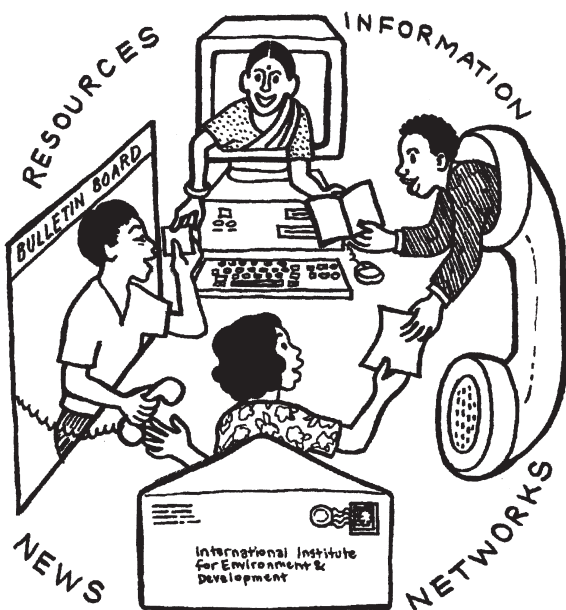


in touch

IN TOUCH



Welcome to the In Touch section of *Participatory Learning and Action*. Through these pages we hope to create a more participatory resource for the *Participatory Learning and Action* audience, to put you, as a reader, in touch with other readers. We want this section to be a key source of up-to-date information on training, publications, and networks. Your help is vital in keeping us all in touch about:

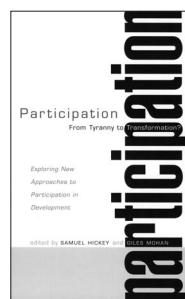
- **Networks.** Do you have links with recognised local, national or international networks for practitioners of participatory learning? If so, what does this network provide – training? newsletters? resource material/library? a forum for sharing experiences? Please tell us about the network and provide contact details for other readers.
- **Training.** Do you know of any forthcoming training events or courses in participatory methodologies? Are you a trainer yourself? Are you aware of any key

training materials that you would like to share with other trainers?

- **Publications.** Do you know of any key publications on participatory methodologies and their use? Have you (or has your organisation) produced any books, reports, or videos that you would like other readers to know about?
- **Electronic information.** Do you know of any electronic conferences or pages on the Internet which exchange or provide information on participatory methodologies?
- **Other information.** Perhaps you have ideas about other types of information that would be useful for this section. If so, please let us know.

Please send your responses to: *Participatory Learning and Action*, IIED, 3 Endsleigh Street, London WC1H 0DD, UK.
 Fax: + 44 20 7388 2826;
 Email: pla.notes@iied.org
Participatory Learning and Action is published in April, August, and December. Please submit material two months before the publication date.

Book reviews



Participation: From Tyranny to Transformation? Exploring new approaches to participation in development

● Editors: Samuel Hickey & Giles Mohan.
 Zed Books, UK, 2004

ISBN Hardback: 1 84277 460 3;
 Paperback: 1 84277 461 1

This book is a stimulating re-evaluation of participatory approaches to development and is the follow-up to Zed Book's earlier title, *Participation: The New Tyranny?* (Cooke & Kothari, 2001). Recently, it has become fashionable to dismiss participation as more rhetoric than substance, and subject to manipulation by those intent on pursuing their own agendas under the guise of community consent. This book seeks to rebut this simplistic conclusion. It describes and analyses new experiments in participation from a wide range of situations that show how, far from being a redundant and depoliticising concept, participation can be linked to genuinely transformative processes and outcomes – provided that a political and not a technocratic approach is taken. It examines the recent convergence between participatory development and participatory governance, and the role of all the main actors – the state, civil society and donor agencies. It takes contemporary advances in development theory into account and proposes theoretical as well as practical ways forward.

■ Available from Zed Books, 7 Cynthia

Street, London N1 9JF, UK. Tel: +44 20 7837 4014; Fax: +44 20 7833 3960; Website: www.zedbooks.co.uk

Research on the Current State of PRS Monitoring Systems IDS Discussion Paper 382

● Henry Lucas, David Evans and Katherine Pasteur with Robert Lloyd, 2005

This report reviews recent literature on the monitoring of Poverty Reduction Strategies. It discusses four challenging issues: institutional arrangements; the role of non-government organisations; implementation and intermediate output monitoring; and using results.

Among its findings is the acknowledgement of severe capacity constraints in most PRS countries. There is a particular need for expertise in data management, communications and marketing. The report highlights the difficulties encountered in building cooperation between ministries and agencies responsible for producing data. It looks at the role of civil society in government monitoring systems and the capacity, information access and influence required for it to perform this role. It also highlights the problematic nature of the chains of causality between policies and outcomes.

■ Available from: Communications Unit, Institute of Development Studies, University of Sussex, Brighton BN1 9RE, UK; Tel: +44 1273 678269; Fax: +44 1273 621202; Email: publications@ids.ac.uk Website: www.ids.ac.uk/ids.bookshop. Downloadable: www.ids.ac.uk/ids/bookshop/dp/dp382.pdf

Rethinking Participation: questions for civil society about the limits of participation in PRSPs

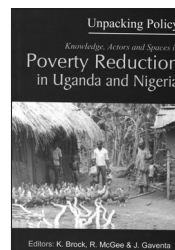
● ActionAid USA/ActionAid Uganda Discussion Paper, April 2004, Washington, DC

This ActionAid USA/ActionAid Uganda discussion paper would be of interest to civil society organisations (CSOs) that participate in public consultations for Poverty Reduction Strategy Papers (PRSPs). While acknowledging the benefits of CSO engagement in public PRSP consultations, the paper raises important questions for CSOs about the limitations and constraints of the consultations that have been documented over the four years of experience.

