

experiences are encouraging. In a current program of intensified agriculture in India, comprising a total of more than a million acres in seven districts, 135,000 individual farm plans were prepared and implemented in the first year.⁽⁷⁾

Trials of Different Methods for Introducing Innovations

Our recommendations to increase the output of West Pakistan's farms are based on the demonstrated effectiveness of each factor of production as well as the additional increment from their interaction. But these experiences come from many countries at different levels of development. We cannot point to a single example when the rate and the magnitude of change are equivalent to the task in the Indus Plain. The most important challenge is to find the optimal way to introduce innovation in agriculture to meet the objectives of the plan. In the absence of other precedents, the first few project areas must serve as experimental areas for the Province. Small successes are known, in Pakistan as in other areas, but the difference of degree in the objectives is so large that it becomes a difference of kind. Experimentation in the initial Projects can be counted as a capital investment.

The first two or three Project areas can be thought of as analogous to the experimental plots for yield trials at an experiment station. As different methods are tested and compared, and learning takes place, the strategy should shift toward the path of steepest ascent of increasing productivity.

SCARP No. 1 includes about 870 villages. The area can be divided into sub-units for experimentation. The categories of experimentation might be: (1) control areas; (2) areas where only the factors of production are provided; (3) areas where there is provision of factors of production plus extension workers; and (4) areas where there is provision of factors of production and extension workers plus farm budget planning. The experimental units can reflect varying numbers of field agents. Insofar as possible these sub-units should be matched according to soil characteristics, cropping patterns, sub-sets of clans or sects, and salination.

Plans should be started immediately for expanded trials of innovation methods in the second and third project areas. Two main categories of experimentation should be added.

(7)Ensminger, Douglas; "The Intensive Agricultural Districts Program (Package Program): India"; The Ford Foundation Program Letter; Report No. 124; October 11, 1961.