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**OF PROMOTION OF RURAL EMPLOYMENT THROUGH SELF-
EMPLOYMENT AND ENTREPRENEURIAL DEVELOPMENT (PRETERD)
PROGRAM ON THE EMPLOYMENT AND INCOME OF ITS
BENEFICIARIES IN THE PROVINCE OF CAVITE**

ROBERT CUENO OBINALLA

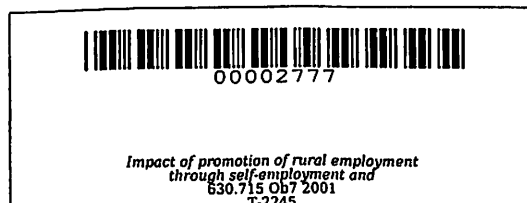
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**IMPACT OF PROMOTION OF RURAL EMPLOYMENT THROUGH SELF-
EMPLOYMENT AND ENTREPRENEURIAL DEVELOPMENT (PRESEED)
PROGRAM ON THE EMPLOYMENT AND INCOME OF ITS
BENEFICIARIES IN THE PROVINCE OF CAVITE**

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ABSTRACT

OBTINALLA, ROBERT CUENO, Cavite State University, Indang, Cavite.
Impact of Promotion of Rural Employment through Self-Employment and Entrepreneurial Development (PRESEED) Program on the Employment and Income of its Beneficiaries in the Province of Cavite. Major Adviser: Dr. Marietta C. Mojica

The study was conducted mainly to determine the impact of the PRESEED Program on the employment of its beneficiaries in the province of Cavite. Specifically it aimed to describe the PRESEED Accredited Co Partners (ACPs) and its beneficiaries; identify the assistance provided by the PRESEED-ACP; determine the benefits derived from the project; determine the contribution of the project on the employment of the beneficiaries; determine the difference in income of the beneficiaries before and after the introduction of the PRESEED project.; and identify the problems encountered by the beneficiaries in the implementation of the projects.

The study covered six (6) ACPs in the municipalities of Bacoor, Silang, Ternate, Alfonso, Indang and Tagaytay. The ACPs were Share Cavite Multi-Purpose Cooperative, Bacoor, Cavite; Silang Ladies Circle, Silang, Cavite; Ternate Womens Group Sapang 2, Ternate, Cavite; Women's Group of Alfonso; Samahang Magbubukid ng Barangay Pulo, Indang, Cavite and Sta. Lucia Multi-purpose Cooperative, Tagaytay City. Ninety one (91) respondents were interviewed using a prepared questionnaires.

Frequency count, averages and percentage were used to summarize the data gathered. A t-test was used to determine the significant difference in the income of the beneficiaries before and after the project intervention.

Findings shows that half of the Accredited Co-Partners (ACPs) were Rural Womens Organization. Most of the ACPs were operating for more than two years with an average membership of 25.

Based on the findings, beneficiaries of the program were predominantly women and married with a mean age of 40. Majority were at least high school graduate. In terms of the household size, they have a mean size of six.

All the beneficiaries reported that they received assistance from the PRESEED-ACP during the pre-implementation of the projects. These were in terms of the project proposals preparation and the conduct of trainings. Some also received assistance during the implementation of the projects in areas of production and marketing.

Likewise, all beneficiaries acquired knowledge and skills on the training provided to them. Most beneficiaries stated that their income increased and they attributed this to the implementation of the PRESEED projects. Others said that they acquired entrepreneurial capability in operating small projects while some improved their self-confidence in dealing with other people.

Findings revealed that the PRESEED projects contributed to the creation of self-employment among the beneficiaries (49%) and additional employment (19%) to others. Data revealed that 73 percent of the previously unemployed were presently earning from the project.

The mean monthly income of the beneficiaries before the project intervention was P1,659.00. The mean increased to P2,033.00 after the project intervention. The result of t-test revealed that the mean difference between the two was significant at five percent level of significance.

Most of the beneficiaries encountered lack of additional capital to sustain or expand their projects.

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INTRODUCTION

The Philippines has posted an unemployment rate of 13.9 percent as of April 2000 which is one of the highest unemployment rate compared to other neighboring countries. This rate is continuously increasing due to the financial turmoil which the Asean region including the Philippines is experiencing according to the Bureau of Labor and Employment Statistics (2000).

Based on the Yearbook of Labor and Employment from 1990-1995, unemployment is most evident in the rural areas. The country's rural population continues to grow and remain high relative to the urban population of 25 million in 1990 and to 59.1 million in 1995. This result to the increasing number of unemployment in the rural areas.

One of the major thrusts of the government is countryside development and micro-enterprise development. Micro-enterprise development for the poor takes the form of livelihood programs in the Philippines. These programs were adopted as a national strategy to generate alternative productive employment and enhance earning capacities of those outside the labor force.

According to the Livelihood Corporation (1998), the main livelihood interventions range from the provision of livelihood credit to training for skills and entrepreneurship development. One of these programs is the Promotion of Rural Employment through Self-Employment and Entrepreneurship Development (PRESEED) which is being implemented by the Bureau of Rural Workers under the Department of Labor and Employment.