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**Methods for Diagnosing
Research System Constraints
and
Assessing the Impact of
Agricultural Research**

**Volume II:
Assessing the Impact
of Agricultural Research**

*Proceedings of the ISNAR/Rutgers Agricultural Technology Management
Workshop, 6-8 July 1988, Rutgers University, New Jersey, USA*

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International Service for National Agricultural Research

The International Service for National Agricultural Research (ISNAR) began operating at its headquarters in The Hague, Netherlands, on September 1, 1980. It was established by the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR), on the basis of recommendations from an international task force, for the purpose of assisting governments of developing countries to strengthen their agricultural research. It is a non-profit autonomous agency, international in character, and non-political in management, staffing, and operations.

Of the thirteen centers in the CGIAR network, ISNAR is the only one that focuses primarily on national agricultural research issues. It provides advice to governments, upon request, on research policy, organization, and management issues, thus complementing the activities of other assistance agencies.

ISNAR has active advisory service, research, and training programs.

ISNAR is supported by a number of the members of CGIAR, an informal group of approximately 43 donors, including countries, development banks, international organizations, and foundations.

Methods for Diagnosing Research System Constraints and Assessing the Impact of Agricultural Research

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Ruben G. Echeverría
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Volume II:
Assessing the Impact of Agricultural Research

Contents

Preface	v
Participants	vii
About the Authors	ix
Assessing the Impact of Agricultural Research Ruben G. Echeverría	1

General Cases

Reflections on Impact Assessment Jock R. Anderson and Robert W. Herdt	35
Assessing the Impact of International Research: Concepts and Challenges Douglas E. Horton	43
The Need to Know: Monitoring and Evaluating Agricultural Technology Management Bruce Koppel	67
Assessing the Impact of Research on Improving the Quality of Food Commodities Laurian J. Unnevehr	101
The Excess Burden of Taxation and Public Agricultural Research Dana G. Dalrymple	117
Problems of Omitting Private Investments in Research When Measuring the Impact of Public Research Carl E. Pray and Catherine F. Neumeyer	139

Regional Cases

Assessing the Impact of Farming Systems Research and Development Efforts: An Action-Training Methodology Phillips Foster, Marcus Ingle, and Barton Clarke	161
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Evaluating Agricultural Research and Extension in Peru Victor G. Ganoza, George W. Norton, Carlos Pomareda, Robert E. Evenson, and Edward Walters175
The Betting Line on Beef: Ex ante Estimates of the Benefits of Research on Improved Pasture for the Latin American Tropics Carlos Seré and Lovell S. Jarvis197
Integrated ex ante and ex post Impact Assessment in the Generation of Agricultural Technology: Cassava in the Atlantic Coast of Colombia Willem G. Janssen and John K. Lynam217

Preface

The International Service for National Agricultural Research (ISNAR) and Rutgers (the State University of New Jersey) organized a workshop on the methods for assessing research impact and for diagnosing research systems constraints. This workshop was held in July 1988 at New Brunswick, New Jersey, USA. It was financed by USAID, IICA, ISNAR, Rutgers University, and the Rockefeller Foundation.

The purpose of the workshop was to provide a forum for discussing the methods of assessing the impact of research and diagnosing constraints on research systems with the goal of developing a consensus on the methodology for both assessment and diagnosis.

A call for papers for the workshop yielded over 50 submissions, of which 23 were chosen to be included. A peer panel of seven professionals — Ralph Cummings (AID), Howard Elliott (ISNAR), Robert Evenson (Yale University), Reed Hertford (Rutgers), Carl Pray (Rutgers), Margaret Sarles (Rutgers), and Eduardo Trigo (IICA) — selected the papers. These papers dealt with original research carried out by their authors. Most papers had neither been widely disseminated nor previously discussed.

Twenty-four authors participated in the workshop, including experts from donor organizations, international agricultural research centers, government agricultural agencies, and university programs in agriculture and economics. These individuals are recognized leaders in the development of the methodologies that were presented. In addition, representatives of NARS from Asia, Latin America, and Africa attended the workshop (sponsored by IICA, ISNAR, and AID) in order to provide feedback on the methodologies under discussion and to learn new analytic skills.

Dr. Reed Hertford, Director of the International Agricultural and Food Program (IAFP) at Rutgers University, was secretary for the workshop. IAFP Staff Members, Ms. Sue Randall, Ms. Marilyn Kluberspies, and Ms. Carrie Foushee, provided administrative support. Dr. Howard Elliott, Deputy Director General of Research and Training at ISNAR, co-hosted the workshop and provided logistic support. Both Dr. Hertford and Dr. Elliott guided the overall development of the workshop.

The workshop was organized around two groups, one that focused on diagnosing research systems constraints and the other on assessing the impact of agricultural research. Volume I of this report includes the papers on diagnosing systems constraints, and Volume II includes those on assessing the impact of agricultural research. Most of the papers included in this volume have been revised by their authors — at the editor's request — since being presented at the workshop in 1988. The editor thanks the authors for their contributions and Monique Hand and Kathleen Sheridan for their assistance in preparing this volume. All views expressed in this volume are the responsibility of the respective author(s).

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