

Gordoncillo, Prudenciano U., et al. An Assessment of the Comprehensive Agrarian Reform Program and its Impact on Rural Communities: Community (Meso) Perspective, Volume 3. Department of Agrarian Reform, Diliman, Quezon City. 2003.

The study aimed to assess the impact of CARP on rural households and communities through comparative case studies involving ARCs and comparable non-ARCs. Twelve (12) case studies were drawn to represent major crops covered by CARP, (i.e., rice, corn, coconut, sugarcane, banana and pineapple) and the four agrarian reform modalities (i.e., individual land transfer, Stock Distribution Option, lease, and leaseback arrangements). The findings of the study indicate that agrarian reform contributed in the improvement of the level of living of rural households and in the level of development of rural communities. Specifically, the ARBs have higher incomes, more household assets, and higher educational attainment than the non-ARBs. The degree of development varies across type of respondents and community sites. This was due to some facilitating and constraining factors in each of the community studied and the varying degree of support extended to the areas. The study also points to some cases of successful lease and leaseback arrangements wherein higher-value crops, such as banana and pineapple, replaced lower-value crops (i.e., coconut) as farmers' organizations lease their lands to corporate farms. Many family-cultivated farms also benefit from contract growing arrangements with large corporate buyers of high value-added crops. Worth noting is the significant contribution of agrarian reform in the improvement of the peace and order condition in the 12 sites covered by the study.