

# NEWS ON TAP

Newsletter of the Asian Coalition for Housing Rights' Training and Advisory Programme

Volume 1 Issue 2

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## From the Editor

### On Impacts

ACHR's Training & Advisory Programme aims to establish a system of mutual learning and support, based on Asian experiences and programmes, for Asian grassroots community organization, NGOs and professionals concerned with urban community-based development. The process involves collective learning and exposure of combinations of the above groups to successful urban poor processes and projects in Asia. The general aim of the programme is to improve the lives and living conditions of urban poor communities in Asian cities.

We are now in the third year of the programme so it is appropriate to use this issue of News on TAP to attempt a summary of some of the impacts TAP has had so far throughout the region. Concrete impacts are illustrated throughout this edition in annotated boxes. These have been measured even with the difficulty of maintaining communication with the large numbers of participants involved in trainings and the regional diversity of language.

### Quantitative Impacts

In the first 2 years of TAP over 700 participants from 14 different countries, have attended trainings ranging from 3 days to 1 month. In a survey of TAP workshop participants 87% of respondents reported the workshops were either very useful or extremely useful, 82% of respondents said they had initiated new processes or projects as a result of TAP workshops. 75% wrote and distributed workshop reports. In terms of multiplier effects beyond the immediate workshop or activity the potential for change is very high and the numbers of people influenced or affected run into the thousands.

Limited quantitative analysis cannot however provide a complete description of the true impacts of a programme and as one veteran ACHR member has suggested most evaluations are basically dishonest processes anyway, carried out to secure extended funding, maintain employment for those in the existing programme or perhaps to rationalize decisions or maintain self-satisfaction. Attempts to measure impacts are however worthwhile if they lead to improvements in the effectiveness of the programme, in deciding whether



Rameela Shah & Madinaben Gaji from Ahmedabad India address a women's group in a kampung in Surabaya during the second TAP workshop in Indonesia in January this year.

## TAP Impacts

### Developments in Islamabad

Key officials of the Capital Development Authority [Islamabad] and an NGO PIEDAR attended the ACHR-TAP - CITYNET workshop on the Orangi Pilot Project in November 1994. Since then, agreement has been reached with CDA, PIEDAR and ESCAP to initiate a pilot project on settlements improvement in Islamabad. An action research team has been established with one senior level and one junior level CDA

official and four community organizers from PIEDAR. They have identified a community for upgrading together with the people. Through extensive discussions and free interviews leaders in the community have been identified. A workshop will be held with community representatives, CDA officials and PIEDAR activists. OPP-RTI has agreed to provide technical training and advisory services to the Islamabad Pilot Project. The UNDP LIFE-AP2000 coordinator in Islamabad is involved in the monitoring and evaluation process. Discussions to this effect have been carried out and agreement has been reached in principle.

[More TAP Impacts inside and more on the OPP workshop page 4]

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activities are worth continuing, in selecting the best of our efforts to apply to new programmes and if an interactive monitoring process can be developed which in itself leads to strengthening links and capacities.

### Changing Perceptions, Attitudes, Workstyles

What is less evident than the quantitative impacts are the impacts the programme is having on perceptions, attitudes and working styles of various participants and organizations including ACHR itself. For example, amongst NGO participants there is an increasing acceptance that their NGO role is changing from originators and implementers of projects and ideas to that of facilitators for CBOs and communities and in this process NGOs have to form closer alliances with CBOs and deepen their links with communities.

Another perceptual change emerging concerns CBO - NGO relationships with government. Through project workshops and demonstration effects there is a realization that practical and valuable partnership processes are possible which encourage change in political relationships; and that while many government officials may not have a good understanding of the realities of community-based urban processes that there are "friends in government" with whom it is possible to form productive alliances to change attitudes and structures. (Islamabad p1, Sri Lanka p12, Cambodia p15) The understanding is reinforced by having teams of CBO, NGO, local government representatives from different cities at the project workshops. NGOs are also realizing the importance of their role in forming bridges between CBOs and government and the private sector.

### Building & Broadening Regional Training Capacities

Within ACHR itself a second generation of activists in numerous countries have emerged to supplement the work of the original planners of the program. Along with such involvement comes a strengthening of professional capacities. The building of regional training capacity (an important aim of the program) has also extended beyond ACHR to community level as many community leaders and organizers have become involved as trainers and in an interactive processes of educating both the NGO trainers and participants (in Skills Development community leaders and organizers from Manila, Bombay, Korat have become trainers in Korea, Cambodia and Laos respectively). The value of such training has become increasingly recognized by others as ACHR-TAP receives requests from international organizations to substitute their institutional and professional training arrangements with grassroots training involvement. In each of the project workshops there has been a strong commitment to involving the local leaders, organizers and members of communities in Karachi, Surabaya, Baguio, Manila and Bangkok - as trainers.

### Regional Joint Contributions & Networks

Building and broadening a regional training capacity will help ensure a continuous learning process beyond the life of the programme. Equally important is the need to initiate and strengthen institutional links and support networks to enable a continuous sharing of information and perpetuation of training as well as to provide an effective political network which can lobby governments on a regional and international basis. Over the past 2 years many international agencies [UNCHS & AP2000, CITYNET, ESCAP, ODA-UK, UNV, IIED, OSB-Aust] have become involved in contributing to this process (p14).

### Influencing Future Decision Makers

In an attempt to influence those who are potentially the future decision makers. TAP Young Professionals programme has over the past 2 years initiated the basis of a new regional network which aims to increase the involvement of students, academics, practicing Young Professionals and young community workers in an understanding of habitat issues from the perspective of the urban poor. (p10)

### New Initiatives

TAP's first efforts to introduce new ideas and activities into areas and countries where urban community-based organization did not exist were detailed in the first issue of News on TAP (May 1994 Initiating Community Based Processes in Cambodia). It has become evident that such a process requires not just more than a one year intervention, but also a continuous and integrated commitment and a careful balance between responding to the demands and contexts of the local groups formed and the introduction of alternative methods which have succeeded in other parts. (p15)

### Changes within TAP

TAP itself has undergone, and will continue to undergo changes. Over the past 2 years, there has been an evolution from a dominance of Project Based workshops to Skills Development themes, which from experience, seem to have more direct impacts on communities themselves. From projects based workshop sites in Surabaya and Orangi also comes the feeling that in future more focused and smaller numbers of participants would have a more direct and effective impact. A small Advocacy and Support component has been formed within TAP for unforeseen and divergent needs. Other new directions and focuses for TAP have been outlined (p 14).

Finally the process of planning and implementing a regional programme such as TAP is more than anything else a social one. The list of people who should be acknowledged is enormous and many are named on the back of this newsletter. The most important acknowledgment goes to the "masters of survival" themselves - the urban poor - who continue to teach us so much about community and development.

Maurice Leonhardt  
TAP Project Coordinator

## ACHR

The Asian Coalition for Housing Rights was established in 1988 by non-government and community-based, grassroots organizations, professionals and individuals actively involved in housing concerns of the urban poor. It is a regional coalition with members in 12 Asian countries and is the Asia representative of the Habitat International Coalition. ACHR is an action oriented organization primarily concerned with the shelter rights of the poor and those under threat of eviction or who have been displaced or dispossessed and are trying through various means to find a decent place to live. Over the years since its inauguration ACHR has established a network of experience and knowledge of successful Asian projects and processes relevant to low-income urban communities. Recently, in an attempt to extend this experience, it has initiated a Training and Advisory Programme [TAP]: a program of sharing and learning for combinations of communities and concerned groups in Asia, in order to broaden and strengthen their capacities in a stronger people-based housing process.

