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tribution, available water institutions, and political constraints are considered in the context of case studies.

This research aims to develop guidelines for selecting and implementing water pricing methods by:

• Summarizing methods used to price irrigation water in various countries and conducting detailed studies of five countries—China, Mexico, Morocco, South Africa, and Turkey—with different physical, social, economic, and institutional conditions.

• Developing and applying a cost-benefit framework to evaluate the performance of different water pricing methods.

• Conducting an in-depth analysis, to include income distribution, water institutions, and political aspects, in one or two regions of Morocco.

• Repeating the analysis in regions in China, Mexico, South Africa, and Turkey for which data were collected.

Country reports and databases on Morocco, South Africa, and Turkey have been completed, and reports and databases for China and Mexico are being finalized. Analysis of the country cases is expected to be completed by October 2000. Mathematical programming models that capture the various aspects of water pricing reforms at the regional level have been completed for three regions: two irrigation perimeters in the Loukkos ORMVA (regional agricultural development office) scheme in Morocco and the Lekoop irrigation scheme in South Africa. Data for representative perimeters from the Doukkala, Haouz, and Souss Massa ORMVA schemes in Morocco and reports on water projects in China, Mexico, and Turkey are being finalized.

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Report

Johansson, Robert C. Forthcoming. "Pricing Irrigation Water: A Literature Survey." Policy Research Working Paper. World Bank, Rural Development Department, Washington, D.C.

Sending Farmers Back to School: An Econometric Evaluation of the Farmer Field School Extension Approach

Studies of the economic and other impacts of agricultural extension programs, particularly traditional training and visit programs, have yielded mixed results. The many problems associated with administering large, and often expanding, extension bureaucracies; the growing disenchantment with packaged technologies and with the top-down centralized approach to knowledge dissemination; and the general alienation of farmers from the creation and dissemination of knowledge have led many to question the cost-effectiveness of staff-intensive public extension systems and their efficiency in diffusing knowledge, particularly in the light of growing fiscal deficits in many countries.

In recent years a number of development agencies, including the World Bank, have promoted an alternative type of extension program, farmer field schools, as a more relevant, efficient, and cost-effective approach to extending science-based knowledge and practices to farmers. This project will evaluate the effects of farmer field schools in Indonesia, Peru, and the Philippines, at the farm and the program level. At the farm level farm profits will be used as a key indicator of success. Farm-level impacts will be measured econometrically, using both with-and-without and before-and-after comparisons with panel data. Careful selection of sample sites and respondents will allow isolation of the effects of contemporaneous activities that may also affect farm profits. The empirical strategy will also try to isolate secondary effects of farmer-to-farmer diffusion of knowledge from direct program effects on participants and measure the depth and breadth of this knowledge diffusion, through case studies and participant observation methods. At the program level the study will aggregate the effects of all households affected by farmer field schools in order to compare overall program benefits with overall costs.

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