Part 1 of this discussion paper reviews the donor-driven nature of the PRSP process and explores the dynamic in which international creditors and donors essentially narrow the national policy-making space available in borrowing countries. Part 2 of this paper documents the track record of how CSOs have been precluded from publicly debating the current structural adjustment policies in the public consultations for PRSPs. Part 3 raises critical questions for consideration by national and international CSOs that continue to participate in the PRSP process. If the structural adjustment policies and possible alternatives can not be discussed or debated in government-led PRSP consultations, then CSOs should consider whether participation in other CSO-led public arenas might be a more useful strategy for advocating alternative development policies and mobilising domestic political support for them. The Annex offers a detailed list of 'forbidden debates' on key national economic policies that have so far been restricted from the agendas of government-led PRSP consultations. These are key development policy questions, which CSOs may find

useful for public discussions and debates.

■ Available to download: www.actionaidusa.org/pdf/rethinking_participation_april04.pdf
Hard copies are also available on request. Contact Rick Rowden, ActionAid USA, 1112 16th Street, NW, Suite 540, Washington DC 20036, USA. Tel: +1 202 835 1240; Fax: +1 202 835 1244; Email: rick.rowden@actionaid.org; website: www.actionaidusa.org



Unpacking Policy: knowledge, actors and spaces in poverty reduction in Uganda and Nigeria

● Editors: K. Brock, R. McGee and J. Gaventa

Fountain Publishers Ltd, Uganda, 2004
ISBN: 9970 02 428 0

This book examines the processes by which poverty reduction policies are made and implemented. It assesses the scope these policies provide for positive change in the lives of poor people. The contributors, a team of researchers based in the UK, Uganda and Nigeria, base their approach on three interconnected themes.

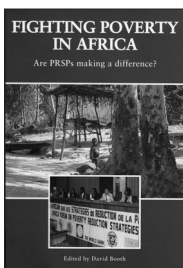
- **Knowledge:** the information on which policies are based. Who provides it, how is it used?
 - **Actors:** the people involved in policy-making and implementation and the recipients of these policies. Where does power lie? How can the poor be empowered?
 - **Spaces:** the opportunities available to actors at all levels and the constraints imposed on them by politics, culture and history. Who occupies the spaces and why? How can the poor gain access to them?
- These three aspects of policy-

Book reviews

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making are investigated at all levels, from central and local government, to civil society organisations, NGOs and the communities of the poor themselves. Although based on specific evidence from Uganda and Nigeria, the book's findings and conclusions have a much wider application and will be of interest to all those involved in poverty reduction.

■ Available from: Fountain Publishers Ltd, PO Box 488, Kampala, Uganda. Email: fountain@starcom.co.ug; Website: www.fountainpublishers.co.ug
UK distributor: African Books Collective Ltd, Unit 13, Kings Meadow, Ferry Hinksey Road, Oxford, OX2 0DP, UK. Tel: +44 1865 726686; Fax: +44 1865 793298; Website: www.africanbookscollective.com



Fighting Poverty in Africa: are PRSPs making a difference?

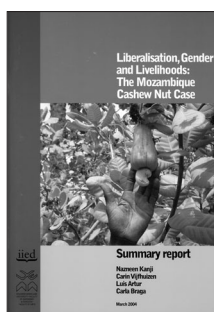
● Edited by David Booth, ODI Publications, UK, 2003
ISBN 0 85003 688 7

PRSPs have achieved a useful mainstreaming of anti-poverty efforts in national policy processes in Africa. Having a PRSP, based on a credible national policy process, has been made a condition for access to debt relief and other international assistance. Will this, as intended, result in greater commitment to poverty-reduction efforts on the part of national institutions and leaders? What evidence is there of a genuinely new approach to the fight against poverty?

This publication draws on the experience from seven countries in sub-Saharan Africa. These case studies reveal differences as well as

commonalities. Whether or not vicious circles of patrimonial politics, state weakness and ineffectual aid can be replaced with virtuous ones, based on greater national ownership of anti-poverty effort, is still uncertain. PRSPs add value to technocratic reforms in public management, by opening up new spaces for policy dialogue. But reforms remain vital, especially in regard to the budget. The hypothesis that PRSP processes can promote changes leading to more effective poverty reduction needs refinement, but remain plausible on balance.

■ Available from ODI Publications, Overseas Development Institute, 111 Westminster Bridge Road, London, SE1 7JD, UK. Tel: +44 20 7922 0300; Fax: +44 20 7922 0399; Email: publications@odi.org.uk; Website: www.odi.org.uk



Liberalisation, gender and livelihoods: the Mozambique cashew nut case

● Nazneen Kanji, Carin Vijfhuizen, Luis Artur, Carla

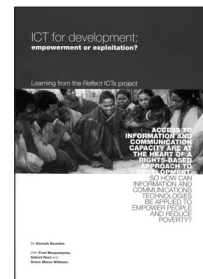
Braga.
IIED, London, UK, March 2004

Cashew makes an important contribution to rural livelihoods in Mozambique. It is a source of nutrition, income and employment. It offers particular value to women, who are active in producing, processing and marketing cashew throughout the country. Once one of the world's biggest producers of raw cashew and exporters of processed kernels, Mozambique is now a small world player.

