

Quitoriano, Eddie LI. DAR-LGU Collaboration for ARCs and ARBs Development. Policy Studies on Agrarian Reform. Project Development Institute, UP Village, Diliman, Quezon City, Philippines. October 2000.

This policy study analyzed areas of conflict and explores possible areas of convergence between the Department of Agrarian Reform (DAR) and local government units (LGUs) in the areas of agrarian reform and rural development based on review of related studies, literature, and official reference documents. The study posits the need to develop a culture of reform within all units of state and instigate cooperation among them. Between the DAR and LGUs, there are potential areas of convergence for as long as bureaucratic and institutional reforms are put in place. One major area of reform is in the area of taxation. The implementation of progressive taxation system on land is expected to create disincentives for landowners to keep idle lands. An amendment of R.A. No. 7160 allowing LGUs to retain a major portion of land taxes will encourage them to efficiently collect taxes and cooperate with the DAR. Direct interaction between the DAR and the LGUs can be hastened and enhanced by pressure from civil society actors interfacing with the state in the reform process. Both R.A. No. 6657 and R.A. No. 7160 provide opportunity for active civil society participation.