagers (usually children or old persons) were asked to draw the cards and the number on the household list that coincided with the number marked on the card was circled. In this manner the complete sample was drawn. Five additional households were selected as alternative samples for each ward but the alternative samples were used only if, after visits to an initial selected household on two separate occasions no one was available for interviewing. According to the team members, it was easier to take interview since the villagers were convinced that the selection were random and they were selected on the basis of chance. This avoided the usual problem of why "he" was selected and why "I" was not.

Editing of questionnaires is an essential part of the field survey. The final editing responsibility was assigned to supervisors. There were two step of editing in the field, first, by enumerators after interviewing farmers and second by supervisors to check for consistency and uniformity in data coding. In some instance interviewers had to go to a household already interviewed if some inconsistencies were encountered in the questionnaire.

After completion of field work different groups returned at different time. The date of arrival of the six groups at APROSC was as follows:-

A group on 27th Jan. 1979

B group on 21st Jan. 1979

C group on 25th Feb. 1979

D group on 25th Feb. 1979

E group on 26th Jan. 1979

F group on 18th Feb. 1979

The second editing process was done at APROSC after returning from field by supervisors with the help of enumerators. The second editing, however, did not fulfill the required consistency of the data coding. So the last editing was done at NCC by APROSC supervisors under the supervision of the computer programmer assigned to look after the RCU/RAPATI programmes.

VI. Synopsis of Team Leaders' Field Report Rapati IRDP

Baseline Study:

Six teams were dispatched to the districts of Rukum, Salyan, Rolpa, Pyuthan and Dang to administer the Questionnaire for the RAPIRD Project. The team leaders of each group were asked to submit reports at the conclusion of their field trips under the following headings:

- a) Problems encountered in the field regarding the questionnaire.
- b) A general profile of the panchayats visited.
- c) Miscellaneous observations on the field trip.

The following is a synoptic report of the observations made by the team leaders under the preceding headings:

The language used in the questionnaire came in for a great deal of critical appraisal. There were basically two types of problems encountered in this respect. First of all there were certain communities who had mother tongues other than Nepali such as the Tharus, then there were those who knew Nepali well but had developed local idioms that very often meant that they derived a different meaning than the intended one. For example, in Rukum and Rolpa districts the local equivalent of the words used in the questionnaire were as follows: 'Baure' for 'Khetala' and 'Jyaladari', 'Ghoga' for 'Makai', 'Panilagne' for 'Sinchit'. Hence a great deal of flexibility was called for in the choice of words and expressions.

The problem of eliciting a proper response was greatest in these categories: Mortality rate, fuel consumption, size of land holding and income, family planning, JT, JTA. Farmers in the Rukum and Rolpa were emotionally disturbed when asked to recall the number of children who had died before the age of five. The Question regarding the type of trees suitable for firewood did not elicit an answer because the farmers felt that they might be prosecuted. Similarly, accurate answers on the size of land holdings and income were difficult for fear of taxation.

The question on family planning produced an adverse reaction in many communities, especially among the Tharus who do not subscribe to the theory at all. The question on the visits of JTs and JTAs also produced mixed reactions because a lot of people were totally unaware of these terms.

Several suggestions were made for the improvement of the questionnaire: Simplification in the language used with special attention to local terminology, questions should be serially arranged so that there should be no agriculture question under the health column, questionnaires should be printed on both sides to lesson weight and some questions to be included regarding the barter system still prevalent in certain areas.

The information on the sources of income as well as its magnitude, according to supervisors may be slightly downward bias and expenditures reported on the other hand may be just the contrary. Though efforts were made to cross question households whenever this appeared obvious, there was a limit to how much cross-questioning could be done without the respondent getting irritated.

At the start, the average interviewing time was about 3 hours, but as the enumerators interviewed more and more households, the time decreased and finally the average time varied, depending upon personal capacities, from 1 hour and 45 minutes to two and one-half hours. Of course when the respondent was landless, the interviewing time was even less.

The card system of random sampling was found to be very practicable. The orientation prior to the field trip was very beneficial.

