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Abstract

Municipal Agricultural Extension as Development Participant: A Case Study of an Municipal Agricultural Research Station in C.J. Arosemena Tola, Ecuador.

The high cost, disappointing returns and dubious priorities of agricultural development have been attributed to the inadequacy of the processes employed by traditional and neoliberal approaches to development. Participatory development has been touted as an alternative to these approaches that pays due consideration to the acceptability of goals, priorities, methods and evaluation within the target population. However, "participation" is a vague and easily co-opted concept. To promote participation among development projects, it is necessary to elucidate the different advantageous forms of participation. This study will use the rural development participation framework in Cohen and Uphoff (1980) to describe and appraise the contributions to local development of a municipal agricultural extension program in the cantón of Carlos Julio Arosemena Tola, Napo Province, Ecuador.

Cohen, J. M., & Uphoff, N. T. (1980). Participation's place in rural development: Seeking clarity through specificity. *World Development*, 8(3), 213-235. doi: [http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/0305-750X\(80\)90011-X](http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/0305-750X(80)90011-X)