This text is an exploration of the power dimensions of participatory development and research, and an attempt to look at the shifts in power within communities and institutions which are needed for participatory ideas to be effective. The aim of the book is to connect theory and practice. It looks at the theoretical basis to participatory development work, drawing on related debates in anthropology, development studies and feminism. Case studies of participatory research techniques are drawn from sites as far apart as development theatre in Mali and video-making with homeless people in the UK. Further chapters examine the relative power of the researcher or development agent vis-a-vis the community. After reviewing participatory research and development within communities, the book extends the debate by questioning the shifts in power needed if institutions are to operate in a participatory manner. This text is intended to be of use to academics, students, and all involved with courses in development studies, anthropology and sociology. In addition it should prove useful to agencies and practitioners involved in participatory-style development or research initiatives world-wide.