

Statistical Research and Training Center, Quezon City, Philippines. An Assessment of the Impact of the Belgian Integrated Agrarian Reform Support Programme (BIARSP). Department of Agrarian Reform and Belgian Integrated Agrarian Reform Support Programme: Executive Summary (Volume 1). May 2007.

The impact assessment study aimed to assess the efforts of the implementation of the Belgian Integrated Agrarian Reform Support Programme (BIARSP), particularly Phases I and II, on the farmers and other beneficiaries living in the target Agrarian Reform Communities (ARCs). The study made use of data sets from ARC Level of Development Assessment (ALDA) for the analytical model developed for the study. It also used comparative analyses such as: “before and after” the project; and “with or without” intervention. An inter-ARC analysis of changes in the incidence of poverty from 1998 to 2006 shows that on the whole, BIARSP has contributed to positive developments in poverty alleviation in the community. The study highlighted that agrarian reform goes beyond land distribution and the graduation of the farmer from landless farmworker or tenant-lessee to full pledged land owner-operator. The study also posits the need to ensure that the farmer-beneficiaries are empowered to make their land productive, increase their access to market, improve their living conditions, actively participate in community affairs and be liberated from the clutches of poverty. The integrated rural development strategy implemented through the BIARSP indeed provided a holistic dimension of technical assistance to the CARP.