

# **Working together for poverty reduction: Urban and Rural Strategy formulation and action**

The Rural Strategy:

- Sector Strategy Paper “Reaching the Rural Poor”  
to the Board – end April 2002

Principles

- Focus on the poor – holistic approach
- Address the entire rural space: cross sectoral and  
longer term framework
- Forge alliances of all stakeholders: in design and  
implementation

# Foster Broad-Based Growth

The Rural Strategy recognizes

- Agriculture and non agricultural sectors
- Diverse and dynamic interactions between rural and urban development
- Interlinked role that small and medium sized towns have to both Rural and Urban development
- Importance of peri-urban and corridor development to rural poverty reduction and impacts

# Rural Strategy facing up to the institutional challenge

- Rural establishing “ Internal Rural Alliance” to address the multi-dimensional nature of rural poverty reduction
- Recognizing the “spatial” and multi-sectoral institutional weakness of client countries and partners to address rural (and urban?) poverty
- Specific regional demand for R-U work and Territorial Development eg LAC, EAP and MNA to address rural poverty

# Are we working together?

- Commissioned key papers, joint R and U sessions 2000 - 2001 and website established
- Plans to formalize links between Rural (possibly Internal Rural Alliance?) and Urban Boards
- Plans for a Corporate Day in June on spatial aspects of development
- Need to do more?

# What next?

## Priority needs:

- Identify how to enhance support to small and medium size towns - issues paper, country level initiatives?
- ESW and mainstream learning on key R-U linkages that impact on both rural and urban poverty reduction  
eg
  - labor markets and rights,
  - environment degradation eg peri-urban,
  - land and water policies,
  - food security and nutrition,
  - understand migration and factors which influence sustainable paths for HH economic and social development

# What next?

- Broaden sub-regional/LED/Territorial Development planning to better capture rural and urban space and address poverty
- Achieve better spatial content in CAS and PRSPs
- Share emerging thinking in cross sectoral working in rural and urban “space”
- Institutionalize R and U working together