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**DESIGN AND IMPLEMENTATION OF PLANNING INFORMATION SYSTEMS AT
THE MESO-MICRO LEVELS: A CASE OF REGION IV**

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Abstract:

Attempts to develop planning-oriented information systems were premised on the assumption that available data were of the quality required for formulating and updating regional plans, programs, and policies.

The study focused on the development of a requisite information system that could respond to the requirements of regional and sub-regional level planning. It was conceived as “diagnostic” in nature to enable identification of problems attendant to both data production and utilization; and, to provide empirical basis for guiding the design and implementation of the system as perceived by the responding planners.

Region IV was chosen as the study region as it represents a microcosm of Philippine regional planning realities. Its heterogeneity in terms of geographic location and development levels typifies general considerations of national (macro), sub-national (meso) and local (micro) development planning.

The research provided insights into the problems of data production and data utilization as seen from varying planning standpoints (municipal, city, provincial, and regional). These were looked into to gauge the planners’ perception of the “ideal” information system that could enjoy the support and commitment of planners at the regional and sub-regional levels.

Results of the study underscored the planners’ unilateral expression of preference for a system geared toward policy and strategy formulation and their predisposition to a modular type of information system.

General considerations for designing and implementing the requisite information system were then evolved.