Endnotes

- KEPAS (Kelompok Penelitian Agro-ekosistem) does a great deal of RRA training based on agro-ecosystems analysis. They have produced a number of good RRA reports in Indonesian and English, and some training materials in Indonesian. Those interested in obtaining information should write to: KEPAS, Badan Penelitian dan Pengembangan Pertanian, Jalan Merdeka 147, Bogor, Jawa Barat 16111, Indonesia.

- The Sulawesi Regional Development Project has produced two draft manuals (in Indonesian) outlining how RRA may be used for basic data collection and target group identification. Final drafts should be ready soon. Anyone interested in obtaining information on the manuals can write to: Sulawesi Regional Development Project, University of Guelph, 620 Gordon Street, Guelph, Ontario N1G 2W1, Canada.

- We received a very useful detailed report from the Farm and Resource Management Institute in the Philippines, on a PRA training workshop they held in November 1992. Volume I outlines the rationale, objectives, participants and activities of the first 3 days of classroom work. Volume II is a complete account of the field work conducted by the participants. Volume III is a compilation of hand-outs, visual aids and songs used throughout the workshop. FARMI hopes this report can be shared with other PRA users. It should inspire other PRA trainers. Write to: Ly Tung, FARMI, Visayas State College of Agriculture, Leyte 6521-A, Philippines.

- The discussion on how ‘participatory’ PRA is continues. Vanessa Tilstone sent us a copy of her dissertation Community Participation in Research. In it, she compares Participatory Action Research with PRA, in which she distinguishes between extractive and community-based interpretations of PRA. She can be contacted at: 1 Richmond Avenue, Finchfield, Wolverhampton, WV3 9JB, UK.

- In the Annual Report of ActionAid Pakistan, an absorbing account is made of how PRA was used “to provide initial insights into the area leading to suggestions for an ACTIONAID programme ... the primary objective had to be the development of the initial understanding between ACTIONAID and the communities”. For more information write to: Richard Edwards, Actionaid Pakistan. GPO Box No. 2943, H. 28, St. 2, F-8/3, Islamabad, Pakistan.

- In India, much of the pioneering and experimenting with PRA is continuing. The Activists for Social Alternatives (ASA) have sent us reports on three of their experiences in Tamil Nadu. One is on the use of PRA for buffer zone development programmes, the second reflects on whether it is possible to use PRA in a totally new area (the answer is yes), and the third describes a training experience for rangers and foresters. Write to: ASA, 19-B, Mallisahib Street, Tiruchirappalli - 620 008, Tamil Nadu, India.

- The Gandhigram Rural Institute is a keen user of PRA within their Department of Applied Research. We have recently received two of their reports describing their experiences to date: Participatory Rural Appraisal: GRI’s Experience by Dr.S.Kesavan,
and PRA by GRI: A Status Paper by M.P.Boraian, Dr.N.Narayanasamy, and Dr.N.Markandan. Please write to: Gandhigram Rural Institute, Department of Applied Research, Gandhigram - 624302, Dindigul Anna District, Tamil Nadu, India.

- For those working with elderly people, a recent experience from HelpAge Kenya will be of interest. HelpAge Kenya held a workshop in January 1993 to assess the relevance of PRA for project work with elderly people. Everyone observed that elders participated with great enthusiasm. And for HelpAge “the most important indicator of successful fieldwork was the fact that elders invited us back in the future”. Please write to: Mandy Heslop, HelpAge International, St.James’s Walk, London EC1R 0BE, UK.

- Two reports from the Philippines describe experiences in using RRA for data collection. Vennie Acebedo from the International Institute for Rural Reconstruction sent us a report called A Diagnostic Survey in Layung Mabilog using Rapid Rural Systems Appraisal (RRSA). RRSA is based on different types of interviewing with a final community validation meeting. Please write to her at the IIRR, Silang, Cavite, Philippines.

- RRA and PRA have been extensively used in agriculture and forestry but its use in coastal areas is still limited. One experience in this new field is documented in a report from Michael Pido: RRA Application in Coastal Zone Planning Experiences and Lessons from Palawan, Philippines. For more information please write to: M.D.Pido, ICLARM, MC P.O. Box 1501, Makati, Metro Manila 1299, Philippines.

- Wenny Ho has written a methodological guide on extension in support of participation in Spanish. It deals with the process of participatory extension and key guidelines for a participatory extension system. She also discusses the role of the extension worker and the use of teaching materials. For more information write to: Wenny Ho, Koeriersdienst-Honduras, Postbus 20061, 2500 EB Den Haag, The Netherlands.

- A very honest reflection about PRA is written by the Association for Rural Advancement. With nothing more than the RRA Notes to guide them, ARA used PRA, learning much in the process. “This has been a very significant experience for us. We are just beginning to explore an exciting and important area: PRA. We are convinced that this approach is crucial in our country. Apartheid has devastated rural life”. Write to: Kamal Laldas Singh (Drought Monitor), Association for Rural Advancement, 170 Berg Street, Pietermaritzburg, South Africa.