



**A spotlight on community
projects and programmes
in Canada**

January 1984

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INTRODUCTION

The eighty-eight project summaries compiled in this book were submitted to the Canadian Steering Committee during implementation of the first phase of the International Exposition of Rural Development (IERD) in Canada. The IERD is a three year programme operating in over 50 nations under the theme of SHARING APPROACHES THAT WORK. Organized by the Institute of Cultural Affairs International, it is co-sponsored by UNICEF, UNDP, UNFPA, WHO, the International Council of Women, the Agricultural Finance Corporation (India), the Association of Indian Engineering Industry, and the Canara Bank (India). The major intent of this programme is to encourage new local development initiatives and accelerate programmes for rural revitalization. During the first phase of the programme, a large number of successful grass-roots development efforts were identified, and many of these were brought together in conferences and symposia to share learnings. In the second phase of the Exposition, representative projects from each participating country will send delegates and displays to the IERD plenary in New Delhi during February 1984. The third phase, which begins when the plenary results are available, will enable the results of this unprecedented gathering of local development experience to be shared in each of the participating nations.

Canada's participation in the IERD began in November 1982 when approximately fifty interested persons gathered in Winnipeg to discuss the objectives and benefits of Canadian participation, and to develop a national programme for SHARING APPROACHES THAT WORK. Following this meeting, Regional Steering Committees were formed in seven locations across Canada during January 1983 to implement the programme, and a Canadian Steering Committee representing each regional committee was designated to coordinate the national effort. From January through June, 1983, projects were identified and initial documentation was compiled on project activities through a wide-spread voluntary solicitation directed by the committees. Several regions also sponsored exchange conferences or symposia to encourage participation and promote interchange and sharing. Over 300 projects across Canada participated during this period of the programme.

The Canadian Steering Committee recommended during its June 1983 meeting that a more detailed summary be prepared for approximately 100 projects demonstrating successful results in a wide variety of initiatives. A common procedure was established, including a visit to the project, an in-depth interview with the project staff, and preparation of a written "Project Brief" using a standard format. In September the Canadian Steering Committee met again to review these project briefs, and twelve projects from across the country were selected to represent Canada at the IERD plenary. After selecting the projects to attend the India plenary, the Canadian Steering Committee recommended that the project briefs also be prepared as an additional submission to the IERD plenary. They also suggested that the briefs be made available for limited distribution in Canada to encourage the continuing process of SHARING APPROACHES THAT WORK.

During October through December, 1983, the projects invited to attend the IERD plenary nominated their delegates, raised their own support, participated in a Project Description Laboratory, and prepared an exhibit for display at the IERD plenary in New Delhi. Following the India event, the delegates will meet with the Canadian Steering Committee in March to debrief and develop a strategy for making the results available across Canada. The first step is anticipated to be a series of regional conferences, where the India results can be examined

and effective means can be considered for accelerating local development initiatives.

The project briefs included in this book were completed during July through September, 1983, in preparation for the selection of representative projects to attend the India Plenary. Most projects were visited and interviewed by a team acting on behalf of the Regional Steering Committees, and the "Project Brief Preparation Screen" (see the following page) was used to guide the preparation of the project brief. In some cases the interview team prepared the brief and returned it for revision and approval by the project; in other cases the project staff prepared the description and submitted it to the committees themselves. A few of the projects chose to provide a description in a different format. Most of the project briefs are less than five pages in length, as suggested by the committee.

The Institute of Cultural Affairs, as organizing sponsor, has compiled this book using the project briefs essentially as they were submitted for review to the Canadian Steering Committee. It should be noted that it is not the intent of the Committee to imply that the projects included in this compilation are more successful than others that do not appear. We are aware that many outstanding projects across the country did not come to the attention of the committees during this first phase of this programme. However, it is the hope of the Canadian Steering Committee and the Institute of Cultural Affairs that the willingness of these projects to share in this way can encourage a continued sharing of learnings that will contribute to increased success in local development initiatives.

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The assistance of all these organizations and individuals is greatly appreciated. We especially wish to thank the many people associated with these projects for their full cooperation in preparing these project briefs, and for making them available to this programme of SHARING APPROACHES THAT WORK.

