



Clyde Sanger

The Canadian-based IDRC supports research projects in the developing areas of the world. (Above) fish netting at Mardi aquaculture research station in Malaysia; (below) a village health volunteer examines a baby in Thailand; and (right) Ethiopian housewife makes bread with triticale under triticale improvement project.

that the Centre's priorities remain relevant to the needs and aspirations of the nations of the Third World.

Whatever plans governments may devise to speed the development of their countries, their implementation depends in large part on the efficiency and honesty of their bureaucracies. Yet little is known about either the extent or the effect (socially or economically) of "negative bureaucratic behaviour" on development efforts.

In 1975, the Centre approved a grant to three governments that had requested support for a pioneering study of negative behaviour within their own bureaucracies.

News of the study generated considerable interest in the region. Within a few months, two more countries joined the original three, and during the past year proposals were received from five more, bringing the total number of participants to ten.

The studies, lasting two years, will begin by identifying and analyzing negative bureaucratic behaviour, which for this project is defined in terms of legal, not moral criteria. The researchers will also study the differences between what is socially acceptable on the one hand, and what the law considers to be acceptable on the other.

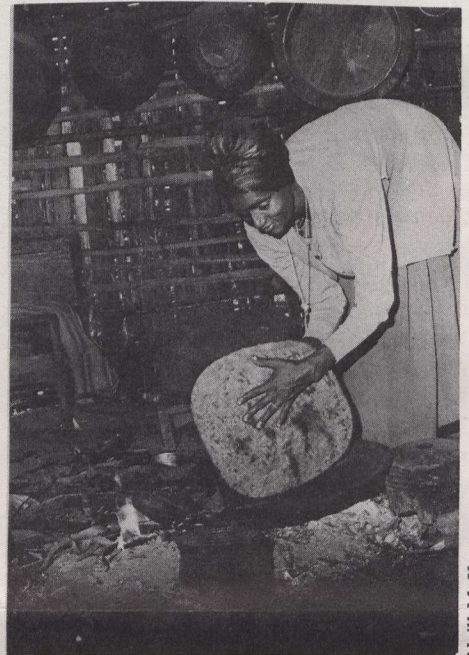


Neill McKee

Land redistribution

Many of the problems of the cities, especially in developing countries, are the result of mass migration from the rural areas. All over the world people are leaving the land, moving from the villages and towns to the cities in search of a better life, with the result that already overcrowded cities become impossibly congested.

Some countries have made attempts to persuade, or coerce people back to the land, to resettle them in new communities away from the cities. Small farmers are encouraged to form village associations, to which they contribute a small portion of their incomes as savings, and through which they receive training in modern farming techniques and co-



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operative organization. Only when it is ready is the association transformed into a "co-operative" under the management of a full-time government official. To retain their membership, farmers must continue to contribute savings and practise modern farming. Membership is important, because only members can obtain credit and participate in the land reform program.

For the past three years, the IDRC has been supporting an evaluation by the University of the Philippines of the impact of the program, with the objective of making it more effective and efficient. The evaluation, now completed, has been a major undertaking. There are some 15,000 village associations in 40 of the

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