### ACHR Publications

**A Decent Place to Live** Denis Murphy 1991, 130p

**Housing the Poor - An Asian Experience** Fr Jorge Anzorena 1993, 145p

**The Urban Poor: Land & Housing** Denis Murphy 1993

**Housing by People** the ACHR Newsletter published twice per year.

### Acknowledgment

ACHR TAP gratefully acknowledges the financial support of Overseas Development Administration, South East Asia Development Division, United Kingdom, and particularly to Dr Michael Schultz of ODA for his advice and encouragement.

### ACHR's Training and Advisory Programme

is a 3 year program (April 1993 - April 1996) which aims to improve the lives and living conditions of urban slum dwellers by developing new ideas and practices of community based organizations through the sharing of experiences with similar organizations in other countries in the region.

The process involves collective learning and exposure of combinations of grassroots organizers, NGOs, and professionals to successful urban poor processes and projects in Asia. In this way it attempts to enhance the capacities of the host organizations to share their experiences with other organizations in the region, and in turn support participants in perpetuating the sharing of what they have learnt with a broader developing network. Such a network may also provide an effective political voice to lobby governments on a regional and international basis.

Through its New Initiatives component TAP facilitates the introduction of community based processes into areas and countries where they need to be strengthened or do not exist.

TAP's Young Professionals programme endeavours to encourage students and young professionals to become involved in and increase their understanding of community based shelter processes.

TAP aims to establish a system of mutual learning and support, based on Asian experiences and programmes, for Asian grassroots community organizations, NGOs and housing professionals.

### 1993 - 1995 The First 2 Years

<b>Project Workshops</b>	Surabaya and KIP 1 & 2 Community Organizing in Asia Land-Sharing: Alternatives to Eviction Orangi Pilot Project
<b>Skills Development</b>	Community Organizing Savings & Credit Participatory Research
<b>Young Professionals</b>	Social Housing Workshop Philippines Networking Developments Cambodian Summer School
<b>New Initiatives</b>	Community Based Processes in Cambodia Yr 1 & Bangladesh Yr2

### 1995 - 1996 This Year

<b>Project Workshops</b>	Community Based Habitat Processes in Sri Lanka Community Support Processes Baruku Liberation League, Japan
<b>Skills Development</b>	Community Organizing Savings & Credit CBO-NGO Management
<b>Young Professionals</b>	Internships, Workshops, Lectures, Networking Developments
<b>Preparatory Processes</b>	C-B Solid Waste Management Land Issues
<b>Follow up to Years 1 &amp; 2</b>	Cambodia, Bangladesh, Participatory Research Advocacy & Support

## TAP Impacts

### PHILIPPINES

Marietta Paragus has initiated a plan of action to start a pilot project for a community of scavengers in Baguio city. A team from Baguio attended the KIP2 - Surabaya workshop January, 1995.



### TAP Impacts MALAYSIA

As a result of the Land-Sharing workshop Malaysian participants were able to link with ACHR's Eviction Watch process and a Fact Finding Mission was arranged to understand the eviction situation in Malaysia. See ACHR's Eviction Watch Report by Denis Murphy, UPA Philippines

### TAP Impacts YPs Cambodia

Ou Sochivy, participant of Land-Sharing workshop organized a group called the Association of Cambodian Young Professionals in May 1994. The group of young engineers and architects are now sharing their expertise and experiences with the slum communities in Phnom Penh.

## The Orangi Pilot Project

Workshop, Karachi, Pakistan 24th Oct - 2nd Nov 1994

# Masters of Survival

## The People of Orangi ...

In a katchi abadi (informal settlement) of over 1 million people in Karachi, communities have built their own underground sewerage system. They have not only built it they are also maintaining it themselves. They do not depend on the municipal corporation or subsidies. The only support they received was from a non-government organization [NGO] known as the Orangi Pilot Project Research and Training Institute. [OPP-RTI].

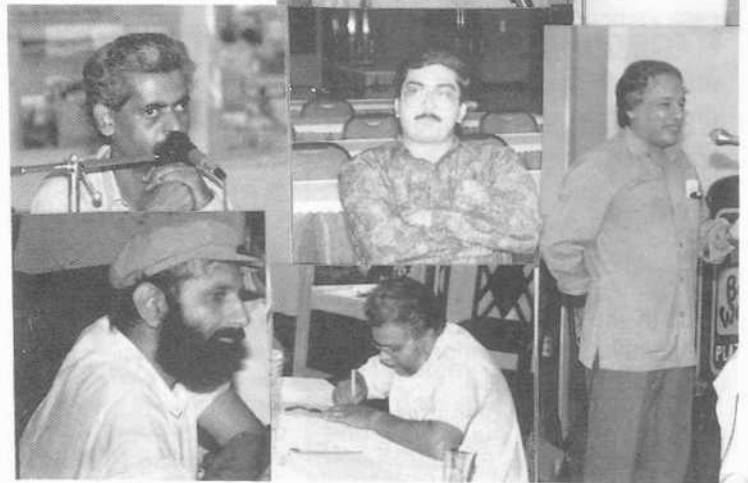
Participants from 10 Asian countries went to Orangi to learn from the people and OPP staff and then return to their own cities to use their learnings to support their own community improvement processes.

**"We began with this assumption: The common people are not foolish but great masters of the art of survival and that they are trying very hard to improve. They are not getting much help or support. On the contrary they are at times harassed. There is a need for social guidance, technical guidance, and economic support not grants or subsidized credit."**

Dr AH Khan the founder of OPP

Poor sanitation is a chief characteristic of slums. In 1980, in Orangi, bucket latrines or soak pits were being used for disposal of human excreta and open sewers for the disposal of waste water. It was not far removed from a medieval situation. This was damaging health: typhoid, malaria, diarrhea, dysentery and scabies were rampant. The children who played in the filthy lanes were special victims. Substantial portions of family incomes were spent on medicines. In addition, poor drainage was causing water logging and reducing the value of property.

OPP's investigation showed that the residents were quite aware of the twin problems of sanitation and drainage. They clearly saw the damage to health and housing. OPP research discovered four barriers restricting the community from implementing their own solutions:



Dr AH Khan, Taseen Siddiqui, Anwar Rashid, Salim Alimuddin, Arif Hasan, Raseed Khathri, Kenneth Fernandez

**Psychological:** residents firmly believed that it was the duty of official agencies to build sewerage lines.  
**Economic** the conventional cost was beyond the paying capacity of low income families.

**Technical** the people did not possess the technical skill required

**Sociological** Social organization for collective action did not exist.

The OPP story demonstrated how these barriers can be overcome and participants at the workshop reported a large variety of other positive learning experiences.

- \* methods of activating communities
- \* sustainable results through community participation at each stage of a project / process
- \* the power of the demonstration effect and replicating success elsewhere
- \* the role of NGOs giving technical advice
- \* coping with government resistance and working through 'friends' in government
- \* the role and necessity of rigorous and sustained research by NGOs and catering to real needs of the communities they work with
- \* expansions into extension programmes after the first success i.e. to health, education and income generation activities
- \* the role of women and youth in community processes.

With thanks to the people of Orangi, Sukkur, Hyderabad OPP-RTI, Sindh Katchi Abadi Authority, UNICEF, Saiban.

### TAP Impacts on YPs Bangladesh



Iftekhar Ahmed, a young lecturer in Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology participated in the OPP workshop has been sharing his learning in class with his students and through various media.



## Community Organizing in Asia

*Cambodia March 94, India, Sept 94, Korea Feb. 95.*

The principle guiding the Community Organizing Skills development component of TAP as explained by coordinator Corozon (Dinky) Soliman is to respond to requests from members of the network for assistance in their CO work and to support the follow up activities of the participants at the Asian CO Reflection Workshop held in the Philippines in November 1993.

### **Cambodia March 1994, the Urban Sector Group**

requested a CO training program from ACHR. There followed a series of planning meeting and negotiations. A team composed of community based leader from the Philippines (Cita Vendiola) and two community organizers (one from Thailand Montri Junalern and one from the Philippines Bernadette Bolo). The team stayed in Phnom Penh for 3 weeks and one stayed for another month to follow up the training program. The first week was an orientation for the trainers and familiarization with the issues and problems of the urban settlements. During this time they also finalized the training design based on a training needs assessment done with the USG people, arranging for translation work and preparing materials in Khmer language.

