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Abstract: The necessity of planning economic, social, and cultural development is recognised by most bovernment leaders in developing countries. In these countries it is generally believed that only through planning can education contribute effectively to the developmental process, and that libraries, as an integral part of education must be incorporated into that planning. However, in the Third World, development planning is essentially a political process, for the national plan becomes a tool with which a society deliberately allocates resources, creates new institutions, and reforms existing ones. The author considers how librarianship can become a change agent in the process of development, covering such topics as the investment of resources, the role of technology, and the eradication of illiteracy.

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