

Reyes, Celia M. Impact of Agrarian Reform on Poverty. CARP Impact Assessment Studies, Volume 7. Department of Agrarian Reform, Diliman, Quezon City, 2003.

The study examined the impact of agrarian reform on reducing poverty incidence among beneficiaries, their households, and communities using income and non-income based measures of poverty. The study used survey data from the 1990 and 2000 household surveys and 1998 annual poverty indicators survey. The results of the study show that agrarian reform has had a positive impact on ARBs in terms of higher incomes and reduced poverty incidence i.e., when compared with non-agrarian reform beneficiaries (non-ARBs). The ARBs also fare better in terms of other non-income based measures of poverty such as access to safe water and sanitation facilities, and educational attainment. However, poverty incidence among ARBs remains high and they are still very much vulnerable to shocks. The study also show that complementary inputs such as irrigation, credit and government services tend to increase the chances of farmer-beneficiaries to be non-poor. Moreover, agrarian reform communities (ARCs) tend to increase the chances of a farmer-beneficiary to be non-poor. The results of the study show that it is important that the agrarian reform program be completed as soon as possible and agrarian reform communities (ARCs) should be expanded to benefit not just ARBs but non-ARBs as well.