

## NEW PUBLICATIONS FROM IIED: Issue 38 – September 2006

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### AGRICULTURE

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#### **Seed Diversity in the Drylands: Women and farming in South India**

*Gatekeeper 126*

Carine Pionetti

Seeds are central to farming and food production. In the dryland farming systems of South India's Deccan Plateau, women's roles in maintaining seed and crop diversity enable rural families to cope with the region's many environmental demands. Here seeds and their management form an economy all of their own, whereby self-reliance in seed, crop diversity and nutrition are closely intertwined. But increasingly, seeds are becoming the 'property' of the private sector and big business. This undermines the scope for farmers to save their own seed through a mix of technological, legal and economic strategies. This has serious implications for women as autonomous seed producers. The author argues that a radical re-orientation of public policies is needed to support autonomous seed production for poverty alleviation and biodiversity conservation.

IIED, ISSN 1357 9258, Pb, 24pp

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#### **State-Farmer Partnerships For Seed Diversity In Mali**

*Gatekeeper 127*

*Didier Bazile*

As in many developing countries, the Mali government's approach to seed management is becoming increasingly centralised. However, it seems that not only do governments in developing countries lack the budget either to properly conserve these collections or take stock of what they have, but that national seed departments are unable to disseminate information about new varieties to rural areas. As a consequence, less than 5% of the sorghum and millet currently grown in Mali is improved varieties. This paper explores the potential for grassroots level seed management to fill a gap in the seed distribution system in a way which maintains and promotes genetic diversity.

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### CLIMATE

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#### **Up in Smoke? Latin America and the Caribbean**

Andrew Simms, Hannah Reid

Climate Change is already hitting Latin America and the Caribbean and this is increasing the vulnerability of poor communities. "Up in Smoke? Latin America and the Caribbean" is the third report from the Working Group on Climate Change and Development. It looks at the climate change impacts, how these affect the poor, and at the measures being taken by governments and society, to reduce the causes of climate change. The report is also available to download in Spanish & Portuguese.

NEF, ISBN 1 904882 12 9, Pb, 48pp, US\$18/£10, Free to non-oecd residents

To Purchase: <http://www.earthprint.com/go.htm?to=10017IIED>

English: <http://www.iied.org/pubs/display.php?o=10017IIED>

Spanish: <http://www.earthprint.com/go.htm?to=10017SIIED>

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## FORESTRY

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### **Working Together: Forest-linked small and medium enterprise associations and collective action**

*Gatekeeper 125*

Duncan Macqueen, Sharmistha Bose, Septi Bukula, Cornelius Kazoora, Sharon Ousman, Noemi Porro and Horst Weyerhaeuser

Small and medium forest enterprises (SMFEs) provide an opportunity to reduce poverty and sustain forests. But they face a number of critical bottlenecks to their development. Working together in associations can overcome such bottlenecks where few other support structures exist. Successful associations are the means to achieve three important development 'ends': Reducing transaction costs; Adapting strategically to new opportunities; and Lobbying for more supportive policies. This paper draws out some lessons on how and why associations work.

IIED, ISSN 1357 9258, Pb, 24pp

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## LAND

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### **Innovation in Securing Land Rights in Africa: Lessons from experience** (Briefing Paper)

Nazneen Kanji

Edited by: Camilla Toulmin, Diana Mitlin, Cecilia Tacoli, Lorenzo Cotula

This paper examines current trends in land tenure and sources of insecurity, and then moves on to describe innovative policy and practice to secure various kinds of tenure rights. Rather than providing a comprehensive review, it seeks to gather insights and lessons from seven case studies discussed at an IIED workshop, held in London on 25-26 May 2006. This briefing paper aims to inform current policy debates and initiatives to support land tenure security for low income, resource-poor and vulnerable groups who make up the majority of the population in Africa.

To receive a free hard copy, please email [drylands@iied.org](mailto:drylands@iied.org)

To View: <http://www.iied.org/pubs/display.php?o=12531IIED>

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## URBAN

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### **The Earthscan Reader in Rural-Urban Linkages**

Edited by Cecilia Tacoli

Half the world's population now lives in cities – eating up rural land, using rural resources and attracting more people from rural areas. This comprehensive Reader maps out and explores rural–urban linkages for the first time, covering the economic, livelihood, resource use and environmental threads that bind cities and rural areas together. Accessible introductions, figures, tables and further reading lists present key and hard to find literature – ideal for students in human geography and development practitioners alike.

Earthscan, ISBN 1844073165, Pb, 329pp, £22.95

To Purchase: <http://www.earthscan.co.uk>

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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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