Drawing on fieldwork, which took place in 2002 and 2004, this summary report explores how improvements in four main areas (cultivation, processing, marketing and trade) could enhance cashew's role in reducing poverty, improving food security and promoting gender equality in Mozambique.

The summary report is in both English and Portuguese. In addition to the summary report, there are also three working papers in English.

■ Available from Earthprint Ltd, Orders Department, PO Box 119, Stevenage, Hertfordshire, SG1 4TP, UK. Tel: + 44 1438 748111; Fax: +44 1438 748844; Email: orders@earthprint.co.uk; Website: www.earthprint.com. Also available online at www.iied.org/sarl/research/projects/t3proj01.html



ICT for Development: empowerment or exploitation? Learning from the Reflect ICTs project

● Hannah Beardon with Fred

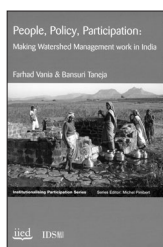
Munyampeta, Subrat Rout and Grace Maiso Williams. ActionAid Reflect, London, UK, 2004

Can information and communications technology (ICTs) enable people to actively challenge and change the power structures, which keep them poor and marginalised? If so, what are the conditions for this to happen? This report is based on the experiences of an ongoing participatory Reflect ICT4D (information and communications technology for development) project. It explores findings from pilot studies in India, Burundi and Uganda. It looks at information and communication for

empowerment, and the value of information. It explores who controls access to information, and whether simply **having** access to information is enough.

The report presents lessons learnt and recommendations and includes Reflect ICT resource sheets, such as what makes information useful, how to identify information gaps, and documenting local knowledge. It also has technology resource sheets, which look at different forms of ICTs and how groups can match these to their own information needs and priorities.

■ Available from: ActionAid, Hamlyn House, Macdonald Road, Archway, London, UK. Tel: +44 20 7561 7561; Fax: +44 20 7263 7599; Website: www.reflect-action.org



People, policy, participation: making watershed management work in India

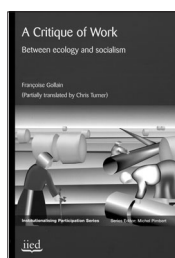
● Farhad Vania and Bansuri Taneja
Institutionalising

Participation Series, IIED, 2004
ISBN: 1 84369 539 1

This publication examines the evolution of policy-making in natural resource management and the emphasis on community control over planning, implementation and management of projects in the specific context of watersheds. It traces the major trends in policy over a decade and the incorporation of a participatory approach that was expected to help improve the state of natural resources as well as contribute towards poverty alleviation. However, as the report indicates, a well-drafted policy alone is sometimes not enough to achieve a complex set of objectives

on the ground. Organisation cultures need to be considered and reoriented, appropriate capacities need to be built, and funding needs to be sustained in order to make a meaningful difference. More importantly, local people have to be directly involved, trusted and enabled, their knowledge appreciated and their skills used.

Based on a case study of five districts in the state of Andhra Pradesh, and drawing on the wider experience of a number of government agencies, NGOs, researchers and donors, the report adds to the growing understanding of the importance of inclusive, democratic, transparent and people-centred policy-making.



A critique of work: between ecology and socialism

● Françoise Gollain
Institutionalising Participation Series, IIED, 2004
ISBN 1 84369 527 7

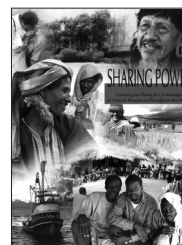
This critical essay identifies important structural changes needed for the institutionalisation of democratic participation and sustainable development. Participation in civic affairs and decision-making largely depends on transformations that allow people to reclaim control over time, space and resources. There is a need for economic arrangements that offer enough material security and time for citizens to exercise their right to participate in shaping policies for the public good and for ecological sustainability. People need to be empowered to think about what type of policies they want and to engage in deliberative form of democratic

decision-making. From this perspective the author puts forward a number of suggestions for the provision of material security and liberated time that might be valid for different regions of the globe.

This book was originally published in French in 2000. This English version has been an opportunity for the author to update it so as to reflect on the shifts that have occurred in the French debates over the future of work and in the wider social-political context.

■ Both titles available from Earthprint Ltd, Orders Department, PO Box 119, Stevenage, Hertfordshire, SG1 4TP, UK. Tel: + 441438 748111; Fax: +44 1438 748844; Email: orders@earthprint.co.uk; Website: www.earthprint.com.

These and other publications in the Institutionalising Participation series are also available in PDF format on the IIED website www.iied.org/sarl/pubs/institutpart.html



Sharing Power: Learning by doing in co-management of natural resources throughout the world

● Grazia Borrini-Feyerabend, Michel Pimbert, M. Taghi Farvar, Ashish Kothari and Yves Renard
IIED and IUCN/CEESP, 2004
ISBN: 1 84369 444 1

Negotiated agreements on the roles, rights, and responsibilities of different actors in a common enterprise are at the heart of decentralised governance. This book is the result of the authors' efforts to bring together accounts and reflections on a variety of partnerships for managing natural resources in different social and ecological contexts. At the heart of what is

Books & videos

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understood to be 'co-management' is the process of collective understanding and action by which communities and other social actors manage natural resources together, drawing from everyone's unique strength, vantage points and capacities.

