



Activity Sheet 49

The adoption of IMTs

Purpose

The purpose of this activity is to analyse the reasons for the varied success in the uptake of IMT technology by communities in rural areas. Participants should draw on their experiences and knowledge of ways in which IMTs have been developed, disseminated, and finally taken up by users.

Group Work

1. Read the extract from the technical paper (attached).
2. Discuss the following question:
 - A. *What are the possible reasons for the mixed success in the adoption of IMTs amongst rural communities around the world?*
 - B. *Why have some IMTs not been adopted? What are the causes of these “failures”?*
3. Prepare your findings on flip chart and elect a person to present the findings.



“There have been many paradoxical experiences relating to IMT adoption in Africa, Asia, the Americas and Europe. In some parts of some countries, there have been very positive lessons concerning IMT adoption. There have also been many disappointing experiences. In some situations technologies seem to have taken off spontaneously, without government assistance. In others, adoption only occurred after extension campaigns. In some countries, potential users rejected particular IMTs, despite subsidies, credit provision and strong promotional campaigns.”

Extract from: *Promoting the use of intermediate means of transport – vehicle choice, potential barriers and criteria for success.* By: Professor Paul Starkey (2001)