



REGIONAL SEMINAR & LEARNING EVENT ON
Local Governance and Pro-Poor Service Delivery

10 - 12 February 2004

ADB Headquarters, Manila, Philippines

Participants' Assessment of the Regional Seminar and Learning Event

Participants consisting mainly of local government practitioners from 16 countries were invited to assess the learning event and seminar in terms of relevance, content, style, and management. The majority of participants (82%) took the time to complete the end of learning event/seminar feedback questionnaire. The assessments provided useful information on what worked well and not so well. Their frank and candid assessments provided useful insights which ADB, ADBI, and UNCDF will be able to use in planning similar events in the future.

Over 83% of the participants found the event very useful and over 88% were very satisfied with the presentations and their content. There was a lower level of satisfaction with the group learning activity sessions, as the participants had not been fully briefed on what was expected from these sessions before the event. Most participants indicated that they would have preferred fewer presentations to allow for more open forum discussions and debate. The major lessons from the feedback received are: to ensure effective pre-learning event briefing is issued in advance to all participants, expectations are managed, and the agenda takes into consideration the absorptive capacity of the audience.

The innovative approach of the seminar and high quality of presentations by local governments and civil society practitioners were widely acknowledged. The participants appreciated the strong emphasis on learning and high degree of professionalism observed by the program. Many took away concepts and good practices on how to run learning events from the seminar for utilization in their contexts in developing member countries.

Over 95% of the participants voted overwhelmingly for ADB to hold another seminar and learning event on a similar and contemporary theme. A significant number of participants also volunteered to test the two learning products for improving service delivery that ADB and ADBI will be developing in the coming months.

In conclusion, the seminar can be rated as successful as seminar objectives have been achieved within the resource envelope allocated.