The book is constructed in four parts. Part 1 looks at the historical context of natural resource management, at both traditional and 'modern' societies, as well as complex combinations of the old and new devised by communities as a response to current challenges. There is a discussion of issues of actors, entitlements and equity in natural resource management and a brief panorama of contemporary forms of co-management in different places and cultures. Part II analyses in some detail the components of co-management: the **process**, **institutions**, and **social context** that make it possible. Part III covers the form and functioning of co-management plans, agreements and organisations, with examples and discussion about what makes them effective and sustainable. Part IV is concerned with policy processes, contents, and instruments.

Whilst the book focuses on natural resource management (forests, wetlands, rangelands, biodiversity, water, drylands) and livelihoods, much of this publication is about governance (local, national and international). As such, the book should be of interest to a broad set of individuals and organisations working on public and private sector policy and practice.

■ Available from: Earthprint Ltd., Orders Department, PO Box 119, Stevenage, Hertfordshire, SG1 4TP, UK. Tel: +44 1438 748111; Fax: +44 1438 748844; Email: orders@earthprint.co.uk; Website: www.earthprint.com

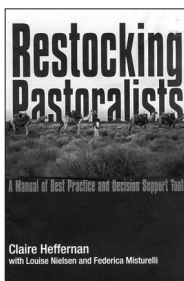
Strategies for Hope: what can I do? THE HIV/AIDS ministry and messages of Gideon Byamugisha

● Strategies For Hope Trust, 2004
Gideon Byamugisha

A 49-minute long video divided into 14 short sections on topics such as coping with stigma, why be tested for HIV, and challenges for the church. A 48-page facilitator's guide is also available to enable organisations and groups to explore in greater depth issues raised in the video. The video and guide are designed for use by church organisations and NGOs and community-based organisations involved in HIV and AIDS activities.

Gideon Byamugisha is an ordained minister in the Anglican Church and Canon of St Paul's Cathedral, Namirembe Diocese, Uganda. He works for World Vision International as Church and Faith based partnerships advisor on HIV/AIDS. In the video, Canon Gideon shares the lessons he has learnt from his journey with HIV and calls for more relevant and accurate HIV prevention messages.

■ Available from: Strategies For Hope Trust, 93 Divinity Road, Oxford, Oxon OX4 1LN, UK. Tel: +44 1865 723078; Fax: +44 1865 436069 Email: sfh@stratshope.org Website: www.stratshope.org



Restocking Pastoralists: a manual of best practice and decision support tools

● Claire Heffernan with Louise Nelson and Federica Misturelli

ITDG Publishing, UK
ISBN: 1 85339 589 7; paperback
£12.95/US\$23.95

A complete guide to successful restocking of pastoralists, and based on analysis of 85 restocking projects and 700 households. Restocking can be an effective means of poverty alleviation, which enables poor households to be incorporated back into the social and economic fabric of pastoralism. Nevertheless, at present the sustainability of projects is low.

Restocking Pastoralists responds to the previous failures of restocking projects by promoting a new client-driven approach. As such, it offers a holistic overview of the factors influencing the success of restocking as a means of relief, rehabilitation or development. A review of best practices in project design and implementation is also described. Equally, easily applied decision support tools have been created to assist practitioners in each stage of the restocking cycle ranging from community and client selection to monitoring and evaluation.

As well as its practical application, the book provides a comprehensive background to key concepts and literature. Use of the manual will enable practitioners and policy makers to improve the poverty alleviation outcomes of restocking projects and programmes.

■ Available from: ITDG Publishing, Bourton Hall, Bourton-on-Dunsmore, Rugby, Warwickshire, CV23 9QZ, UK. Tel: +44 1926 634501, Fax: +44 1926 634502; Email: orders@itpubs.org.uk; Website: www.itdgpublishing.org.uk/

Alliances Against Poverty: DFID's experience in Peru 2000–2005

● UK Department for International Development

Addressing the underlying causes of inequality and exclusion requires

donors to engage with political processes. Alliances involving state and society must be strengthened and donors must play an active role in them. This report from the Department of International Development (DFID) reviews the application of rights-based approaches through the concept of active citizenship in a middle-income country context, drawing on the Peruvian experience. For the first time it tackles questions of legitimacy, potential and accountability of donor engagement from a donor's perspective.

This book is for anyone interested in poverty reduction in a context characterised by inequality and exclusion. DFID has focused on the political dynamics of poverty in Peru in order to address the underlying causes of inequality and exclusion. This has meant engaging with political processes, supporting new spaces for dialogue and participation, and working with and building alliances between state, society and the international community.

There are many thought-provoking issues and lessons here for DFID and the international community, in Peru and beyond. In particular this book reflects on lessons around:

- addressing poor people as citizens, with rights and responsibilities, as a key means of tackling inequality and exclusion;
- working systemically with both the state and wider society, to achieve more inclusive development;
- investing in alliances between those individuals and institutions that are committed to pro-poor reform; and
- acting openly, transparently and accountably, in tackling this more political agenda.

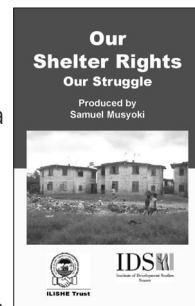
The book concludes by considering the lessons learnt for a donor in engaging in these very political processes.

