

Foreword

The Food Production and Rural Development (FPRD) Division of the Commonwealth Secretariat gives priority to programmes which promote economic and social development to rural populations with focus on small and peasant farmers, fishermen and livestock holders. Preference is given to enhancement of agricultural and rural development projects that maximise the use of local resources. Special emphasis is given to the training of national officials in agricultural project preparation and management. The Division achieves these objectives through consultations, workshops/training courses, seminars, study tours and information exchange; thus effectively using Commonwealth Skills to meet Commonwealth Needs.

One of the roles of FPRD is to serve as a clearing house for information on agriculture and rural development and to facilitate dissemination of information and exchange of experience among member countries. This enables each country to draw upon the immense variety of skills and facilities and to offer its own to others. To this end the Food Production and Rural Development Division published the second edition of Training for Agricultural Development - a Directory of Resources in the Commonwealth in 1985. The aim was to promote collaboration between Commonwealth countries in the human resource development field, through a single pan-Commonwealth reference document on training opportunities in the field of agriculture and rural development. The Directory proved its value as a source of information for member countries and enabled better utilisation of facilities within the Commonwealth to meet specialist manpower needs. The Directory also stimulated growing demand for information on training opportunities.

There has been rapid emergence of new institutions as well as changes in the facilities offered by the existing institutions to meet the articulated needs in the developing Commonwealth. This evolution in curricula of existing institutions and the birth of new institutions of higher learning, especially in developing countries, has necessitated the revision of the second edition of the Directory. The new edition includes these new institutions and provides up-to-date information on existing institutions which have somewhat changed their curricula, thus bringing in new courses and hence new opportunities. The new edition attempts to provide more comprehensive information on institutions of higher learning. To avoid making the Directory too bulky, only middle level and higher level institutions have, therefore, been included in the current edition, covering:

- training facilities for post-secondary education leading to diplomas or other awards which in some countries are provided by non-university institutions
- general education programmes, e.g. first degrees, which embrace such disciplines as agronomy, fisheries, forestry and livestock
- higher degree programmes (Masters and Ph.D.) in specialized fields. Some of these programmes are organised in association with research institutions
- short training/workshop programmes mostly for higher level management and policy makers.

Also contained in this edition are international institutions including organizations which provide training programmes and sponsorship to member countries (refer to Guide for Grants under Select Bibliography Appendix iii).

The information provided in this Directory is based on questionnaires sent to member countries. We received many replies, but regrettably we had problems getting response from some institutions. Where no replies were received from member

countries or institutions, entries were prepared from secondary sources (refer to General section under Select Bibliography Appendix iii). There is, therefore, some 'fringe' educational territory that is only partly covered by the Directory. Information about some courses is in outline form; those requiring fuller information should contact the institutions direct.

Although we have endeavoured to ensure that the information in the Directory is accurate, it is possible that there have been errors and omissions. The Secretariat will be grateful if readers will send any suggestions to us. The Directory is being stored in a micro-computer which will allow for updating, revision and retrieval of information. It would be appreciated if institutions would put FPRD on their mailing list and send copies of their revised prospectus and any descriptive material they may issue from time to time in the field of education and training in agriculture and rural development.

The Commonwealth Secretariat wishes to express its gratitude to all Institutions, High Commissions in London, Government Departments and other Agencies who have provided information for the Directory.

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