THE CANADIAN INSTITUTE OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS
January 1984

PROJECT BRIEF PREPARATION SCREEN



LEVEL		DOCUMENTATION ARENAS		
I.		DOCUMENTING THE PROJECT SUCCESS		
O B J E C T I V E	WHAT HAPPENED	<u>A. PROJECT NAME, LOCATION & DATES</u> (BEGIN BRIEF BY PROVIDING THIS BASIC INFORMATION ON PROJECT. LOCATION SHOULD BE TOWN OR CITY AND PROVINCE. DATES SHOULD INDICATE WHEN PROJECT BEGAN, IF COMPLETED OR ONGOING, AND PROJECTED DATE FOR COMPLETION, IF ESTIMATED)	<u>B. ISSUES ADDRESSED & OBJECTIVES SET</u> (STATE THE ISSUES OR NEED PROJECT WAS ESTABLISHED TO DEAL WITH, AND LIST THE OBJECTIVES SET AT THE BEGINNING OF THE PROJECT TO ADDRESS THESE ISSUES OR NEEDS, AS WELL AS THE CURRENT PROJECT GOALS IF MODIFIED)	<u>C. ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF PROJECT</u> (SUMMARIZE THE RESULTS OF THE PROJECT TO DATE. PROVIDE OBJECTIVE DATA WHERE POSSIBLE, BUT ALSO POINT TO WHERE THE PROJECT HAS PRODUCED MORE SUBJECTIVE IMPACT IN THE AREA, SUCH AS ITS EFFECT ON QUALITY OF LIFE)
	WHY IT WORKED			
II.		IDENTIFYING THE PROJECT LEARNINGS		
R E F L E C T I V E	WHY IT WORKED	<u>A. IMPORTANT PROJECT BACKGROUND</u> (OUTLINE PERTINENT INFORMATION TO HELP UNDERSTAND THE PROJECT AND THE SITUATION IT OPERATES IN. THIS MAY INCLUDE HOW THE PROJECT WAS INITIATED, WHO PARTICIPATED IN SETTING IT UP, HOW IT IS STRUCTURED AND FUNDED, ETC.)	<u>B. KEY FACTORS OF SUCCESS</u> (STATE KEY ELEMENTS OF PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION THAT CONTRIBUTED MOST TO SUCCESS ACHIEVED. THIS MAY INCLUDE TRAINING, OPERATING STYLE, LEADERSHIP, COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION, COOPERATION WITH OTHERS, EVALUATIONS, SUPPORT FRAMEWORK, ETC.)	<u>C. BROAD DEVELOPMENT LEARNINGS</u> (SPEAK TO INSIGHTS ABOUT THE DEVELOPMENT PROCESS IN GENERAL THAT HAVE COME FROM EXPERIENCE WITH THIS PROJECT. DISCUSS THE IMPORTANT ELEMENTS THAT ARE NECESSARY FOR SUCCESS IN LOCAL DEVELOPMENT IN OPINION OF PROJECT STAFF)
	WHY IT WORKED			
III.		STATING THE DEVELOPMENT IMPLICATIONS		
I N T E R P R E T I V E	SIGNIFICANCE	<u>A. IMPORTANCE TO LOCAL AREA</u> (DISCUSS THE CHANGES TO THE SITUATION OF THE AREA RESULTING FROM THE PROJECT'S SUCCESS. THIS MAY REVEAL NEW EDGES FOR THE PROJECT, NEW OPPORTUNITIES FOR OTHER PROJECTS, WAYS TO EXTEND PROJECT BOUNDARIES, ETC.)	<u>B. UNIQUE DEMONSTRATION OF SUCCESS</u> (POINT TO THE UNIQUE DEMONSTRATION THE PROJECT HAS BEEN OF HOW A PARTICULAR DEVELOPMENT CHALLENGE CAN BE MET SUCCESSFULLY. BRIEFLY DESCRIBE THE PROCESS THAT HAS ENABLED THE DEMONSTRATION SUCCESS)	<u>C. GLOBAL APPLICABILITY</u> (SUMMARIZE THE POSSIBLE WAYS THE PROJECT AND IT'S LEARNINGS MAY APPLY TO DEVELOPMENT NEEDS IN OTHER PARTS OF THE WORLD. INCLUDE RECOMMENDATIONS ON WHAT WOULD BE NEEDED TO ENSURE STRONGEST POSSIBILITY OF SUCCESS)
	SIGNIFICANCE			
IV.		SHARING THE PROJECT EXPERIENCE		
D E C I S I O N A L	INVITING USE	<u>A. READINESS TO SHARE LEARNINGS</u> (BRIEFLY STATE THE WAYS THAT THOSE ASSOCIATED WITH THE PROJECT ARE PREPARED TO MAKE THE LEARNINGS OF THE PROJECT AVAILABLE TO OTHERS)	<u>B. AVAILABLE PROJECT MATERIALS</u> (LIST ANY PERTINENT RESOURCES AVAILABLE ON THE PROJECT AND HOW TO OBTAIN THEM. THIS MAY INCLUDE REPORTS, ARTICLES, FILMS, PUBLICATIONS, ETC. INDICATE COST, IF ANY, OF PROVIDING MATERIALS)	<u>C. KEY CONTACT INFORMATION</u> (INDICATE KEY PERSON OR PERSONS ASSOCIATED WITH THE PROJECT, AND HOW THEY MAY BE CONTACTED--ADDRESS AND TELEPHONE)
	INVITING USE			
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PROJECT DIRECTORY

- | | | | |
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