■ Available from: DFID, 1 Palace Street, London SW1E 5HE, UK or DFID, Abercrombie House, Eaglesham Road, East Kilbride, Glasgow G75 8EA, UK. Tel: 0845 300 4100; Tel (from outside the UK): +44 1355 84 3132; Email: enquiry@dfid.gov.uk; Website: www.dfid.gov.uk
Also available in PDF format online: www.grc-exchange.org/docs/ds53.pdf

Our Shelter Rights, Our Struggle (video/CD-ROM)

● Institute of Development Studies and ILISHE Trust

Despite a thriving economy, the tranquil city of Mombasa in Kenya suffers from a chronic shortage of decent social housing. This 22-minute short documentary video



tells the story of how tenants from Mizizma, Tudor and Changamwe estates in Mombasa formed a joint shelter committee to demand better housing services from their local council. The video has been co-produced by the Institute of Development Studies and the ILISHE Trust, a non-governmental organisation based in Mombasa.

■ Available on video in both PAL and NTSC formats, and also on CD-ROM. Languages: English and Kiswahili versions. Please contact IDS for more information. Available from: Alwan Communications, PO Box 51841 00200, Nairobi, Kenya. Tel: +254 20 2730633; Fax: +254 20 2730632; Email: algo@africaonline.co.ke or from: Communications Unit, Institute of Development Studies (IDS), University of Sussex, Brighton BN1 9RE, UK; Tel: +44 1273 678269; Fax: +44 1273 621202; Email: publications@ids.ac.uk Website: www.ids.ac.uk/ids.bookshop

Events and training

International training on poverty reduction and civil society participation

4th – 13th May 2005

Institute of Development Policy and Management, Belgium/Institute of Development Policy and Management

This six-week course examines poverty reduction and civil society participation. The Institute of Development Policy and Management of the University of Antwerp (Belgium) will be holding its second International Training Programme on Poverty Reduction and Civil Society Participation from the 4th – 13th May 2005. The programme is sponsored by the Belgian government and targets senior staff from civil society organisations in countries where a

Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper (PRSP) has been produced. Government officials from these countries and staff from international NGOs and other donor organisations may ALSO apply. Candidates must be professionally involved in the topic of the training. Up to 15 participants from the South will receive a full scholarship that includes all travel and living allowances during the six weeks training.

■ For more information, visit

Events and training

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www.ua.ac.be/main.asp?c=*IOBPRSP or contact: VLIR Secretariat for Development Cooperation, Bolwerksquare 1A, B-1050 Brussel, Belgium. Tel: +32 2 289 05 58; Fax: +32 2 514 72 77; Email: scholarships@vlir.be

Environmental consensus and conflict resolution workshops
25th – 27th October 2005
School of Geosciences, University of Edinburgh, UK

Registration deadline:

3rd October 2005

Course fee: £395.

Discounted rate £295

(limited number volunteers only). Fee excludes accommodation and meals.

Assistance in finding accommodation can be provided.

This workshop provides a foundation in consensus-building. Public participation and mediation have previously been perceived as separate specialised disciplines. This course demonstrates how the skills of both disciplines can be combined to enable stakeholders to participate effectively in community planning or conflict resolution. It advocates a strategic approach to selecting the appropriate techniques to get effective participation.

At the end of the workshop participants should be able to analyse their own case studies and similar situations they may encounter in the future, using conflict resolution theory; apply consensus-building techniques to achieve effective participation in decision-making; contribute to the prevention or resolution of conflict while being an interested party; be aware of the principles used by neutral third parties in designing strategies to prevent or resolve conflicts and relate these



strategies to formal processes of decision-making; and recognise when outside expertise may be required to design a consultation exercise or to initiate mediation.

The training course is designed for decision makers actively involved in environmental or other public policy matters or with managing conflicts concerning natural resources.

Participatory appraisal workshop
5th – 9th September 2005
School of Geosciences, University of Edinburgh, UK

Course fee: £500. Discounted rate £335 (limited number volunteers only). Fee excludes accommodation and meals. Assistance in finding accommodation can be provided.

The term Participatory Appraisal (PA) describes a growing family of approaches and methods which enable local people to appraise and share their knowledge of life and local conditions, in order that they can analyse, plan, and act on these ideas. During the PA process, information comes from the local people, is shared between them and owned by them. Participatory Appraisal has been used in natural resource management, programmes for the poor, health and food security in rural and urban situations.

This intensive five-day workshop will concentrate on the practical application of PA, with three days spent on practical exercises and other methods for learning about PA. The remaining two days will include placements in Edinburgh and the surrounding area, and will provide an opportunity for a practical application of the approach. Placements will vary in their duration, location and host-group composition. The placements will include evening work; this is

necessary to accommodate host-group schedules. Examples of placements that have taken place on previous courses include community forestry projects, access to open spaces and paths, and health issues.

If the dates do not suit you, in-house workshops can be offered, tailored to meet the needs of individual organisations.

■ For more information about these two courses, please contact: Vikki Hilton, School of GeoSciences, University of Edinburgh, Darwin Building, Mayfield Road, Edinburgh EH9 3JU, UK. Tel: +44 131 650 6439; Fax +44 131 662 0478; Email:

vikki.hilton@ed.ac.uk; Website:

www.geos.ed.ac.uk/postgraduate/short/

Dealing with data from participatory studies: Bridging the gap between qualitative and quantitative methods

5th – 16th September 2005

The International and Rural Development Department (formerly AERDD) and the Statistical Services Centre, University of Reading, UK.

This workshop for PRA/PLA practitioners aims to help participants achieve an optimal combination of PRA tools and statistical principles for dealing with qualitative and quantitative information collected in participatory studies. The workshop will include sampling, designing tools for information management, data handling, and analysis techniques that are relevant for social mapping, trend analysis, ranking and scoring and seasonal calendars. Participants are encouraged to bring along datasets and analysis issues that concern them directly. Data analysis work will be based largely on MS Excel. Each participant will receive, free of charge, a copy of the add-in macros developed by the Statistical Services

Centre for data analysis. Participants do not need to have prior statistical knowledge to attend this workshop. However, basic computing skills will be needed.

