Sustainable Rural Development

Also by Andrew Shepherd

PREVENTING FAMINE (*with Donald Curtis and Michael Hubbard*)

WATER PLANNING IN ARID SUDAN (*with Malcolm Norris and
John Watson*)

Sustainable Rural Development

Andrew Shepherd

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Preface and Acknowledgements

Writing books is almost a luxury at the end of the twentieth century. The next generation may be writing interactive computer programmes. This book might have been better as an interactive programme, as in the kind of a paradigm shift currently under way in rural development there is so much to discuss and debate, and so many people are qualified to contribute. The process which went into writing the book has certainly been an interactive one over the last twenty years. It started in northern Ghana in 1976, where I went with my family to do fieldwork for a PhD on the development of large-scale mechanised rice farming. It continued with twelve years' work, on and off, in the Sudan, including a spell as a UNICEF officer. During those years I worked as an academic on famine and food security, rural development programmes, pastoralism and irrigation schemes, and the development of large-scale mechanised sorghum production. For UNICEF I developed a women's development programme and had involvements with health, water and sanitation and relief work. Again my family were with me. In the early 1990s I worked more widely in the Horn of Africa on food security and development in conflict situations. Since then my major focus has been on public sector rural development in India. I also spent many days between 1991 and 1995 working as a committee member for Comic Relief's Africa Grants, giving me an insight into the operations of NGOs. During most of this time I have been a part-time small-scale organic farmer in the Welsh borders with my partner, Hilary, who has served as secretary to British Organic Farmers: this experience has also helped form some of the ideas in this book.

In all this I have been fortunate enough to mix teaching, research, consultancy and practical roles, so that my work has always had a practical orientation. I have also been fortunate to interact with a very wide range of people involved in development over the twenty years, from countless villagers, men, women and children, through fieldworkers and programme managers to policy-makers in government and aid. It is this experience, together with the background reading for course preparation and research projects, which is the

basis for this book. There are many people who should be thanked for their help down the years, but here I will mention only a few. First of all, my family – Hilary, Tom, Owen and Penny – who have borne my endless coming and goings, who have lived with me in difficult places, and suffered the indignities of being ‘animated baggage’. Secondly, my colleagues at Birmingham University’s Development Administration Group, my professional home on and off since 1977. Many of the ideas about projects, institutions and management are ideas which have emanated from discussions and debates there. Particularly formative in different ways and at different times have been: Donald Curtis, Richard Batley, Michael Hubbard, Tina Wallace, Richard Slater, Robert Leurs, Ita O’Donovan, and Sarah Crowther. Some DAG alumni have also played a role: Mark Bradbury, Desi Fernanda, Nsaba Buturo, to mention a very few. Thirdly, there are too many people with whom I have worked overseas to thank each one. I will select only a few who played critical roles in my intellectual development, such as it is. These are: Abdul Rahman Abbakker Ibrahim, Asha Mustapha el Neima, Cole Dodge, Ahmed Musanna, Samtup Lepcha, Keith Virgo, Sumitra Gurung, Nasir Tyabji. Fourthly, I would like to thank several people who have read and commented on all or parts of the book: Donald Curtis, Iker de Luisa, Robert Leurs, Michael Willson, Nancy Godfrey, Ita O’Donovan, Lorraine Thorne, Alka Pathak, Mark Bradbury, John Watson, and my publisher’s anonymous reviewers. Finally, in preparing the manuscript, Jenny Chapman ably put together the bibliography from sundry sources. Some of these people might disagree with the conclusions I have come to; these are my responsibility!

ANDREW SHEPHERD

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List of Abbreviations

ASCRA	Accumulating Savings and Credit Association
ATO	Alternative Trade Organisation
BMA	British Medical Association
CBA	Cost–Benefit Analysis
CBO	Community Based Organisation
CPR	Common Property Resource
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
EIS	Environmental Impact Statement
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations
FSD	Farming System Development
FSR	Farming Systems Research
GATT	General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade
GNP	Gross National Product
GR	Green Revolution
HYV	High Yielding Variety
IARC	International Agricultural Research Centre
IBPGR	International Board for Plant Genetic Resources
IFAD	International Fund for Agricultural Development
IFPRI	International Food Production Research Institution
IIED	International Institute for Environment and Development
ILO	International Labour Organisation
IMF	International Monetary Fund
IMR	Infant Mortality Rate
IPM	Integrated Pest Management
IRD	Integrated Rural Development
IRR	Internal Rate of Return
LDC	Less Developed Country
LFA	Logical Framework Analysis
MV	Modern Variety
NGO	Non-Governmental Organisation
NIA	National Irrigation Administration
NPV	Net Present Value

x *List of Abbreviations*

NIC	Newly Industrialised Country
ODA	Overseas Development Administration
ODI	Overseas Development Institute
OECD	Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
PHC	Primary Health Care
PLA	Participatory Learning and Action
PRA	Participatory Rural Appraisal
R&D	Research and Development
ROSCA	Rotating Savings and Credit Association
RRA	Rapid Rural Appraisal
SAP	Structural Adjustment Programme
SARD	Sustainable Agriculture and Rural Development
SMS	Subject Matter Specialist
SSE	Small Scale Enterprise
SSM	Soft Systems Methodology
T&V	Training and Visit
TNC	Transnational Corporation
TV	Traditional Variety
UN	United Nations
UNCED	United Nations Commission on Environment and Development
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UNNGLS	United Nations Non-Governmental Liaison Service
UNRISD	United Nations Research Institute for Social Development
USA	United States of America
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
UK	United Kingdom
WCED	World Commission on Environment and Development
<i>WDR</i>	<i>World Development Report</i>
WHO	World Health Organisation
WMD	Watershed Management Directorate
WUA	Water Users Association