The actual training used the pedagogy of action-reflection-action. In the first week there was sharing of experiences and discussions in the seminar halls. In the second week all work was done in the communities themselves. The third week was a combination of discussion and actions as at this time threats of eviction in some communities wherever real. In fact in many of the areas negotiations were held with government and international organizations to stop evictions either as part of the training or as a result of the training. Another aspect of the action part of the training was to strengthen the savings groups in the communities. These savings groups grew out of a process catalyzed by ACHR and the SPARC-MAHILA MILAN- NSDF team.

The participants were community leaders and local NGO staff who took time off their primary work to undergo the training. After 3 weeks of intensive training, a follow up program was undertaken by the trainer who remained (Bernadette Bolo of COPE Philippines) with a selected number of participants from the previous three week program. The objective of the follow-up program was to provide additional skills and knowledge in order to equip participants with basic skills in training.

The response of the CO component was a conscious plan of spending time in the country requesting assistance. The principle was to provide basic orientation to the method and help them to "bring it to life" given their own context and culture. Groups in Cambodia have requested follow up CO training for this year.

### **India: CO National Workshop September 1994**

Participants from India at the Asian CO Reflection Workshop organized their own reflection session in New Delhi. This activity was supported jointly by the TAP-ACHR and Asia Pacific 2000. The objective of the workshop was to provide a forum for the community based leaders and community organizers to reflect together on their organizing experiences. The three organizations who participated were CIRIS (Calcutta), YUVA (Bombay) & VIKAS (Ahmedabad).

The process was managed primarily by the participants from the Asian workshop with key people from the organizations involved. It was inspired by methods used in the Baguio conference. Mr Kirtee Shah gave an overview of the urban issues faced by urban poor communities in India; Denis Murphy, Franz Clavecilla and Dinky Soliman were resource persons. Some of the insights shared in the workshops were: The need for creative strategies to respond to the rapidly changing urban situation in India

Recognition of the emerging issue of environment especially in the light of the "plague" (at its height at this time).

The sustainability issue vis a vis the people's organizations and also the community leaders and organizers as persons with material and spiritual needs.

The need to continue interacting with one another and exchanging experiences; to learn from one another and draw strength from each other in a solidarity relationship.

### **Korea CO Workshop February 1995**



Alice Murphy, community organizer (Philippines), discusses strategies with Korean participants at the CO workshop in Seoul

This was also a follow up activity, supported jointly by ACHR-TAP and the United Nations Volunteer Southeast Asian Regional Office. The 4 day workshop was attended by community leaders and organizers, student activists and academics. Fr Jorge Anzorena, Alice Murphy, Maurice Leonhardt and Dinky Soliman were resource persons for the workshop. This was the first opportunity for many of the participants to be together and was seen by many as a new beginning or re-energizing process for the Korean urban poor movement. Participants thought the urban poor movement had slowed because it had not kept in touch with the communities needs since there was a tendency to be "center-based" as distinct from "community centered".

Groups in need of CO training should contact Dinky Soliman, CO-TRAIN, Philippines.



Prof. Johan Silas, Host for the KIP2 workshop

## Surabaya & Kampung Improvement Programme Workshop, Surabaya, Indonesia, Jan 14-24, 1995.

Participants from 8 cities in Asia visited Surabaya in January 1995 to learn of the comprehensive range of improvements to low income settlements. With government support and encouragement communities participate in environmental improvements to their communities as well as solid waste management, women's issues, and infrastructure up-grading. With such improvements comes a self directed commitment by residents to improve and maintain their own dwellings and community facilities. The partnership between government and communities extends to informal and formal sector relationships embracing skills upgrading of low income citizens. In Surabaya participants also had opportunities to understand the close relationship between the local university [Human Settlements Lab] and the city particularly in terms of urban planning where there is a



Women participants from 5 countries at the KIP2 workshop in Surabaya, Indonesia.

strong emphasis on planning to the realities of the existing situation; low income communities are rarely relocated, but encouraged to improve their communities through programs such as KIP. Where existing communities are too dense for up-grading, 3-4 story flats are constructed with careful planning taking into account cultural factors and resident's viewpoints. Future TAP workshops in Surabaya may become more focused on low income

communities who wish to explore in more detail community participation in the planning of walk up flats as well as systems of solid waste disposal. Contact ACHR-TAP if your community is in need of such training.

### TAP Impacts PHILIPPINES

The Mayor of Naga City accompanied NGO and CBO representatives to a KIP workshop in 1993. Since then they have attempted to implement a number of community based development activities with the co-operation of the urban poor communities of Naga.

## New Initiatives

### Pilot Project in Dhaka

Integrated teams of CBO, NGO and government representatives from Bangladesh took part in TAP workshops and exposures to the Orangi Pilot Project and the Kampung Improvement Program in Surabaya during the year.

A partnership process has now begun between Dhaka City Corporation and NGOs /CBOs in a pilot project of slum upgrading in Dhaka. OPP resource persons Arif Hasan and Perween Rahman have been invited to Dhaka to give technical advice.

CITYNET and ESCAP have supported the promotion of partnership processes in Bangladesh in cooperation with TAP through: funding a team from



Rajshahi City to an exposure to the Orangi Pilot Project; promoting an Urban Forum for Dhaka City and in discussions concerning the pilot project in Dhaka.

TAP's Steering Committee met in Dhaka in August of 1994. From this meeting a core group in Dhaka has presented a proposal entitled **Facilitating People Process and Initiative in Dhaka** with 3 general objectives: to sensitize different sections of the population to the nature of urban poverty; to stipulate ideas and identify ways of explaining the role of the urban poor

in urban economies; and to attempt to facilitate peoples processes in their struggle for an equitable, environmentally sound and just society. Components of the proposal are: preparation of a theme paper; consultation meetings; dialogue; lobbying; and the initiation of model projects; the culmination would be a 3 day conference to mobilize representatives of people's groups from different wards in Dhaka City. An initial fund has been directed toward starting the series of workshops proposed.

### Savings and Credit Bombay, Phnom Penh, Vientiane,

The S&Cr team from Bombay has visited Phnom Penh and Vientiane over the past year as well as hosted groups from Phnom Penh and Sri Lanka in Bombay.

A study visit was arranged (from Sept 24th to Oct 9th) for Phnom Penh's Urban Sector Group and other self-financed groups dealing with Savings and Credit in Phnom Penh. Co-organizers were SPARC India, ACHR-TAP Bangkok and the USG, Phnom Penh.

The aim of the exposure went beyond savings activities to an examination of community organizing strategies to deal with eviction, resettlement, land-sharing, networking and community based development. The groups also spent a few days in Bangkok to exchange experiences with urban poor communities. Details and impressions from one of the 10



The Savings & Credit team in Phnom Penh: Jockin, (Dinky) Sheker, Laxmi, Celine

participants are available from ACHR, Bangkok.

The team from Bombay, accompanied by a small team from Thailand visited Vientiane, Laos from 21-26th October 1994 to initiate a Savings and Credit scheme and to generate discussions within communities on solving their drainage problems and establishing school and daycare facilities. As a result, several savings groups have been initiated. A follow-up visit will take place in early 1995. [More details on impacts in Laos below].

Earlier in the year the team from Bombay returned to Phnom Penh to clarify some of the issues which had

emerged from the initiation of savings activities: questions involving evictions of savings group members, withdrawal of savings, matching grants, compulsory versus voluntary savings. In a visit during February 1995 the next phase of issuing credit to community members began [see report on Cambodia page 15]

In a second phase of the Saving and Credit component, a group from Sri Lanka, including members of the Women's Bank (see page 11) visited Bombay to discuss methods of strengthen existing community credit processes in the region. [A report will soon be available from ACHR-TAP].