■ For further information contact: Mrs. Lorna Turner, Statistical Services Centre, The University of Reading, Harry Pitt Building, Whiteknights Road, PO Box 240, Reading RG6 6FN, UK. Tel: +44 118 378 8025; Fax: +44 118 975 3169; Email: L.E.Turner@reading.ac.uk; Website: www.reading.ac.uk/ssc

Courses available from Global Learning Partners

Global Learning Partners (www.globalearning.com) teaches a participatory approach to learning design and facilitation called Dialogue Education. Dialogue Education is based on the work of Dr. Jane Vella, an academic and practitioner of adult education. Jane's contribution has been to synthesise the insights of theorists like Paulo Freire, Malcolm Knowles, Benjamin Bloom and Kurt Lewin into a set of principles and practices that have been applied in training, capacity building and public education settings around the world.

Learning to listen, learning to teach: an introduction to Dialogue Education

Global Learning Partners, Canada

Ottawa: 10th – 13th May 2005

Toronto: 11th – 14th October 2005

This course provides a foundation in the basics of curriculum design and facilitation using the dialogue education approach, with an emphasis on learning styles, group dynamics, and setting verifiable learning objectives. It includes two opportunities for the participants to co-design and co-teach two 40-minute practice teaching sessions and

receive feedback. Please see www.globalearning.com/LtL.htm for more details and for workshop locations and other dates available in the USA.

■ Please contact: Christina de Jong, Communications Director, Tel: +1416 516 5325; Fax: +1416 516 0579; Email: Cdejong@globalearning.com

Participating to create a different world: shaping our own future 14th – 17th August 2005 Third International Participatory Development (PD) Forum, hosted at University of Ottawa, Canada Workshop fees:

Entire conference (4 days): CDN\$450

Participants from developing countries: CDN\$375

Full-time students: CDN\$250

Daily rate (any day of your choice): CDN \$150

There is a discount for places booked before 15th June 2005

The third PD Forum aims to assess the present impetus and the future potential of participatory development practices in the achievement of Millennium Development Goals and in overcoming development challenges. This conference is for people to share their experiences and ideas, and to advocate for human-focused sustainable development. The conference aims to assess and reflect on actions taken since the last conference, examine how critiques voiced there have been addressed in practice, and develop future actions to promote and sustain participatory development.

The conference will feature popular theatre, keynote panels, capacity-building workshops, group discussions and debates, and include an open space technology process

that will facilitate the sharing of ideas, knowledge and experience on participatory practices. Participants will be given the option to attend the entire conference or any day of their choice at a daily rate.

The conference hopes to bring together a wide variety of participants including: community leaders and activists from women's organisations; indigenous people's organisations; labour and workers' movements; participatory development practitioners; academics and researchers; popular educators; students and youth; and decision- and policy makers including donors and government officials at all levels.

■ For details please contact: The Participatory Development Forum, 1404 Scott Street, Ottawa, Ontario, K1Y 4M8, Canada. Tel: +1 613 792-1006; Fax: +1 613 792-1206; Email: pdforum@pdforum.org; Website: www.pdforum.org

Mosaic.net international workshops Participatory development concepts, tools and application in PLA/PRA methods: planning, needs assessment, monitoring and evaluation

11th – 16th July 2005

Ottawa, Canada

This workshop focuses on core participatory concepts, tools and their application. This is an intensive six-day workshop set in the community to maximise learning, group interaction and networking. Topics include: the origins of participatory development; learning and application of PRA/PLA tools; the application of participation to project design, monitoring and evaluation; developing effective facilitation skills; building action plans; and team-building. Two-day community assignments proposed by community-based organisations in the

Events and training

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Ottawa region will allow participants to apply tools learnt in the workshop to real-life situations. This is also a great opportunity to network with other practitioners, NGOs, donors, and action researchers from all over the world.

Results-based Management, Appreciative Inquiry and Open Space Technology
Mosaic.net International
Ottawa, Canada
July 18-22, 2005

This new workshop introduces participants to Results-based Management, Appreciative Inquiry and Open Space Technology. Demonstrate the effectiveness of your programmes with Results-based Management. Master what is meant by results, develop programme/organisational plans, which are results-based and design performance monitoring systems based on indicators and participatory methods. You will learn how to apply gender analysis to your work. You will also expand your repertoire of tools to also learn about Appreciative Inquiry and Open Space and how they can be applied to your organisation, programme and/or project. These approaches are increasingly being used around the world to tap into new ways to do our work in ways that are more results-oriented, more appreciative and less problem-focused and more self-organised vs top down.

Participatory monitoring and evaluation
Mosaic.net International
Ottawa, Canada
25th – 30th July 2005

Participatory monitoring and evaluation (PM&E) involves a different approach to project monitoring and

evaluation by involving local people, project stakeholders, and development agencies deciding together about how to measure results and what actions should follow once this information has been collected and analysed. This intensive six-day experiential workshop is practically focused with daily excursions into the community and a three-day community assignment. Topics covered at the workshop include origins of PM&E; skills and attributes of a PM&E facilitator; learning PM&E tools; designing a monitoring and evaluation framework and actions plan; and much more.

All workshops organised by Mosaic are sensitive to issues of gender, ethnicity, race, class and sexuality and how these can influence outcomes and how we see the world if they are absent from our assumptions, direct participation, our analysis and conclusions.

