

NEW PUBLICATIONS FROM IIED: Issue 29 – December 2005

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.

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT

IIED would like to thank you all for your support during 2005. We wish you a joyous Christmas and a New Year of progress towards a more fair and sustainable world.

<http://www.iied.org>

AGRICULTURE

Traditional Resource Rights and Indigenous People in the Andes

Alejandro Argumedo and Michel Pimbert

Text and pictures are combined to highlight action research with indigenous communities on sustaining local food systems, diverse ecologies, rights, livelihoods and culture in the Peruvian Andes. Facilitated by ANDES (Quechua–Aymara Association for Nature Conservation and Sustainable Development) and IIED, this participatory action research is actively developing an integrated model to protect traditional knowledge systems based on the conservation and sustainable use of the ecosystems in which indigenous peoples knowledge and innovations thrive.

Published by IIED

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November 2005

12 pages

US\$7/£4, \$5/£3 for Students and Free for Non-OECD

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LAND

Securing Land Rights in Africa: Can Land Registration Serve Poor and Marginalised Groups?

Seven research reports, including a summary report, present findings on current processes of land rights registration in Ethiopia, Ghana, and Mozambique. In Ethiopia, land registration systems are being designed and pilot programmes carried out in several states. In Ghana, an ambitious Land Administration Programme has begun, which has chosen to do much of its work through Customary Land Secretariats. In Mozambique, the 1997 Land Law is being implemented, a law which has been recognised internationally as demonstrating a strong pro-poor approach. What lessons can be learnt, from these cases, to inform policy and practice for future interventions in the registration of land rights in Africa?

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Can Land Registration Serve Poor and Marginalised Groups? Summary Report

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MARKETS

Agricultural Commodities, Trade and Sustainable Development

Edited by: Thomas Lines

The crisis in agricultural commodities is closely linked to issues of poverty and environmental degradation. Dealing with entrenched rural poverty and major impacts from agriculture on ecosystem viability requires a new look at how commodity markets succeed or fail. There is a need for better understanding of how commodity markets work and how policy makers and businesses can intervene to introduce fairness, justice and sustainability into these markets. This challenging context provides the background for this book, which brings together an edited selection of papers prepared for two strategic dialogues on commodities, trade and sustainable development, jointly convened by IIED and the ICTSD.

Published by IIED/ICTSD

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254pages

US\$36/£20, Free for Non-OECD

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Challenging preconceptions about trade in sustainable products. Towards win-win-win for developing countries

Nicola Borregaard, Annie Dufey

Sustainable products (ie, products that provide greater positive or lower negative social, environmental and economic impacts along the value chain than conventional products) have the potential to contribute to sustainable development in developing countries. But at present there are many factors impeding the growth of markets for these products in developing countries. For example, at national level, there is a lack of market information, while at international level ecolabelling requirements impose financial burdens on small-scale producers. This paper aims to bring some fresh perspectives to the debate on international trade, sustainable products, ecolabelling and production and process methods, with a view to helping developing country governments draw up suitable policies to support sustainable products.

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PARTICIPATION

Participatory Learning and Action 53: Tools for influencing power and policy

ISBN: 1 84369 572 3,

ISSN: 1357-938X

Published by: IIED

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2005, 96pp

Stock No. 14505IIED

This special issue contains articles reflecting on experience, providing critical analysis, and suggesting ways forward - on the adaptation and application of tools in participatory action and learning in situations where participants must deal with more powerful institutions and individuals. These tools aim to help less powerful people achieve positive change in natural resource policy - through understanding, organisation, engagement, resistance and persistence.

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