## Regional News & TAP IMPACTS

### TAP Impacts LAOS

In a UNCHS/CDF project in Laos a community development component was added. However, there was no previous experience in urban sector community-based development. Through United Nations requests an ACHR-TAP team from India and Thailand used a community based Saving and Credit scheme as an entry point, and later SEVANATHA (Sri Lanka) will follow up with training on community based upgrading of infrastructure and services. The TAP team visited in October 1994 and as a result several savings groups were formed. The organizers did not expect to be able to establish these savings groups in one visit and are looking forward to a follow up visit in May 1995.

### Vietnam

ESCAP-ACHR, UCDO of Thailand and the Ministry of Construction, Vietnam, have signed an agreement of mutual technical cooperation for assessing possibilities for establishing an urban community based finance mechanism by linking savings and credit groups to formal sector finance institutions.

### TAP Impacts NEPAL

Nepalese participants at the OPP workshop have identified an underprivileged community and have completed a base line survey for community development. They have also organized trainings for community workers in collaboration with Lalitpur Municipality.

A visit was made by ACHR general secretary to Kathmandu, Nepal (Dec 11-13) in an effort to further understand the situation regarding community based activity. Meetings were held with representatives of local NGOs and

people's groups who expressed a keen interest and had high potential for community based activities.

In Katmandu, a number of older squatter settlements exist which took the form of invasions of religious institution grounds, but a number of interesting new trends were also identified such as the appropriation of land near to the city by new invading groups for which the government appears to have no solution; also there is significant demand for housing for low income groups in Kathmandu with no clear

government policy or delivery system

Thirdly there is no significant, integrated community, NGO and government action, but potential for this and with a new political situation, a very appropriate opportunity has arisen to promote and initiate community based approaches.



Lajana Manandhar

**T**he preparatory process for TAP trainings on Participatory Research culminated in a consultative meeting in Colombo, Sri Lanka in April 1995. The meeting resolved to initiate a process of transferring participatory skills and techniques and networking amongst various groups in the region. It recommended that techniques training be incorporated into existing TAP programmes; that a list of participatory techniques and who is using them be published and that efforts be made to document participatory techniques to be available, with appropriate support to groups in the region who wish to use such techniques in their community development activities.

**Papers Available**

More information is contained in the following papers available from ACHR or the authors with addresses below.

A Methodology of a Local Participatory Process to Formulate National Urban Land Policy for Low Income Housing by Somsook Boonyabancha.

A Case Study of Orangi Pilot Project - Perween Rahman & Anwar Rashid

Participatory Research & Training workshops in Ahmedabad Ranna Shah

Participatory Research: Views and Experiences by Kenneth Fernandes

Participatory Action Research (PAR) in Urban Asia Theory and Practice by KA Jayarathne and MW Amarasiri de Silva.

Participatory Methodology and Community Organization (A Report on a Training Workshop in Pakistan) N & K Fernandes and Jafar Shah.

Participatory Research Series Diana Mitlin IIED.

**PR Techniques Contacts**

ACHR see back page

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URC Kenneth Fernandez Urban Resource Centre, 6113, 6th Floor, City Shopping Mall, 111 Depot Lines, Karachi 74400 Pakistan

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VIKAS Ranna Shah 2, Bank of India Society, Navranpura, Ahmedabad 380 009 India Fax 91272 468201

The lists below are the first stage of compiling a direcopy of Participatory Action Learning and Extension Processes [PALEP]. NGOs or community organizations wishing more information on the techniques listed can write to the groups named or to ACHR-TAP in Bangkok.

**PALEP TECHNIQUES and user GROUPS**

- ◆ **Mapping physical maps** of existing infrustructure, amenities, economic activities etc; towards mobilization and interaction
- ◆ [OPP, SPARC, S.Francias]
- ◆ **social mapping** historical maps; proposed lanes, current practices for monitoring, relationships with institutions (power and significance) [S Francias, URC ]
- ◆ **perceptual mapping** by children others [URC, Andrea Cook]
- ◆ **mapping community assets** with purpose of common sharing & understanding to initiate, facilitate interactions
- ◆ **enviromental mapping** conditions and problems [OPP]
- ◆ **mapping with socio-economic information** semi-structured check-list.
- ◆ **Modeling** Using materials/ cardboard - making models of ideal house - physical structure, costing, space relationships [SPARC]
- ◆ **3-D modeling**
- ◆ **modelling a statement and appraisal** [IIED]
- ◆ **Role Plays** for negotiations and understanding different actors [CO-TRAIN, VIKAS]
- ◆ **Discussion** semi-structures interviews, focus groups, group discussions
- ◆ **Community Self Survey** [SPARC, USG]
- ◆ **Workshops - Forums** [Sevanatha, VIKAS, URC, CO-TRAIN]
- ◆ **Calendars** [S Francias, Chedna, HEAL]
- ◆ **Use of Slides** to promote djsussion; interactive slide and film use [OPP VIKAS, URC, SEVANATHA]]
- ◆ **Informal visits** tea shops, pubs in community [OPP and most others]
- ◆ **Community Enumeration and Census** [SPARC, USG, OPP, SEVANATHA]
- ◆ **Wealth Ranking** (well being) [URC, S. Francias]
- ◆ **Specific Studies on Specific Issues** [URC, VIKAS, OPP]
- ◆ **Community to Community Exchange Visits** [USG, OPP, SPARC SEVANATHA, ACHR]

**TAP Impacts on YPs**

**The Young Professionals Network is now active in 8 countries in the region.**

Padma Desai, a young architect from Ahmedabad participated in YP workshop in the Philippines. In 1994 she has started teaching university architectural students. She writes that the participation in the workshop helped her reflect on her involvement with the urban poor communities. She now focuses on sharing her experiences of participatory research with her students by guiding them in practical work with the communities.



The Linking of community organizations and NGOs to wider networks of groups in cities is an important element of TAP. The programme has been encouraged by the links we have been able to establish with international and regional groups who have been important contributors to the programmes in Laos [UNCHS], in the Korean CO workshop [United Nations Volunteer Service], OPP workshop in Pakistan and Bangladesh [CITYNET], in Cambodia [UNDP and ODA-UK], in numerous activities [ESCAP] in Participatory Research [IIED], in the Indian CO National workshop [AP2000]

In a recent regional dialogue organized by Asia Pacific 2000 [UNDP] and MINSOC, Malaysia, ACHR-TAP joined in the further development of regional linkages with its incorporation into a process that aims to catalyze actions at a regional level and accommodate a more holistic approach to urban issues. Listed below are contact groups for information on 17 specific areas that may form the basis of a network that will increase awareness, engage participants in sharing, identify key issues and strategies, identify actions to be pursued at country and regional level and form the basis of a system of communications that will keep dialogues open at the local, national and regional level. Groups in Asia are encouraged to contact those listed below directly or via ACHR.

