Activity Sheet 51

IMTs – what matters most?

Purpose

The purpose of this activity is to explore the complex range of factors affecting the development, dissemination and adoption of IMTs. This activity builds on the knowledge gained from this session and the experiences of the participants.

Group Work

1. Numerous factors affect the adoption of IMTs by rural communities. Rank the following statements (attached) in order of importance for ensuring the successful design, development, dissemination and adoption of IMTs by rural based users.

2. Explain the reasons for your rankings.

3. Write your rankings on the large flip chart as explained by your trainer.

4. Elect a person to present the reasons for your group's rankings.

Rank the following statements from 1 (most important) to 14 (least important).

Factors affecting the design, development, dissemination and uptake of IMTs	***Your ranking***
IMTs must be technically appropriate for the area.	
IMTs should be specially designed to suit the physical needs of women – as mens and womens needs for IMTs differ.	
Provide credit for artisans making IMTs.	
Motorised IMTs should be developed to replace animal drawn vehicles in areas of where agricultural production is becoming more intensive.	
An enabling environment should be created by government to encourage private enterprise in the development and sale of IMTs e.g. favourable taxes.	
IMT programmes may stimulate income generating activities for IMT users so as to ensure cost effective returns from the use of the IMT technology.	
IMTs may be sold at a price to cover all their costs, to ensure sustainability.	
IMTs may be subsidised when first introduced to encourage adoption.	
IMTs must provide immediate solutions to transport problems faced by rural communities.	
Market research and targeting IMTs to specific groups.	
The evaluation of IMT programmes should be carried out by people external to the project and even from other countries to share experiences.	
An attitude of “learning from our mistakes”, avoiding *hobbyism*, and fear of criticism and failure should be fostered in IMT programmes.	
New IMT technologies should be first tested under favourable conditions then disseminated to more remote areas under harsher conditions.	
Create a critical mass of users.	