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ANNEX 1
INTRODUCTION

This report is the result of field work carried out in November and December 1995 and in January 1996 with a team of sociologists of Hanoi National University (1). It is based on secondary data collected at the District level and on primary data collected at the commune level. In the Ba watershed the field work was done in 29 villages of which 24 villages are in the project pilot communes and 5 villages are in the watershed but outside the pilot communes. In the Chu watershed 13 villages were visited, of which nine villages are in the project pilot commune and four villages are in the watershed but outside the pilot commune.

The methods used in the field work included interviews, group discussions and a number of PRA techniques and tools for ranking and quantification. During the in-depth study in the selected pilot area, PRA has been utilized in all the villages in order to foster the participation of people in focusing on problems connected with available resources and possible solutions.

The report is divided into two parts. The first part provides the summary findings on the main subject matters that are of greatest concern for project design. It also summarizes the prime constraints and potentials. Included are the recommended approaches and activities as well as the problems and issues that are still outstanding. The first part of the report draws on the entire set of information contained in the detailed descriptions of the project area, not all of which could be highlighted in the summary findings.

The second part of the report provides detailed descriptions and data on the project area, including both the Chu and Ba River watersheds. Information focuses on the districts, communes and villages where the project pilot zones are located. As such the data on the Song Chu watershed refer to one district, Thuong Xuan, in Thanh Hoa Province. The data on the Song Ba watershed refer to two Districts of Gia Lai Province, K'Bang and Mang Yang, and to Son Hoa District of Phu Yen Province.

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