

## Editor's Notes

The articles in this issue of the Journal are based on researches undertaken under the auspices of the Community Development Research Council (CDRC).

The CDRC was established in 1957 by virtue of an agreement between the University of the Philippines and the Presidential Assistant on Community Development, Office of the President of the Philippines. The latter was abolished, its functions taken over by other government agencies. Interdisciplinary research in the social sciences and the evaluation of programs and problems of government agencies engaged in community development which formed the rationale for CDRC's creation are still very much needed and so CDRC has continued to operate.

The four essays focus on the evaluation of rural development programs/projects. In a country that is primarily rural, community development can properly be construed as rural development.

The first article, "Policy Issues in Integration for Rural Development: The Case of the Population/Family Planning Program" by Amelia P. Varela highlights a very crucial problem that must be tackled if family planning program is to be an effective mechanism for rural development. Varela examines in particular its integration into local government concerns and operations as the program is envisioned to be a local government responsibility. The existing administrative arrangements, adopted by both national and local government, are assessed in these terms.

The second article by Alejandro B. Ibay, "Institutionalizing Technical Assistance: The Case of Zamboanga del Sur Rural Development Project" tackles a similar problem — local government capability for the successful turnover of a foreign-assisted project. Ibay, thus, evaluates how the project has progressed in terms of institutionalizing project components and processes.

The third essay, Maximo B. Garming's "The Use of Indigenous Institutions as an Approach to Rural Development: A Case of an Upland Community" calls attention to a viable alternative to reliance on foreign inputs and so-called modern institutions in rural development efforts. Indeed, as Goulet has argued, development can proceed *from* tradition.

Rural development is not just a question of management. Its substantive content must be given the attention that it deserves. The last article is an attempt to bring this to the fore. "Operation Land Transfer: A Policy Appraisal" by Ma. Aurora Carbonell-Catilo examines the *social justice* implications of this very important program of the government.