

There is now a large literature. Quite a lot of it is specialised, for investigations of health, agroecology, soils, irrigation, social forestry, watershed management, and so on. Quite a lot of it is also ephemeral.

All the items below are free on request. It is simply up to you to write for them. It is amazing how many people do not write when it comes to the crunch, even when they are active practitioners! But that is a shame, because a lot of ideas can be picked up quickly from these various writings. And by writing your own notes for RRA Notes you can share your experience with others.

Keeping Up-to-date

There have been many developments in the past twelve months and India is probably the major current centre of innovation in the world. More innovations can be expected. If you want to find out about these, and keep up-to-date, write and request these two series of papers:

* The FRA/PALM Series, available from Vidya Ramachandran, MYRADA, 2 Service Road, Domlur Layout, Bangalore 560 071.

PALM stands for Participatory Learning Methods. Ask for back numbers. This series reports on MYRADA's extensive and expanding experience.

* RRA Notes, available from Jennifer McCracken, International Institute for Environment and Development, 3 Endsleigh Street, London WC1H 0DD. This makes available experience gained in many countries, including India. Ask for back numbers. All this will cost you is Rs 5 for an aerogramme.

Sources on Participatory Rural Appraisal

* Mascarenhas, James 1990 Planning and Implementing a PRA, MYRADA PALM Series 1Va; Interviewing in PRA, MYRADA PALM Series 1Vb; Enhancing Participation in PRAs, MYRADA PALM Series 1Vc

* Fernandez, Aloysius, James Mascarenhas and Vidya Ramachandran, 1990 (Reflections on Recent Experience) MYRADA PALM Series 5

* The PALM Series also has a paper on participatory mapping and modelling

* McCracken, Jennifer 1988 Participatory Rapid Rural Appraisal in Gujarat: a trial model for the Aga Khan Rural Support Programme (India), IIED, London

* An Introduction to Participatory Rural Appraisal for Rural Resources Management. A brief but useful summary, based on Kenyan experience. Also a larger PRA Handbook. Both available from IIED.

* IIED is also producing a series of six manuals this year, to be published and distributed free by FAO. For copies, write to IIED.

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