Annotated Bibliography


This is one of the two papers by John Holtzman which applies a very useful method for determining what kinds of information are of central importance for the survey exercise.

Topic: Minimum Data Sets, Analytical Framework


This contains the minimum data sets developed for the evaluation of rural development projects funded by the African Development Foundation. These provide a good model in combination with Parker, et al (1988) and Garrett, et al (1987) of checklists to assess the local situation and progress of activities.

Topic: Minimum Data Sets


Ashby has won recognition for her work on farmer-designed and farmer-managed farming systems research trials. In this article she compares the results of agroinform field trials when farmers both design and administer the trials to trials in which farmers are active participants and planners of trials designed by researchers. Not only do farmer-designed experiments tend to yield results more appropriate to the farmer's level of resources, but they also yieldd recommendations which are more likely to be adopted by a large number of farmers.

Topic: Interactive Trials


This is an interactive planning model developed for forestry staff in India to develop village action plans with local people. It includes a minimum data set for evaluating the state of the resource, for identifying paradoxes and needs, and for assessing the impact of different forest management practices. It includes a section on small planting as a conservation and productive forest.

Topic: Interactive Planning


This is a classic article on the use of RRA for farming systems and includes an annotated bibliography of resources.

Topic: General Methods, Annotated Bibliography


Includes useful information on the use of socio-economic and impact indicators in monitoring surveys, and the varied methodologies used to collect different types of data in a cost-effective, but sound manner.

Topic: Indicators, Analytical Framework


Borch summarizes a number of general references on rapid appraisal techniques, outlining the need to find out about local policies and the local knowledge bases people have about forests, land utilization, and tree species.

Topic: General, Group Interviews


This is the best study available to demonstrate the dangers of relying too indiscriminately on formal surveys in development planning. The authors re-interviewed respondents for a number of development-oriented questionnaires and found a number of discrepancies in the information originally collected. Economic data, particularly on land holdings, was very off and attitude surveys, particularly those used for the Nepal Family Survey, were extremely misleading. Part of this study has been published as "The Use and Mis-Use of Surveys in International Development: An Experiment from Nepal" Journal of Comparative Policy, 4(3): 27-37, 1984.

Topic: Sampling Techniques, Methodology


Includes a set of guidelines for evaluating people's participation in watershed management projects. Pays particular attention to the kinds of incentives which are used to encourage different kinds of participation and their effectiveness.

Topic: Minimum Data Sets


An introduction to rapid appraisal techniques. The main reference on methods of rapid rural appraisal for development planning.

Topic: General Guidelines


Brian Carron is a social scientist and a pioneer in the use of maps and aerial photographs in RRA of watershed issues. This book summarizes the work he has carried out with NEPAD (Agroecosystem Research Group within the Ministry of Agriculture, Indonesia) between 1986 and 1988. May be for watershed planners.

Topic: General Methods


A general guide to monitoring and evaluation that includes a section on rapid reassessment approaches to gathering information. Serves as a general and specific guidelines.

Topic: General Guidelines


A summary of a collaborative program between the Center of International Development and Environment and Clark University to develop village resource management plans with villagers, planners and extension agents to and document indigenous, effective systems of natural resource management. This program includes training in RRA and agroecosystem analysis tools and approaches.

Topic: Interactive Planning


An updated version of a paper prepared for the World Bank on rapid appraisal techniques. This includes the information originally published in the classic Agricultural Administration article cited above.

Topic: General Guidelines


In this book, the author describes the situation of the rural poor in the developing countries and points out major gaps in the kinds of information collected about this group, as well as the usual biases in formal and informal surveys that prevent the group from being properly considered in project design and implementation.

Topic: Least Visible Target Groups


This is a general approach to the use of rapid appraisal methods in farming systems research.

Topic: General Methods


This is an earlier paper by Gordon Conway outlining this approach to resource management projects and problems analysis.

Topic: Agroecosystem Analysis


This is an excellent article illustrating the fact that a combination of theoretical models is needed to understand a range of farming decisions taken by a single sample of farmers. In some cropping decisions, farmers confirmed to the wealthy/poor...
Rapid appraisal

Topic: Least Visible Target Groups

Khon Kaen University

Topic: General

enuring that the farmer's emerges in both diagnostic perception of problems and eval

A collection of articles which review the range of social science input into farming

Jones, Jeffrey, and Ben Wallace, eds.