### Regional Networking Centers

- ◆ **Urban Crime / Drugs, HIV, AIDS** -International Federation of NGOs Against Drug Abuse, Gabriel AA Britto, Youth for Unity & Voluntary Action [YUVA] Minar Pimple
- ◆ **People with Disabilities** South Asian Network of Self-Help Organizations of People with Disabilities S.K. Rungta, Disabled People's International Asia Pacific Katherine Chong Yoke Mei.
- ◆ **Cities, Media and Communication** Asia Mass Communication Research and Information Centre [AMIC] Vijay Menon, Malaysian Forum of Environmental Journalists [MFEJ] Bernice Narayanan
- ◆ **Electronic Mail / Computer (URBNET)** Sustainable Cities Action Network [SCAN] Ariel Betan, AP200 Anis Yusal Yusoff
- ◆ **Urban-Rural Links** People's Centered Sustainable Development [PCSD] Bishan Singh, Third World Networks, Muhammad Farhan Ferrari, HIC Women & Shelter Network Prema Gopalan
- ◆ **Urban Transport** Institute of Sc. & Tech. Policy, Murdoch University Abdul Rahman Paul Barter, SPARC Sheela Patel
- ◆ **Alternative Development Model** Just World Trust [JUST] Fathima Idris, Habitat International Coalition Kirtee Shah
- ◆ **Children and Young People** CHILDHOPE Teresa Silva, Plan International Prabha (Minty) Pande
- ◆ **Housing** ACHR, Plan International Prabha Pande
- ◆ **Urban Conservation** Asian Network on Urban Conservation Amiruddin Fawzi, AP200 Anwar Fazal
- ◆ **Community Initiative Programme** Pesticide Action Network Asia & the Pacific [PAN] Ong Kung Wai
- ◆ **Appropriate Technology** Approtech Asia Lilia O Ramos, Sc & Technology Centre Kajal Basu, ACHR Mayumi Kato
- ◆ **Consumex Project** Consumers International Manny C. Calonzo, AP2000 Anis Yusal Yusoff
- ◆ **Building Networks at Local Level** SEVANATHA Urban Resource Centre Ranjith Samarasinghe, Asian Network on Urban Conservation Amiruddin Fawzi
- ◆ **Community Supported Agriculture** Pesticides Action Network [PAN] Ong Kung Wai, People Centred Sustainable Devpt [PCSD] Bishan Singh



Anwar Fazal (UNDP AP2000) and Mariko Sato (CITYNET) collaborate with TAP in regional training and network outreach.

### Network Contacts

- Barter**, Abdul Rahman Paul, c/o A0602 Palm Court, Jalan Sultan Abd Samad Brickfields, 50470 Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. Tel: 603-2742590
- Basu**, Kajal Sc & Technology Centre, 41 Tughiakabad Institutional Area (Near Batra Hospital), New Delhi 110062, India. Tel: 91-11-6433394 Fax: 91-11-6581651
- Betan**, Ariel Sustainable Cities Action Network [SCAN], c/o Green Forum-Phils, 14 Mabait Street, Teacher's Village, Quezon City, Philippines. Tel: 63-2-9216805 Fax: 63-2-9224397
- Britto**, Gabriel AA Intern'l Federation of NGOs Against Drug Abuse, 5 Bhardawali Hospital, Bhardawadi Road, Andheri West, Bombay 400 058, India Fax: 91-22-6211658
- Calonzo**, Manny C. Consumers International, P.O. Box 1045, 10830 Penang, Malaysia. T. 604-2291396 F. 604-228-6506
- Chong** Yoke Mei Katherine, Disabled People's Intern'l Asia Pacific, c/o 931 Jalan 17/38, 46400 Petaling Jaya, Selangor, Malaysia. Tel: 603-7562300 Fax: 603-7569030
- Fawzi**, Amiruddin, Asian Network on Urban Conservation, c/o School of Housing, Building and Planning Universiti Sains Malaysia, Minden, Penang, Malaysia Tel: 604-6577888 ext. 3177 Fax: 604-6576523
- Fazal** Anwar AP200, c/o UNDP, P.O. Box 12544, 50782 Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. Tel: 603-2559122/2532361 Fax: 603-2532361
- Ferrari**, Muhammad Farhan, Third World Networks, c/o CAP, 228 Macalister Road, 10400 Penang, Malaysia. Tel: 604-2293511 Fax: 604-2298106
- George**, Susanna AP2000, c/o UNDP, P.O. Box 12544, 50782 Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. Tel: 603-2559122 Fax: 603-2532361
- Gopalan**, Prema, HIC Women & Shelter Network, c/o SPARC, P.O. Box 9389, Bombay 400 026, India. Tel: 91-22-3096730 Fax: 91-22-4950505
- Idris**, Fathima Just World Trust [JUST], P.O. Box 448, 10760 Penang, Malaysia. Tel: 604-6565157/159 Fax: 604-6563990
- Kato**, Mayumi ACHR, 73 Soi Sonthiwattana 4, Ladprao 110 Rd., Bangkok 10310. Tel: 66-2-5380919 Fax: 66-2-5399950
- Menon** Vijay, AMIC 39 Newton Rd., Singapore 1130, Republic of Singapore. Tel: 65-2515106 Fax: 65-2534535
- Narayanan** Bernice, Malaysian Forum of Environmental Journalists [MFEJ], 17-1 Lorong Setiabistari Dua Bukit Damansara, 50490 Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia Tel: 603-2557933 Fax: 603-2540293
- Ong** Kung Wai, [PAN] Pesticide Action Network Asia & the Pacific, 75 Changkat Tembaga, 11700 Penang, Malaysia. Tel: 604-6570271 Fax: 604-6577445
- Patel** Sheela, SPARC, P.O. Box 9389, Bombay 400 026, India. Tel: 91-22-3096730 Fax: 91-22-4950505
- Pimple**, Minar Youth for Unity & Voluntary Action [YUVA], 8 Ground Floor, 33/L, Mughbat Cross Lane, Bombay 400 004, India. Tel: 91-22-3889811 Fax: 91-22-3853139
- Prabha**, Pande Plan Interi, 8/16 Sarvapriya Vihar, New Delhi 110 016, India. Tel: 91-11-669610/6850510 Fax: 91-22-6863417
- Ramos** Lilia O Approtech Asia, Ground Fl. PSDC Building, Magallanes Corner, Real Street Intramuros, Metro Manila 1002, Philippines. Tel/Fax: 63-2-5300786
- Rungta** S.K. South Asian Network of Self-Help Organizations of People with Disabilities, 2322 Laxmi Narain St., Pahargani, New Delhi 110 055, India. Tel: 91-11-521885 Fax: 91-11-6854133
- Samarasinghe** Ranjith SEVANATHA, URC, 220/3 Nawala Rd, Rajagiri, Sri Lanka. Tel: 941-862148 Fx: 941-662149
- Shah** Kirtee, HIC, ASAG, Dalal Building-Behind Capri Hotel, Relief Rd, Ahmedabad 380 001, India. Tel: 352841 Fax: 9179-352842
- Silva** Teresa CHILDHOPE, 1210 Penafraancia St., Paco, Metro Manila 1007, Philippines. Tel: 63-2-583537 Fax: 63-2-583537
- Singh** Bishan, PCSD, c/o ANGOC, P.O. Box 3107, Quezon City 1103, Philippines. Tel: 63-2-993315 Fax: 63-2-9215122
- Yusoff** Anis Yusal AP2000, c/o UNDP, P.O. Box 12544, 50782 Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. Tel: 603-2559122 Fax: 603-2532361



Mayumi Kato, Young Professionals Coordinator

This component of TAP seeks to provide support and encouragement for students and practicing young professionals to become involved in issues of shelter which affect the urban poor. This year's activities included a 3 week Summer School for graduating Architectural students in Phnom Penh, Cambodia; participation and extension programmes for YPs in TAP project workshops; continuing outreach and support for YP groups forming throughout the region.

#### TAP Impacts on YPs Cambodia

After the YP organized summer school in Phnom Penh some students who wished to continue working in the communities formed a volunteer group. Now 13 students are active. They are working closely with the communities to establish base-line surveys and categorization of communities for different options and potentials for slum upgrading and/or relocation.

#### TAP Impacts YPs Vietnam

Le Long Duc a young architect in Ho Chi Minh City Vietnam, since returning from the OPP workshop in Pakistan has increased his commitment to work in district level improvement projects of the city. Duc has also begun a collaborative programme on human settlements between the University of Ho Chi Minh City and a university in which he studied in France.

