

CIRAD direction – project co-ordination:

ECOPOL Project

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Rationale

In several countries, decision-making mechanisms for public intervention are increasingly questioned due to pressure for market liberalisation, decentralisation processes and the increasing role of civil society. But, while the traditional role of government is challenged, few methods have been proposed to enable the design of viable alternatives. In an attempt to overcome this deficiency, the ECOPOL project developed and applied in Vietnam and Indonesia, a methodology to design more efficient public decisions management processes.



Objectives

- Development, adaptation and application of tools and methods to support decision making process in agricultural policy.
- Progressive involvement of local stakeholders in agricultural policy design and management process.
- Training of local staff on these tools and methods.

Methodologies

To take into account in the definition of sustainable agricultural policies the complexity of the interactions between the biophysical environment, the agro-ecological conditions and the socio-economical context, the chosen method combines qualitative and quantitative analysis tools as MATA for economical simulation of agricultural policy, CADIAC participatory approach for commodity chain analysis, institutional analysis and prospective analysis.

Human resources and partnership

- Two expatriate scientists based in CGPRT Centre, Bogor, Indonesia (an agricultural economist and a agricultural socio-economist) and one expatriate scientist based in the VASI, Hanoi, Vietnam (agro-economist).
- An Indonesian team of 5 scientists and analysts of West-Java province (BAPPEDA, BPTP, KANWIL).
- A Vietnamese team of 5 scientists from the VASI and analysts from the Vietnamese Ministry of agriculture and rural development, the provinces and the districts of the Red river delta.
- A support from the CIRAD ECOPOL program scientists and experts outside CIRAD.

Duration of the project

May 1998 – July 2001 with an extension until July 2002 to follow up the changes initiated by the project in Vietnam as part of the PAOPA project.

Funding

French ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Cirad Amis Ecolpol programme.

Research highlights

- Definition with stakeholders of a commonly-agreed strategy to improve the functioning of the rice and pig commodity chains in North Vietnam.
- A handbook for a new management of public decisions.
- A handbook for analysing stakeholders' inter-relations.

Training and capacity building

- Training workshop organised by the CGPRT Centre and PCARRD in Los Baños, 1998.
- Training workshop on field data analysis organised in Bogor, 1999.
- Training workshop on institutional analysis organised in Bogor, 2000.
- Training Workshop on Data Analysis and Interpretation Method in Bogor, 2000.
- Lecturer in training course on Planning and Management of Lake and Reservoir Eutrophication, organized by SEAMEO BIOTROP in Bogor, 2001.
- Training on techniques and methods of multiple stakeholders conciliation and mediation for policy definition in Ha Tay and Nam Dinh Provinces, Vietnam, 2001.
- Training course on prospective studies tools and methods at VASI, Hanoi, 2001.



Selected publications

Bourgeois, R. & D. Herrera. 2000. *Actor-led change for efficient agri-food systems: Handbook of the participatory actor-based CADIAC approach.* Bogor, Indonesia, ESCAP-CGPRT Centre - CIRAD. 135 pp.

Jésus, F. 2001. *P.A.C.T., A Pro-Active Conciliation Tool. Analysing Stakeholders' Inter-Relations.* Monographs 41. Bogor, Indonesia, ESCAP-CGPRT Centre. November 2001. 70 pp.

Jésus, F. & Bourgeois, R. 2001. *Reconciling Actors Preferences in Agricultural Policy. Handbook for a New Management of Public Decisions.* To be published by CIRAD and CGPRT in 2001. ♦