The author points out the importance of rapid appraisal as a new paradigm for incorpo

Includes a spacial mapping technique that identifies which landscape niches within th

Hoskins, Marilyn

surveys are warranted and how the results from each method might differ.

This is the second paper by this author which applies a systematic framework to ident

misconceptions about the rural reality subtly shape lines of questioning and lead to

This was written to provide anthropological counter arguments to many assumptions mad

Hill, Polly

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Hendricks, Michael

This book has been developed for use in training courses on forestry projects. It cov

Harrington, L.W., and Robert Tripp

series of training sessions on rapid appraisal, discussing some of the ways to analyz

Fujuisaka, Sam

The authors compared the validity of data acquired from formal and informal survey te

This document is the training manual used by the Freedom from Hunger Foundation for i

Freedom from Hunger Foundation, Aaron Zazueta

larger farms and farm size than interviewers expected, so when they adjusted the figu

The authors compared the validity of data acquired from formal and informal survey tech

This approach to FSR takes a regional perspective of factoring in ecological and economic factors as well as socio-cultural factors of class, caste, household composition, labor pools and relationships, nutritional factors, and marketing factors. Topic: Minimum Data Sets, Indicators

Gow, David

- 1987 "Rapid Rural Appraisal: Social Science as Investigative Journalism," in Finst

This is a description of the useful and classic technique of conducting short field surveys using relating pairs of experts from technical and social science disciplines.

Topic: Team Interaction

Hill, Polly

- 1986 "Development Economics on Trial" London: Tavistock Publishers

The data was written to provide anthropological counter arguments to many assumptions made by economic development theorists regarding the statistical reliability and formal surveys on food and agriculture, regarding misconceptions of the role of rural debt in the village economy, and regarding assumptions about village stratification and farmer decision-making. A number of these issues have relevance for the design of interviews in rapid appraisal. The main point is that it is important to recognize that the rapid reality shape lines of questioning and lead to faulty data collection.

Topic: Field Notes


This is the second paper by the author which applies a systematic framework to identifying the pertinent issue for which information needs to be collected, in this case for agricultural marketing and food system research. Holtzbin's approach is very useful for RRA survey teams because it provides a cross-check for deciding which information is really important to the data gathering exercise so that the team does not waste valuable time on questions of peripheral importance to the research effort. Topic: Minimum Data Sets


Includes an extremely useful section, quoted in Griegher, Draper, and Els, eds., People and Treats: The Role of Social Science in Sustainable Development, Washington, D.C.: E.OI, World Bank, on the situations in which informal and formal surveys are warranted and how the results from each method might differ.

Topic: Interview Technique


Points out the need to question women and children separately from men about their knowledge, interest, and use of different forest and fodder products and species, to properly understand the local agroforestry system and its problems.

Topic: Least Visible Target Groups


Series of collected articles on decision making (DAD) methodology developed at ICRAF for the study of agroforestry systems. Places an emphasis on finding interventions that are sustainable, productive, and culturally appropriate. Includes a special mapping technique that identifies which landscape niches within the general environment and on farms are used by different users (men, women, herders, landless, etc.).

Topic: General Methods

International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED) - 1989 Present, DRA News. Address: IIED, 5 Endsleigh Street, London WC1H ODD, United Kingdom.

This is a very good source for exchanging information on new methods from the field. The Web has added a wide range of experiences with trying out different approaches in field situations. The editors (Gordon Conway, Robert Chambers, Jennifer McCracken, and Juke Prety) are encouraging more contributions from local users in the developing countries as well as from international specialists.

Topic: General Methods


A collection of articles which review the range of social science input into farming systems research and analyze the role of the anthropologist in developing a framework for informal survey research, working in a multi-disciplinary approach, and assuming that the farmer's emerges in both diagnostic perception of problems and evaluative stages when introducing an intervention.

Topic: General


This is the last single reference to RRA techniques and the range of applications. It has a range of articles from a 1985 workshop that cover general methodology, interview techniques and surveys and instruments and case applications. There is now a companion case study volume to this one, also available from the University by writing to Dr. Tood Observations, Faculty of Agriculture, Khon Kaen University.

