

REFLECTIONS ON PROJECT DESIGN

Experiences in Recent Road
Projects: Some Aspects of the
Process of Change

Some Elements of the Process

- Sensitization and commitment to poverty reduction as a central goal for infrastructure policy, and mainstreaming into operations
- Institutional Reorientation
 - Ensure that agency recognizes poverty reduction as a strategic objective
 - Set up institutional units
- Participatory Processes – Social Inclusion
 - NGOs
 - Women and Disadvantaged
 - Community Consultations – Road Users
- Contracting Industry
 - Contractors and Consultants (Knowledge-based Industries)
 - Local community contracts – routine maintenance
- Project Components
 - Targeted Activities
- Partnerships in Resource and Knowledge Pooling – Government, Communities, Private Sector, Multilaterals, Bilaterals, NGOs
- Critical Gap –Community Organization

Bangladesh

Southwest Road Network

Development Project (1999)

- Maintenance
 - Maintenance Funding – Local Contracting Capabilities
 - Routine Maintenance – Support of established initiatives
- Poverty Impact Reduction Study
 - Focus and Follow-Up
 - Southwest Corridor – high incidence of poverty and landlessness
 - Surveys and Quantification of Benefits
 - Growth Centers and Traffic Patterns
 - Relocation of Industries to Khulna-Mongla and Local Employment Generation
 - Potential Negative Contribution: Landlessness – Shrimp Farms
- Participation of Women
 - Roadside Afforestation
- Road Safety – Continuation and Partnership (NDF, World Bank)
 - Poverty Implications
 - Community Awareness, Engineering, Interagency Councils

Bangladesh

Southwest Flood Rehabilitation Project (2000)

- Socioeconomic Rehabilitation Fund
 - PKSF – Apex Microfinance Institution Offering Short-Term Low Interest Loans through Partner (Local) NGOs
 - Village Housing Reconstruction
 - Emergency Local Road Rehabilitation
 - Income Generating Projects
 - Seed Multiplications Farms
 - Landowners
 - Landless Dependent on Agricultural Employment
 - Civil Works
 - Small Earthworks of \$2,500 or less awarded to Labor Contracting Societies

Laos

Rural Access Roads Project (2000)

- Accessibility
 - Year-round Access
 - Health: immunization; 6 percent more than a day's journey away from hospital
 - Education: Lack of teachers, school facilities (new, maintenance)
 - Income, Employment: Agricultural Markets
 - Ethnic Minorities – need to capture unique cultural and economic contributions
 - HIV/AIDS, Trafficking – Outreach Programs in Construction and Development Activities
- Opium Poppy Reduction
 - Diversion from pioneering and rotational swidden practices
 - Feeder Roads
 - UN International Drug Control Programme
 - Integrated Rural Accessibility Planning
 - Community Prioritized Locations
 - Civil Works by Local Community Contractors, Simple Design
- Strategic Directions for the Road Sector - Government
 - Poverty reduction
 - Social and Environmental Unit
 - Economic growth
 - Environmental protection
 - National integration

Pakistan

Road Sector Development Program (2001)

- **Road Sector Transformation Process** – National and Provincial
- **Road Reforms in Province of Sindh**
 - 160 km provincial highways - 1,200 km rural access roads
 - Length, Population Served, Economic Activity, Network Requirements, Environment, Poverty (high incidence of sharecropping, landlessness, dependence on wage labor)
 - Decentralization and Empowerment of District Governments
 - Local Contracting Capability
 - Register of Local Community Contractors
 - Needs Assessments – Training Programs – Work Programs
 - Partnerships with Knowledge-Based Industries (Consultants)
 - Poverty Reduction Pilot Project
 - Three Districts
 - Formation of Local Groups for Road Construction and Maintenance
 - Focus on Women Groups for 2 km stretches
 - NGOs for Social Mobilization and Training
 - Road Safety – Road User Associations
 - Participatory Processes – Road Users
 - Community Consultations
 - Citizens' Advisory Group as member of Steering Committee