One of the unique observations repeatedly mentioned in all reports focusses on the cardinal word 'development'. Most of the farmers interviewed had a very confused idea of the concept of 'development', which often deterred them from organizing their ideas in listing their priorities for development activities.

A general profile of the village panchayats visited by the team leaders is in file at the publication Unit of APROSC. Particular mention must also be made of the observation of the Tharu community, who deserve careful consideration because of the unique customs of these people, and the degree of exploitation that they have been exposed to.

Panchayat	Number of Representatives
1. Bhawan	50
2. ...	50
3. ...	50
4. ...	50
5. ...	50
6. ...	50

Number of Representatives Delivered: 300
 Expected: 75th Jan, 1975
 Actual: 27th Jan, 1975

GROUP A

Names:

1. Mr. Mukunda Sharma	Supervisor	Team left for Tulsipur. on: 8th Dec. 1978
2. Mr. Dev Nath Mandal	Enumerator	
3. Mr. Kul Raj Neupane	,,	
4. Mr. Sanobabu Maghaia	,,	

<u>Panchayats</u>	<u>Number of Questionnaire</u>		<u>Arrival Dates</u>	<u>Departure Dates</u>
	<u>Delivered</u>			
1. Dhanauri	40		10th Dec	16th Dec
2. Manpur	40		16th Dec	22nd Dec
3. Sonpur	40		22nd Dec	2nd Jan, 1979
4. Koilabas	40		2nd Jan, 1979	9th Jan
5. Matheria	40		10th Jan	17th Jan
6. Gangadi	40		18th Jan	24th Jan

Total Number of Questionnaires Delivered 240
Arrival in Kathmandu - Expected 25th Jan, 1979
Actual 27th Jan, 1979

GROUP B

Names :

- | | | | |
|--------------------------|------------|-------------------------|--------------------|
| 1. Mr. Khagendra Basnyat | Supervisor | Team left for Tulsipur. | on: 10th Dec. 1978 |
| 2. Mr. Atma Ram Pandey | Enumerator | | |
| 3. Mr. Shanker Pokharel | ,, | | |
| 4. Mr. Rajendra Gurung | ,, | | |

<u>Panchayats</u>	<u>Number of Questionnaire Delivered</u>	<u>Arrival Dates</u>	<u>Departure Dates</u>
1. Laxmipur Pokhara	40	12th Dec	18th Dec
2. Phalabang Chaitedada	40	18th Dec	24th Dec
3. Satsay Saibang	32	25th Dec	30th Dec
4. Lithang	40	30th Dec	5th Jan, 1979
5. Markawang	32	6th Jan	12th Jan
6. Nausaya Luharpani	40	13th Jan	18th Jan
7. Ghorahi	40	18th Jan	23th Jan

Total Number of Questionnaires Delivered 264

Arrival in Kathmandu - Expected 24th Jan, 1979

Actual 21st Jan, 1979

GROUP C & D

Names :

1.	Mr. Madhav Rimal	Supervisor	Team left for Tulsipur	on: 10th Dec., 1978
2.	Mr. Bhakta Raj Pant	Enumerator		
3.	Mr. Manosh Puri	,,		
4.	Mr. Ramesh Giri	(Supervisor)		
5.	Mr. Hari P. Shrestha	Enumerator		
6.	Mr. Padma N. Poudyal	,,		

<u>Panchayats</u>	<u>Number of Questionnaire Delivered</u>	<u>Arrival Dates</u>	<u>Departure Dates</u>
1. Char Dadhi Khalanga	40	13th Dec	18th Dec
2. War Gaun Kajeri	40	18th Dec	22nd Dec
3. Bangad Ghagari Pipal	40	22nd Dec	27th Dec
4. Syurath	40	28th Dec	2nd Jan 1979
5. Panch Thapaul Badagaun	40	2nd Jan	7th Jan
6. Dharmakot	40	7th Jan	11th Jan
7. Rugha	36	11th Jan	14th Jan
8. Thumikot	36	14th Jan	18th Jan
9. Pakhapani	36	18th Jan	22nd Jan
10. Aruwa	36	23rd Jan	27th Jan
11. Mirul	36	28th Jan	2nd Feb
12. Dhansidhawang	36	3rd Feb	8th Feb