Topic: General Methods


An article discussing a very different viewpoint on the fuel crisis from that implied to village women by planners.

Topic: Least Visible Target Groups
Rapid appraisal
House, off Limuru Road, Gigiri, P.O. Box 30677, Nairobi, Kenya.
Topic: Farming Systems Research
dialogues with farmers to identify problems and good points of intervention.
1982 "Farmer Back to Farmer: A Model for Generating Acceptable Agricultural Technolog
Rhoades classic article on how to conduct an informal survey with farmers.
Topic: General
is unfortunately not readily available in the U.S.A. (Mayer, E., "Land Use in the And
Topic: Interactive Planning
is a host of examples of local negotiations/level planning approaches using interactive tools for involving local people in the planning process. See article by Rainie and Hostetler on "Assessing EAR Support for Forestry Extension and other methodology chapters.
Topic: Interactive Planning
Topic: General
http://www.fao.org/docrep/005/t7845e/t7845e06.htm#P0_0
This study identifies the importance of collecting information on household composition and intra-household groupings for designing and carrying out group-based activities. It also reinforces Hiatt's (1979) finding that women, men and children in the same household have different knowledge, interests, and responsibilities with respect to specific land units, plants and animals, and particular activities (pp. 9-10).

**Topic: Least Visible Groups**


This is a good example of agroecosystem analysis (AEA) as applied to upland development and coastal development in the Philippines. An AEA is adopted by local researchers in different countries, each country develops its own version of the methodology.

**Topic: Agroecosystems Analysis**


Solten has tailored the traditional techniques of participant-observation to in-country evaluation by host-country personnel of large projects. Using a combination of residence in several communities and cross-checking of information through structured interviews, he has obtained more reliable information about community participation than through traditional monitoring surveys.

**Topic: General Methods**


This paper compares the use of indicators of community service assessment as proxies to measure whether or not a group fishery cooperative was likely to succeed in Panama and its application to Ecuador. He finds that proxies are geographically specific, but very useful shorthand if properly applied. Topic: Pittfalls.


This manual contains detailed checklists for the evaluation of nutrition and primary health care services for use by host-country medical and paramedical personnel. These are in effect minimum data sets for the health field with particular attention to group interview techniques and informal interview content.

**Topic: General Methods**


This is a detailed and practical compendium of RRA techniques for informal surveys and interviews and other FSR techniques. It compiles techniques used by a wide variety of FSR practitioners, with ample discussion of the social scientist's input. Useful are discussions of sampling options, a case study of interviewing women in Bangladesh, and the section on ways to interview farmers on decision-making. The limitation of the work is that the relative values of different methods proposed are not systematically evaluated in this handbook.

**Topic: General Methods**


Based on the experience of implementing community forestry projects in India and Nepal, this handbook outlines a simple, yet effective set of methods for conducting monitoring and evaluation for broad community forestry projects. Includes phasing of the collection of different types of information from the start-up of the M&E unit throughout the life of the project and discusses ways to effectively design and carry out special studies and case studies.

**Topic: Indicators**


Describes the seven-day workshop approach to community planning, with group interviews/discussions on local conditions and development parameters. Topic: Interaction Planning.


In a section on short-term information gathering, this pamphlet succinctly summarizes the interview and survey techniques that are needed for rapid reconnaissance. These are similar to those discussed by Robert Chambers, with specific attention to both village-based and external forces affecting farmers' decision-making.

**Topic: General Methods**


Reports on the preliminary issues identified by research engaged in participatory action research being carried out in India and Thailand. The approach used is research through use of dialogue with farmers and action programmes while in residence in a village.

**Topic: Interactive Tools**


There is a wealth of information in this handbook on ways to design questionnaires and important factors in question phrasing and sequencing of questions to reduce bias. Suggestions such as "don't wait till the very end of the survey to introduce controversial questions, or the informant will be too tired to respond, although you must wait until enough rapport has been established to ask such questions" are directly relevant to rapid information gathering interviews, even when interviews are unstructured.

**Topic: Interview Techniques**

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