#### TAP Impacts YPs Philippines

Armin Sarthou was a participant of YP workshop in the Philippines. The workshop deepened his concern on the role of young professionals in the social housing scene in the Philippines. As an active member of United Architects Philippines (UAP), in December 1994, he collaborated to organize a session dealing with "The Role of Architectural Education as a Catalyst for Social Change" at a joint UAP ARC-Asia (Regional League of Architectural Ass'ns in Asia) meeting in Manila. Rolie Palacio and Mary Joanne Zulueta attended the KIP Surabaya workshop in Jan 1995. Joanne is now preparing a proposal to develop a programme for communities and students on low-cost housing materials.

### YP Network

The YP network consists of young people who aspire to social change through the sharing of their own professional skills with the grassroots. During its first two years groups have developed in the Philippines, Cambodia, Vietnam, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, India and Malaysia. In the future, the programme intends to extend its coverage to all countries in the Asia Pacific region.

### Summer School in Phnom Penh

A three week summer school for architecture students was organized jointly by ACHR-TAP and the Faculty of Architecture and Urban Design, Royal University of Phnom Penh, Cambodia from August 24 to September 10 1994. 150 fourth year students attended.

The objectives of the course were to develop understanding of urban issues with special focus on the urban poor and secondly, to strengthen the survey and planning skills of the students.

The team of facilitators consisted of ACHR regional experts (from Arif Hasan, Pakistan; Johan Silas, Indonesia, Prof. Niyom, Thailand; YP Arlene Lusterio, Philippines; Mike Slingsby, India; Mr. Nakamura, Japan) and a mix of local experts from international NGOs and leaders from urban poor communities in Phnom Penh.

The 3 part programme consisted of: week 1, an orientation to the city of Phnom Penh and exposure to various communities and housing projects; week 2, a practicum in the communities; groups of 8 students were assigned to different urban poor communities selected in consultation with the communities themselves. The students tasks were to interview people and study the physical aspects of the communities to increase their understanding of the social and physical issues confronting urban poor communities in Phnom Penh. Throughout the course regional experts presented experiences of successful community based housing projects and process from various cities in Asia. The third week was a synthesis of learnings and a public presentation attended by the Minister of Fine Arts and Culture.

In other YP developments in Phnom Penh a locally formed YP group AYPC continued to be involved in community based planning of the upgrading of a community in the inner section of Phnom Penh under the guidance of Robert Deutsch of PADEK.

### Workshops

4 YPs attended the TAP Orangi Pilot Project Workshop [from Indonesia, Vietnam, Bangladesh and Pakistan]. Apart from joining the main activities of the workshop they were able to interact with other YPs from Pakistan in a 2-3 day extension period which included a workshop in Lahore. A similar process was planned for the KIP workshop in Surabaya for YPs from Cambodia, Philippines and Pakistan.

### Plans this year

YP Newsletter will be distributed in July 1995 with comprehensive detail of activities for 1995-96.(contact YPs ACHR for distribution).

2nd Summer School in Phnom Penh;

Internships for YPs; and Consolidation and Outreach for the YP Network.

**Community - Based Processes in Sri Lanka**  
Colombo, Sri Lanka 11-21 September 1995



**K.A. Jayaratne** One of the local Coordinators

The Sri Lankan government's commitment to **people's centered development** is one of the most distinguished among the region's government housing programmes for low income communities. Equally important to this workshop are the processes which have emerged from it such as the **Community Action Planning [CAP]** and the community based activities of **NGOs** such as **SEVANATHA** and the savings & credit activities of the **Women's Bank of Colombo**.

The workshop will provide opportunities for community based development practitioners and promoters to study and discuss support based housing process first hand. Within the larger context of the people centered programme, the project workshop will focus on three main community processes: Community Action Planning Methodology through observations of CAP workshop modules in progress in the communities; Women's Banking Processes; and the evolution of housing related NGOs. There will be time for discussions with communities taking part; participants will visit Kandy (4 hours from Colombo) to review CAP and other training impacts as well as visit pilot projects and historical sites. Sri Lankan housing professionals will conduct reflections relating Sri Lankan contexts to workshop participants situations. Application details will be disseminated in June and through direct requests to ACHR-TAP, Bangkok.

**Sri Lankan Government's Housing Commitment:  
From Provider Based to Support Based  
Strategy & Community Action Planning**

In 1984, national housing policy of Sri Lanka underwent a fundamental change: from provider-based to support-based strategy. It recognized the people based housing building process as the mainstream process by which people build houses for themselves. The programme has now reached more than a million families in rural and urban areas throughout the country and the lessons of participatory development in housing have catalyzed key national policies. Chief among them is the National Poverty Alleviation Programme which opened tremendous space for bottom up mobilization activities.

One such mobilization tool which emerged is the Community Action Planning and Management (CAP) Approach.

The CAP consists of a structures series of workshops organized for community members who have expressed interest in improving their

slum or shanty settlements. A variety of workshop modules have been developed to deal with specific issues and community needs: community improvement planning, formation of Community Development Councils, land regularization, community building guidelines, housing information, community construction contract system, women's enterprise support and credit programmes, community based monitoring & evaluation, etc.

The CAP approach is currently being transferred to city officials of 14 selected local authorities, community leaders and NGOs. Some new institutional mechanisms have emerged. The CAP approach now attracts wide attention from planners, housing practitioners, training institutes and community leaders in other countries as well as international organizations, as a practical method for participatory planning and development.

**SEVANATHA**

SEVANATHA is a grassroots level non-government organization established by a group of professionals and community leaders in 1989. The idea to establish it grew out the demands made by urban community based organizations for information and advisory services to develop self-managed infrastructure and upgrade low income settlements. Under the Asia Pacific 2000 program in Sri Lanka it presently plays the role of an Urban Resource Centre assisting urban based small NGOs and CBOs in capacity building for environmental improvement and management.

**Women's Bank of Colombo**

This women's savings and credit program is one of the success stories of urban poor community based developments. Several savings groups grew out of a pilot program by the government in 1989 with support from two UN agencies. By 1990 each group recognized that free-standing groups unlinked to each other were not likely to stand the test of time. 'Federating' or 'joining together' was seen as a means through which groups could gain strength through solidarity, share experiences and jointly solve problems. It has enabled members to together and discuss the lending system and to develop ways of increasing its effectiveness. Most recently, federating has also enable the rapid expansion of Women's Credit Union.



**Community Support Processes  
Buraku Liberation League Japan, October 1995**

Photo (from left) local organizers Fr Jorge Anzorena, M. Hosaka, Prof.Y.Uchida

The focus of this workshop will be on key factors for the development of improvement processes in low income communities. It will be a mutual learning process for local groups and participants. The local situation and movement will provide a context and an extra dimension for learning.

The workshop programme will include discussion with local communities and experts, site visits to low income urban communities and options such as dialogues with migrant workers from various Asian countries, exposure to the earthquake rehabilitation areas, and to rural areas, each of which illustrate strategies and processes to overcome social and economic problems of minority groups of urban poor in Japan.

**Lessons to be learnt**

- \*Implementation of community improvements by advocating change in laws and the impacts of changes in law on such processes.
- \*The process of strengthening community organizations through the formation of national networks.
- \*The building of partnership processes with local authorities.
- \*Negotiating with local authorities for community based improvements.
- \*Expanding beyond physical improvements to health, education and social welfare.
- \*The above learnings from the perspective of a minority group who have suffered discrimination on a major scale.

Japan is a model of development for many Asian countries, yet there are many homeless people and many day workers whose life is as poor as the poorest in other countries. Also Japan is a country that employs many migrant workers, many of whom have been received by the urban poor movement. This may be an opportune time for urban groups from the "emerging tigers" to study these perspectives.