If you are unable to attend the workshop, please contact Mosaic to custom design a workshop to suit the specific needs of your organisation.

■ For further information, please contact: Francoise Coupal, Mosaic.net International, Inc., 705 Roosevelt Avenue, Ottawa, Canada K2A 2A8. Tel: +(613) 728 1439; Fax: +(613) 728 1154 or visit: www.mosaic-net-intl.ca or email: wkshop05@mosaic-net-intl.ca to request a brochure.

Courses from ICA:UK

Group facilitation methods
ICA:UK

Cambridge: 18th – 19th May 2005
Manchester: 28th – 29th June 2005
Exeter: 7th – 8th July 2005
Course fee: £385 – £195

A structured introduction to the basic ToP Focused Conversation and Consensus Workshop methods, a system of practical methods that will

enable you, as a facilitator, to:

- actively involve all members of a group in decision-making;
- maximise individuals' commitment and engagement;
- build a team spirit that lasts;
- achieve consensus;
- articulate a shared vision; and
- make plans that really happen.

Group facilitation skills

ICA:UK

Birmingham: 26th April 2005

Manchester: 30th June 2005

Course fee: £195 – £105

Facilitating participatory processes goes beyond being able to design events and knowing which methods to use. There is a whole range of skills that a facilitator needs to bring into play both before, during and after the event itself in order to ensure that the process and the methods employed are effective:

- share actual experiences and challenges;
- explore ways of addressing these in future;
- reach a deeper understanding of what it means to facilitate; and
- experience the ToP Focused Conversation and Consensus Workshop methods.

■ Other courses and in-house service are also available. For more information, contact: Humey Saeed, ICA:UK, PO Box 171, Manchester, M15 5BE, UK. Tel: +44 161 232 8444; Email: admin@ica-uk.org.uk; Website: www.ica-uk.org.uk or top@ica-uk.org.uk

Courses from the International Institute for Rural Reconstruction (IIRR)

Rural development management (participatory approaches to development management)
2nd – 20th May 2005
Course fee: US\$2,500

This course is designed for senior and mid-level development managers and covers development issues, managing sustainable and people-centred development programmes, and managing development organisations. It addresses the challenges of participation in programme and project planning, implementation and evaluation. Participants are introduced to real-life experiences in rural development. The course is built around observations of community-level development efforts in the Philippines.

Managing learning in development organisations

8th – 19th August 2005

Course fee: US\$2,250

This course aims to address the purposive quest for learning within organisations that requires a mental set of seeing learning as an 'integral part of any development organisation's plan for sustainable development' (Korten and Klaus). This two-week course is designed based on careful needs assessment carried out among select leaders and managers representing government

and non-government organisations. Leaders, managers, trainers, development practitioners, donors, consulting organisations and Masters students will find this course valuable.

This course is intended to increase the learner's ability to create shared organisational development vision for collective learning, institute appropriate systems structures and facilitative leadership functions supportive of shared and collective learning within the organisation. The course will be based on the concept of 'experiential learning', the bridging of theory and practice. Participants are encouraged to reflect upon their own experiences with the inputs provided during the course using a framework for critical analysis and learning.

Participatory action research for community-based natural resources management

IIRR with the International Development Research Center (IDRC), Canada and the Regional Community Forestry Training Center (RECOFTC), Thailand
Dates to be announced later

Course fee: US\$2,630

This course is geared specifically for decision makers working on community-based natural resource management (CBNRM). Participants will have the opportunity to reflect upon and share experiences in CBNRM, explore principles of participatory action research (PAR), and experiment with a range of tools for examining multiple perspectives relevant to CBNRM with stakeholders in the field.

Participants critically analyse the PAR approach in relation to CBNRM and document their insights to add to the on-going discourse on PAR for CBNRM. Emphasis will be placed on providing a stimulating environment for sharing of ideas among participants, facilitators, and other resource people.

■ For registration or to get an application form, please contact: Education and Training, International Institute of Rural Reconstruction, Yen Center, Km 39, Silang, Cavite 4118, Philippines. Tel: +(63) 02 886-4385/86/87 or +(63 46) 414 2417; Local tel: 521; Fax: +(63 46) 414 2420; Email: education&training@iirr.org; Website: www.iirr.org



e-participation

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Bretton Woods Project: Critical voices on the World Bank and IMF

www.brettonwoodsproject.org

Created as an independent initiative by a group of British non-governmental organisations (NGOs) as a critical information-sharing resource, the Bretton Woods Project monitors projects, policy reforms and the overall management of Bretton Woods institutions (World Bank and International Monetary Fund, or IMF) with a special emphasis on environmental and social concerns.

This easy-to-use website is an information portal, providing details on forthcoming events, a newswire, related news articles and a bi-monthly digest, the Bretton Woods Update. There are back issues in PDF format online, reports and briefings (including on Poverty Reduction Strategies and related issues) and news and reports devoted to different regions. The events section is particularly useful for people and organisations that wish to keep track of important international Bretton Woods and other development agency meetings, conferences and seminars.

Community Development Resource Network (CDRN)

www.cdrn.or.ug

The CDRN Network is an independent non-governmental organisation that is dedicated to providing services to smaller, local NGOs in Uganda. Established in 1994 by a group of Uganda-based development professionals, CDRN seeks to promote meaningful, democratic and accountable civil society participation in development. Activities include providing training and capacity-building, advocacy work, and through research, influencing policy and

practice. The website includes CDRN's Newsletter, lists of publications (although not available in PDF format at the moment) and information about CDRN's activities, research and events.

