

Beyond the Horizon Order Form

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"The development worker, whether working in the field or based out of a head office, walks a fine line between 'knowing' and having something of use to offer, and 'not knowing' or being open to their own lack of knowledge or understanding.

The mantle of 'expert' is a dangerous one, especially if the wearer is seduced by the idea that they have somehow reached the end of their learning.

A robust steadfastness in one's values and people's basic goodness are the stars by which many development workers steer; that, and a willingness to recognise and admit one's own errors and correct them, preferably with a sense of humour and proportion."

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BEYOND THE

a guide to managing development projects
from a distance

HORIZON



Mike Crooke

ISBN 0 909831 82 3



BEYOND THE HORIZON

for program managers

Beyond the Horizon focuses on project and program management in the field of overseas aid and development. Particularly, it looks at the issues facing program managers who are not involved in the day-to-day management of project activities, but are usually based thousands of kilometres away. They are responsible for the management of endeavours that are truly beyond the horizon.



not just a how-to manual

While project management is the overall focus of *Beyond the Horizon*, it recognises that project management takes place in a rich context of development theory, broader program management, agency management, and organisational development practices. Issues facing the individual program manager - with their values, natural abilities, aspirations, knowledge and experience - and individual approaches to project management is also

Beyond the Horizon does not provide a set of answers for typical problems, or offer blueprints tools to achieve prescribed results. The focus is on learning how to think about development in creative and flexible ways, in order to adapt tools, techniques, processes and approaches to suit each unique development context.

thinking in a creative and flexible way

There's discussion of a range of key underlying principles of development, plus practical tips and tools. It steers the program manager towards other key sources of information and assistance, with a comprehensive reference section, and an associated website that provides links to a host of other material.

Beyond the Horizon is a contribution to international thinking on the increasingly complex world of international development from a uniquely Australian perspective.

Mike Crooke is a well known and well respected voice in the Australian overseas development sector. He has worked in Somalia and the Philippines, and has held a range of program management positions at Oxfam Community Aid Abroad. He was part of the ACFOA team as their Director of Training and Development Advice until 1998, and now works as a private consultant in community development, project management training and evaluation.



BEYOND THE HORIZON

185pp, dotted with cartoons about Dan Development and his cronies. Linked to a useful series of reference webpages, *Beyond the Horizon's* ring binder format ensures that additional resources and information can be printed and stored in one accessible folder.

Features

- an overview of the development scene; the players, the challenges and issues around participation.
- context and theory – particularly current Australian and global trends.
- the characteristics and roles of an effective program manager.
- management, organisational layers, policies, procedures.
- managing relationships and communicating purposefully with partners and other stakeholders.
- program tasks, strategic planning and project management.
- planning a project for success, project design and gathering information.
- a sample field visit.
- evaluation and monitoring issues; benefits, difficulties and institutional learning.
- practical steps and tools for evaluation.