The workshop will be in Oct. 1995. Participation is open to all urban poor associated groups in Asia. Inquires should be directed to ACHR

**The Buraku Liberation League**

In the Japanese language "Buraku" means "settlement". In the now abolished caste system, burakus were regarded as out-caste communities. When speaking of the liberation of Buraku it means the struggle against discrimination of people living in the settlements. The Buraku Liberation Movement is a movement of people in buraku settlements which began, more than 80 years ago, to struggle against discrimination in Japanese society. The physical improvement of their settlements was one of the main targets for struggle, but momentum was maintained through a struggle

to acquire a special law for the improvement of their settlements. The law achieved guaranteed financial support for improvements plus low interest loans for physical improvements and housing development. It also gave legitimacy to the participation of the Buraku people's organizations to be involved in the planning, implementation and maintenance of the improvements. Over the years the movement has broadened to become nationwide. So far, two thirds of Buraku have undergone improvements.

**TAP Impacts Sri Lanka**

The Sri Lankan participants of various TAP workshops / trainings held a meeting in Colombo to make recommendations to TAP and review the impacts of trainings attended.



Sri Lankan participants at the first KIP workshop Oct 1993

Some of the impacts reported by the meeting included:

- \*As a result of the Land Sharing workshop 3 settlements have been identified for potential land sharing agreements. **Land has already been allocated in 2 settlements.**
- \*Participants who attended Young Professionals workshops have introduced OPP and KIP models in settlement up-grading in Colombo and Kandy.
- \*After the Land -Sharing workshop in Bangkok the Community Resource Center has formed a new CBO network called Urban Human Development Federation [UNDF]. There are about 30 CBOs in this association.
- \*A Young Professionals Association has been formed: YPs for Social Environment [TYPSE] Its first activity was to prepare a Country Report for the Regionalization of the Community Action Program in Sri Lanka.
- \*Participants report that the new organizations formed have been able to speak with increased knowledge, on behalf of the urban poor at the National Steering Committees, Political and Policy Forums.

## Savings and Credit

NGOs have implied, through TAP's needs survey, a very high demand for Savings and Credit trainings for their target groups. The component sees Savings and Credit as a means not as an end: through establishing and strengthening the savings groups the process is catalyzing other community-based processes: strengthening community organizations and increasing the involvement and capacities of women. Hence the component's activities in Phnom Penh, for example, involve an holistic approach to community development and grassroots involvement in such activities as NGO-CBO management, participatory research, empowerment of women, community organizing.

The Savings & Credit component will continue activities in Cambodia and Laos and other communities by request through a variety of methods including visits by resource persons to communities, exposure to other savings groups, small workshops and community meetings

## Community Organizing

The CO component responds to groups in need of CO training. Many of the activities this year will follow-on from the previous year, coordinated by Dinky Soliman. Plans outlined so far include:

Continuation of National level workshops: in Pakistan, Bangladesh and Thailand as well as others that may be requested.

Short trainings for groups as requested in Indonesia and Nepal. An exploratory study in Sri Lanka and Vietnam. The CO component team has suggested that community organizing for community based improvement processes is a very new concept for the Indo-Chinese countries and that it definitely needs to be offered as a skills training on its own.

As a follow up to the National workshop in Korea earlier this year, plans are progressing to bring 2 Koreans to Manila for exposure and training. It was found in the Korean workshop that there are similarities between the Korea and Philippines experiences: particularly the opening up of the Korean government with the advent of local elections and necessary change in strategies from confrontationalist to negotiated strategies, as experienced by the Philippines with the fall of the Marcos regime.

## CBO-NGO Management

The various alternatives, models and practical examples of management styles of community organization and non-government organizations will be examined by a small group from the Orangi Pilot Project headed by Arif Hasan. They will prepare the process for the next 3 years. This may include: a study of the present situation; identifying areas and groups in need; and a small consultative workshop to plan and share together. As indicated in the forthcoming paper and proposal on New Directions and Plans for an extension of TAP there is a perception that many CBOs - NGOs are in the process of becoming fossilized or in a state of stagnation and wish to explore alternative styles of management to make them more responsive to the changing circumstances; other newly emerging NGOs and CBOs are also facing dilemmas concerning management. Among the many new directions considered for the next 3 years it is felt that this skill not only has a high training demand from CBOs and NGOs in the region, but is also one which can be implemented quickly and has great potential for significant impacts and change within the region.

## Why Save Together?

*Here are some ideas from the Cambodia's USG visitors to Savings Groups in Pune, India.*

*As reported by CITYWATCH: PUNA*

### 1. For Houses:

Savings is directly linked to shelter. We have to enable ourselves to pay for better houses in the future.

### 2. For negotiation:

Group savings create an asset within our community. Saving proves to the government and to finance institutions that we are ready to take on our own development. In this way, savings becomes a strong negotiating tool.

### 3. For Community Loans:

If we can build a system that shows we save regularly, we can prove to outsiders that we are "credit worthy." When banks and credit institutions are convinced about our money collecting and savings system, they will not hesitate to give us loans to improve our settlements and build our houses.

### 4. For Confidence:

Saving is a concrete action which people take together. In every meeting, the amount saved goes up, and as the total savings figure grows, our community becomes confident and saves more.

### 5. For Help in a Crisis:

Group savings allows us to withdraw money in an emergency, when we need it, even late at night. When the savings system is flexible, and money is made available on member's priorities, then trust grows, and more of us save.

### 6. For Individual Loans:

The capital our group saving builds also makes it possible for us to take crisis loans and business loans when we need more funds than we have saved. Since our own community controls the process, we can decide to lend the money to anyone who really needs it.

### 7. For Community Strength:

Even if members are scattered throughout our community, the savings group brings them together. The group becomes a forum to discuss, analyze and find solutions to issues that are important to us. The stronger the savings groups are, the greater our capacity to handle these problems.

## TAP Preparatory Processes

### Land Issues... Requires new analysis and focus

Many low income communities have suggested that the most crucial problem facing them is their land tenure. Without security of tenure the community organization faces major problems in implementing improvement programs.

Land issues have also been identified by key advisors in the field of low income human settlements as the major issue, requiring new analysis and focus.

In an attempt to identify successful processes of securing land for the poor through various means such as government policies and regulation, land sharing and partnership agreements and through access to affordable finance TAP will start a preparatory process with the aim of sharing such information and subsequent learning by communities and actors involved.

The preparatory work will be done by Arif Hasan (Director Orangi Pilot Project Training Research Institute, Karachi, Pakistan) in cooperation with Maurice Leonhardt (TAP Project Coordinator).

### Community-Based Solid Waste Management

Most cities in the region lack appropriate solid waste management systems. There is a need within communities to understand and adapt to their contexts some of the most successful solid waste management systems such as those employed by communities in Surabaya and Bundung, Indonesia.

Community-based solid waste management offers opportunities not only for improved environment and health conditions but is also a source for income generating opportunities.

As preparation for information dissemination and training Adnan Aliani, on behalf of ACHR, will write an initiating brief on this training component identifying situations, needs, all actors involved and documenting successful process and projects, as well as proposing plans for a small workshop of actors involved to draw lessons from them to assist CBOs and NGOs who are interested in implementing them. Interested groups can contact ACHR for information.

### TAP Impacts on YPs Philippines

May Domingo is a young architect who started work in Tondo (one of Manila's largest and oldest squatter settlements) during her student days. May was a local coordinator of the first Young Professionals workshops on Social Housing held in Manila last year. To deepen her understanding of the urban poor communities throughout the region, the YP programme has arranged for her to spend time with the urban poor communities in Phnom Penh Cambodia. May's unobtrusive manner, open mindedness and experience in Tondo, will ensure a successful sharing of ideas and processes with the local groups

### Community Organizing

As a result of the first *Regional Community Organizing workshop 3 National level workshops* have taken place in the **Philippines, India and Korea**. Follow up requests have been received from **Pakistan** and from **Cambodia and Vietnam** for skills development workshops.

### TAP Impacts YPs in Cambodia

From the YP summer School at the University of Phnom Penh, Jonathan Price reports there are now possibilities for student and faculty involvement in a UNDP/ODA project, work with the University of Delft, work with SAWA (a Dutch NGO) and study trips to India.

