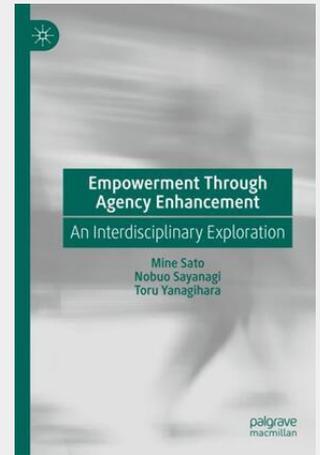


Empowerment Through Agency Enhancement

An Interdisciplinary Exploration

This book focuses on the understanding of factors and mechanisms involved in the development of agency mainly in three related contexts --- participatory development, extension work, and service transactions. The research has its starting point in the recognition of the critical role played by "agency" (commonly understood as want/will for and practice of self-determination and self-management) on the part of intended beneficiaries of services and projects for effective implementation and sustainability. It is designed to address this subject matter with its principal focus on inner capacities and orientations of human beings, posing questions as to how such capacities and orientations could be enhanced and activated in practice by external actors in the field of public policies for socioeconomic and international development. The project is organized transcending traditional disciplinary boundaries --- combining anthropological, psychological, and economic approaches and perspectives.

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