

WATERSHED

1. Watershed development projects are based on the premise that hydrologic units are appropriate for conceptualizing strategies and planning investments. They display a complete range of intersectoral linkages. Failure to approach planning on a watershed-wide basis can lead to incorrect priorities, illogical sequencing of interventions, and interference between separate activities in different sectors or even in the same sector. The emphasis in watershed development has generally been on agriculture and forestry projects, but should extend to any intervention involving land uses which affects the hydrologic cycle. Many watershed projects have concentrated on the technical aspects of investments to correct problems caused by deforestation, declining soil fertility and productivity, erosion and sedimentation, and flooding and drought. An analysis of a number of similar projects in Asia has shown the need to respond as the political, economic and institutional issues, to ensure social success.

Potential Environment Impacts

2. The watershed management projects or some of their components are consistent with the principles of sound environmental management. It is unlikely that they belong to the same Class A or B, so they do not require an assessment of impacts on the formal environment and this manual so do not develop this issue further. Any project proponent wishing to receive a



OPERATIONAL GUIDLINES OF BOAD

loan BOAD is invited to refer to the guidelines "Managing land and water resources" that gives more information on the approach to environmental planning based on the concept watershed.