## NGO & Community Training Needs

### Survey and Needs Analysis Future Directions for TAP

TAP's continuous training needs survey has received responses from over 100 community based organizations and NGOs throughout the region. Our analysis is supplemented by an impact monitoring process of national meetings of TAP workshop participants, an impact monitoring survey and continuous interactions with ACHR contacts. The survey results are contained in the box to the right and indicate a strong need for training in Community

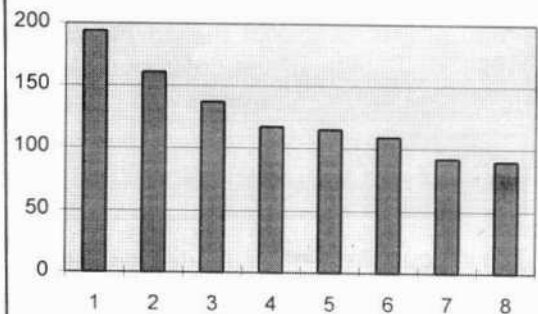
#### Survey Preferences

1. Community Organizing
2. Community Savings & Credit
3. Community Impvt. Processes
4. Women's Roles in CO
5. Dealing with Evictions
6. Building Partnerships
7. Housing Construction
8. Participatory Research

Organizing, Saving and Credit and Community Improvement Processes.

In response to the question, What should TAP do or focus on in the future? the response from national meetings and questionnaires was overwhelming for an increased number of trainings and more information dissemination. A needs survey is enclosed in this newsletter for your response.

Consultations with ACHR contacts pointed to the following focuses for



### TAP's Future Directions:

- Creating Wealth within communities
- Developing Alternatives for action
- Articulating Needs and Negotiating
- Dealing with Other Actors
- Working with Urban Poor Culture
- Focus on Women Related Issues.
- Institutionalizing Urban Poor Processes
- Focus on Youth as well as YPs
- Information sharing/dissemination

## **Initiating Community Based Processes: Cambodia Part 2**

### **The First Year**

At the time of ACHR-TAP's first intervention in Phnom Penh in Sept, 1993 there was a marked lack of community based activity and no evidence of community based organizations as exist in most Asian cities. Some local NGOs were emerging along the direction of the western models they had been exposed to. To initiate community based activities several key mechanisms and catalyzing experiences took place in the first year. These were described in the first issue of News on TAP (pp11-15): Formation of the Urban Sector Group; identification of community leaders, opportunities for local groups to define their roles and activities; developing links between the urban poor and other actors including government and the international community; exposures to alternative models of organizing and activities. A committed and dedicated core group of locals and international NGOs was consolidated.

### **The Second Year**

It has become evident that catalyzing community-based processes requires a longer commitment than a 1-2 year intervention. It also requires a thorough and holistic understanding of local contexts. Linked to this is the need for a balance between responding to the needs and demands of local communities and leaders with a carefully considered introduction of alternative processes that may have succeeded in other parts of the region. Interventions need to evolve with the full understanding of all groups involved in the process. The rapid growth of local processes often produces strains within coalitions that need to be carefully monitored so that space can be provided for each group to grow and develop in a way that maintains a unity and strength within the coalition as a whole.

Some of the highlights of a large range of activities in the second year include:

#### **Savings & Credit.**

Continuation of Savings & Credit activities as a catalyst for developing grassroots involvement in community organizations and processes. Over 20 S&C groups have formed involving over 1700 families. [see Savings & Credit page 7]

#### **Community Organizing**

Continuation of Community Organizing activities involving a month long training of community leaders and USG members including practical training in the communities and a follow up process of support. [see CO in Cambodia page 5]

#### **A Young Professionals Summer School**

for final year students at the Faculty of Architecture, Royal University of Fine Arts, Phnom Penh Cambodia. [see p 10]

#### **Study Visits and Exposure**

A 2 weeks study visit for USG community leaders and members of groups in Phnom Penh dealing Savings and Credit. The aim of the groups 10 participants was to examine the activities of savings and credit groups, community organizing strategies to deal with eviction, resettlement, land-sharing, networking and community based development. The group visited Bombay, Poona and Bangkok.



Fr Joe Maier of Klong Teoy community in Bangkok and the NGO and community representatives from Phnom Penh.

#### **Participation in OPP Workshop**

A team of representatives from CBO, NGO Government and Young Professionals in Phnom Penh participated in the TAP Orangi Pilot Project in Karachi, Pakistan in November 1994.

#### **Involvement of Multi lateral Agencies**

International agencies ODA and UNDP made initial contacts with ACHR in a preparatory stage of involving USG and the government of Cambodia in slum upgrading and/or re-location of squatter communities. Plans were in the process of being consolidated during May 1995.

#### **Developing Action Plan & Sourcing Funds**

The USG was able to formulate a long term proposal to source funding as well as structure the future activity into a workable action plan. Many international NGOs and agencies have established links with the USG and are in the process of negotiating funds for proposed activities. The long term proposal has generated a lot of discussion and promoted debate on the general direction of the group.

#### **Involving Other Local Actors**

The USG, community leaders and university students in Phnom Penh have combined to make a catalogue of squatter sites in all districts of Phnom Penh. Each site will be categorized into: sites where urgent relocation is needed; sites where people can stay temporarily for 3-5 years or more and where temporary improvement is possible; sites where it is feasible to ask government for permanent tenure and therefore which are upgradable, and sites where some of the residents have permanent tenure.

#### **Formation of Federation of Community Leaders**

The formation of a federation of community leaders and the issue of community control over credit caused widespread concern and debate amongst USG members and affiliated groups. Two long meetings over consecutive weekends bought an agreed resolution with some issues remaining to be clarified. The USG proved their maturity as a coalition during this time, resolving to listen to each side of the debate in an attempt to maintain the solidarity necessary to move forward with a common aim of protecting and improving the lives of the communities they represent.

**Programme Coordination**

Maurice Leonhardt

**Steering Committee**

Somsook Boonyabancha; Sheela Patel / Celine D'cruz; Mayumi Kato; Corazon Soliman; Arif Hasan; Maurice Leonhardt; KA Jayarathne.

**Advisors**

Denis Murphy; Johan Silas; Anwar Fazal; M. Hosaka; Mike Slingsby; Adnan Aliani; Jorge Anzorena

**Project Workshops****Community-Based Processes Sri Lanka** Workshop  
KA Jayarathne, Susil Siriwardane, Nandasiri Gamage;  
Young Professionals Mayumi Kato**Community Support Processes: BLL** Workshop  
Coordinators: M Hosaka Tetsuya Nakumura, Yoshihiko Yamanoto Mayumi Kato**Skills Processes****Savings & Credit**

Coordinators: Celine D'Cruz / Sheela Patel

**Community Organizing**

Coordinator: Dinky Soliman

**CBO / NGO Management**

Preparatory coordination. Arif Hasan

**Participatory Research**

Coordinator: K.A. Jayaratne

**Land Issues** Preparatory coordination. Arif Hasan**C-B Solid Waste Management:** Prep. Adnan Aliani**Young Professionals**

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<b>Hong Kong</b>	Ho Hei Wah
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<b>Indonesia -</b>	Johan Silas
<b>Japan</b>	M.Hosaka, T.Nakumura, Fr. Anzorena,
<b>Korea</b>	Park Mun-Su, Prof Ha Seong-Kyu,
<b>Laos</b>	M.Leonhardt, Nilds Van Der Brink
<b>Malaysia -</b>	Susanna George / Cecilia Ng
<b>Nepal</b>	Lajana Manandah / Prafulla Pradan
<b>Pakistan</b>	Anwar Rashid / Arif Hasan
<b>Philippines -</b>	Denis Murphy / Dinky Soliman
<b>Sri Lanka -</b>	KA Jayarathne
<b>Thailand</b>	Somsook Boonyabancha
<b>Vietnam -</b>	Aris Alip / Paul Chamnien

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