

NEW PUBLICATIONS FROM IIED: Issue 33 – April 2006

Welcome to IIED's monthly e-bulletin announcing the latest publications from the International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED), an independent, non-profit research institute working in the field of sustainable development.

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NEW

<http://www.PovertyandConservation.info>

Sharing different perspectives, building common understanding, promoting good policy and practice.

The online information portal <http://www.PovertyandConservation.info> of the Poverty and Conservation Learning Group is the key mechanism for sharing information and experience on poverty-conservation linkages. It is accessible to anyone with an interest in the subject or wants to build a greater understanding of the issues. The website provides: a bibliographic database; an organizations database; an initiatives database; and a database of case studies.

In addition you can sign up to receive the Group's monthly newsletter - **BIOSOC** (the Biodiversity and Society Bulletin) in English, French or Spanish. The website was launched at CoP8 in Curitiba, Brazil during two-side events on Protect Areas and Equity. The website attracted much interest at the CoP from a diverse range of actors.

The Poverty and Conservation Learning Group is coordinated by the International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED) and supported by the Ford Foundation, Development Cooperation Ireland, and the Africa Wildlife Foundation.

AGRICULTURE

Agroecology and the Struggle for Food Sovereignty in the Americas

Avery Cohn, Jonathan Cook, Margarita Fernández, Kathleen McAfee, Rebecca Reider and Corrina Steward, Editors

This publication seeks to:

1. examine the political, economic, cultural, and ecological dimensions of food sovereignty
2. generate and exchange technically informed and practically applicable knowledge
3. provide an interactive space for the formation of cross-cultural alliances between the U.S. and Latin America among academics and practitioners.

It addresses a recurring question on how to build stronger relationships between academics and practitioners, including farmers and NGOs, working at the intersection of food, agricultural, and environmental issues. The book grew out of a workshop at Yale University on "Food Sovereignty, Conservation, and Social Movements for Sustainable Agriculture in the Americas". In the spirit of this unique workshop, the organizers have compiled this book, which synthesizes the proceedings, expands on insights derived there, and provides concrete recommendations to academics, policy-makers, farmers' movements, and other audiences.

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US\$32/£18.00, students US\$12/£7

To Purchase: <http://www.earthprint.com/go.htm?to=14506IIED>

To Download: <http://www.iied.org/pubs/display.php?o=14506IIED>

FORESTRY

Emerging forest associations in Yunnan, China: Implications for livelihoods and sustainability

Horst Weyerhaeuser, Shao Wen, Friedrich Kahrl

Yunnan is one of China's poorest and least urbanized provinces. With the largest total area of collectively-owned forest among China's 31 provinces, forestry development continues to play an important role in Yunnan's rural economic development. This report assesses the competitive challenges that small and medium forest enterprises (SMFEs) face in response to China's huge rural to urban transition, growth in trade, and increasing environmental concerns. It describes the evolution of some of the emerging associations that will help SMFEs cope, such as the Yunnan Provincial Forest Products Industry Association.

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TRADE

Power in Global Value Chains: Implications for employment and livelihoods in the cashew nut industry in India

K. N. Harilal, Nazneen Kanji, J. Jeyaranjan, Mridul Eapen (and) Padmini Swaminathan

This report explores the impacts of an expanding global market for cashew nuts on the livelihoods of women workers in the cashew processing industry and shows that a power imbalance between intensely competing producers and relatively few buyers in the global market place gives large retailers, namely supermarkets, the upper hand over their supply chains. Supermarkets are increasingly able to dictate the terms on which business is done and how the cashew is produced. Our survey of the women workers in this industry shows clearly that such work, while essential for survival, does not provide enough income to raise households out of poverty. This research is a good example of how international trade too often fails to provide the kind of economic growth which will foster secure and equitable employment and enable the working poor to escape from poverty.

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The International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED) is an independent, non-profit research institute working in the field of sustainable development.

IIED aims to provide expertise and leadership in researching and achieving sustainable development at local, national, regional and global levels. In alliance with others we seek to help shape a future that ends global poverty and delivers and sustains efficient and equitable management of the world's natural resources.

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