Total Number of Questionnaires Delivered 456

Arrival in Kathmandu - Expected 12th Feb, 1979

Actual 25th Feb, 1979

GROUP ENames:

1.	Mr. Panna Lal Shrestha	Supervisor	Team left for Tulshipur	on: 10th Dec 1978
2.	Mr. Ramesh Khadga	Enumerator		
3.	Mr. Rajesh Rajbhandari	,,		
4.	Mr. Bhabiswor Aryal	,,		

<u>Panchayats</u>	<u>Number of Questionnaire Delivered</u>	<u>Arrival Dates</u>	<u>Departure Dates</u>
1. Sayuliwang	32	13th Dec	18th Dec
2. Arkha	32	18th Dec	23rd Dec
3. Lug	32	23rd Dec	28th Dec
4. Tusara	32	28th Dec	1st Jan, 1979
5. Bagaymarot	32	1st Jan	5th Jan
6. Khalanga (Pyuthan)	32	5th Jan	12th Jan
7. Bijule	32	12th Jan	16th Jan
8. Chaurpani	32	16th Jan	20th Jan
9. Upaloraspur	32	20th Jan	24th Jan

Total Number of Questionnaires Delivered 288

Arrival in Kathmandu - Expected 25th Jan, 1979

Actual 26th Jan, 1979

GROUP F

Names:

1.	Mr. Murari Raj Kaini	Supervisor	Team left for Chaurijahari	on: 9th Dec. 1979
2.	Mr. Narayan Dhakal	Enumerator		
3.	Mr. Chandika P. Bhattarai	,,		
4.	Mr. Heera P. Dhakal	,,		

<u>Panchavats</u>	<u>Number of Questionnaire Delivered</u>	<u>Arrival Dates</u>	<u>Departure Dates</u>
1. Jaharikot	42	11th Dec	16th Dec
2. Gotamsal	42	16th Dec	21st Dec
3. Sayla Pakha	42	22nd Dec	28th Dec
4. Pokhara	42	29th Dec	7th Jan 1979
5. Hukam	42	7th Jan	11st Jan
6. Ranma	42	12th Jan	17th Jan
7. Sheram	36	20th Jan	26th Jan
8. Harjang	36	27th Jan	1st Feb
9. Shirp Jogither	36	2nd Feb	7th Feb

Total Number of Questionnaires Delivered 360

Arrival in Kathmandu - Expected 10th Feb, 1979

- Actual 18th Feb, 1979

Training Schedule

Training for Supervisors and Interviewers for the RAD/RCU
Baseline Studies.

Thursday, November 23

Organizational Meeting

Informal orientation to surveys and training

Distribute materials for reading/use during training

- Household and Panchayat Questionnaires
- Supervisors and Interviewers Manuals
- List of Panchayats to be surveyed
- Schedule for Fieldwork
- Training Schedule

Friday, November 24

10.00 Opening Speech by Dr. T.N. Pant

10.00 Outline of the RAD and RCU Projects:

K. Banskota and K. Upadhaya

11.00 Tea Break

11.15 Orientation to the Baseline Surveys:

K. Banskota

12.00 Orientation to the computer processing of survey data

12.45 Snack Break

01.30 1st Session on the use of the Household Questionnaire

K. Banskota, et.al

16.00 End of days training

Saturday, November 25

Holiday

Wednesday, November 29

- 10.00 Review of Field Testing and resolution of any problems
with Questionnaire. K. Banskota, et.al
- 12.00 Snack Break
- 13.00 Logistics/Travel Arrangements for Survey Work
- 14.00 Closing Comments: Mr. M.D. Joshi, Dept. of Soil
and Water Conservation
Dr. T.N. Pant, APROSC
Mr. J. Coles, USAID/N
- 15.00 End of Session and Training for Interviewers
(15.00 - 16.00 Final Session with Supervisors)
- 17.30 - 21.30 Reception and Dinner

Thursday, November 30

APROSC, Lazimpat Office

- Issue of TA/DA
- Issue of Field Equipment.