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Poverty Reduction

www.undp.org/poverty/

The UNDP website's pages on poverty reduction include many online articles, briefings and notes. The site includes online information and resources covering topics such as gender and poverty, civil society and participation, aid coordination and pro-poor policies. There are also many online publications, including Policy Discussion Papers and practice notes, for example about gender equality, and poverty reduction and human rights. The site also includes links to the newly developed UNDP International Poverty Centre, containing up-to-date information on country progress for each of the eight Millennium Development goals as adopted at the UN Millennium Summit in 2000. A useful although large website which is relatively easy to navigate.

Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development: poverty reduction pages

www.oecd.org/dac

The Development Assistance Committee (DAC) is the principal body through which the OECD deals with issues related to cooperation with developing countries. These web pages contain information and resources relating to the OECD's work on poverty reduction. On the left-hand side of the home page are links to information, online resources,

news and events for different topics, covering areas such as aid effectiveness and donor practice, governance and capacity development, and information and communication technology. There is also a link to the new POVNET (DAC Poverty Network) website <http://webdomino1.oecd.org/COMNET/DCD/PovNet.nsf>. POVNET mostly contains information about past and forthcoming events, including notes on each meeting, as well as dedicated information about activities taking place around the agriculture, infrastructure and private sector task groups.

Whilst both websites contain a large amount of useful information and resources, they are large and sometimes difficult/confusing to navigate, and it can take some time and effort to find what you are looking for.

Eurodad: European Network on Debt and Development

www.eurodad.org

Eurodad is a network of 48 development non-governmental organisations from 15 European countries working for national economic and international financing policies that achieve poverty eradication and the empowerment of the poor. Eurodad's work on Poverty Reduction Policies focuses on International Financial Institutions' (IFI) strategies, currently the Poverty Reduction Strategy (PRS) approach, as an alternative to Structural Adjustment.

These website pages include regular reports on poverty reduction policies; regular monthly email bulletins on poverty reduction policies; and weekly debt and finance updates. The links along the left hand

side of the web pages lead to Eurodad's work areas and also themes such as structural adjustment, human rights, private sector development and also Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper (PRSP) updates. For each section, there are links to related articles and news listed in the right hand column. Each article is briefly summarised and has links to a full PDF at the bottom of the page. This website has a clear and simple format and is easy to use. You can find summaries of Eurodad's work on Poverty Reduction Policies here: www.eurodad.org/workareas/default.aspx?id=74

Eldis Poverty pages: PRSP watching

www.eldis.org/poverty/prsp.htm

The Eldis gateway to development information website hosts a section on poverty-related information and organisations, including a section dedicated to articles, latest research and news relating to poverty reduction strategies. In addition, it also has links to key websites, discussion forums and news websites. Articles range from assessing the PRSP approach to poverty reduction, the role of gender, and poverty profiles to participatory monitoring of PRS and pro-poor expenditure.

Social Enterprise Development Foundation of West Africa (SEND)

www.sendfoundation.org

The SEND Foundation aims to promote livelihood security of resource-poor communities in West Africa through micro-finance, organisational development, participatory methods, gender training and reproductive health and HIV/AIDs education. Here you can find information about SEND's projects and programmes,

such as the Ghana HIPC project; information about services offered, such as participatory training, monitoring and evaluation; news articles related to SEND's work; and assessment reports. There is also a section dedicated to news about the Ghana HIPC Watch project. This is particularly useful for anyone following the progress of this project. The website is clearly laid out and simple to use.

GDN/BLDS Document Delivery Service

www.gdnet.org/online_services/journals/gdn_journal_services/document_delivery/

The Global Development Network (GDN) and the British Library of Development Studies (BLDS) now offer a new Document Delivery Service. The service will provide research institutes in the South with access to Europe's largest research collection on economic and social change in developing countries. It has over 1000 journals, 4000 serials and over 80,000 monographs concerned specifically with development. A particular strength of the BLDS collection is its extensive coverage of Southern publications, particularly from Africa and South and East Asia. The collection represents a unique source of primary information, including grey literature, much of which is not digitally available.

Aimed at knowledge professionals within research institutes, it allows them to search the BLDS online catalogue and request a photocopy of any article or document chapter to be mailed to them at no cost. Only GDN Organisation Contacts are eligible for free document delivery so please ensure that you are registered as your organisation's GDN contact before registering for the document service.

Civil Society for Poverty Reduction (CSPR) Zambia

www.cspr.org.zm/

CSPR is a Civil Society network that came together in October 2000 and had the main objective of ensuring that civil society from different backgrounds and in diverse locations effectively participates in the formulation of Zambia's Poverty Reduction Strategy Papers (PRSP). This website includes a round up of latest news articles and press releases and reports from CSPR's work, such as capacity-building, training needs assessments and participatory poverty monitoring, information and advocacy, and monitoring and evaluation. Most reports are available in PDF or Word format. The site also includes information about regional groups, and local and international networks and contacts. There are also PDF versions of CSPR's Poverty Eradication newsletter. A useful and easy to navigate website.

World Bank online participation and civic engagement pages

www.worldbank.org/participation/

This website is definitely a useful resource but must be browsed with care. Within the first few clicks, most of the resources listed appear to come from development banks or bilaterals. There is very little drawing upon actual/real civil society experiences. Whilst it can be very difficult to find quality publications that draw on such experiences because there are few, looking at this site should be complemented by searches on other international NGO sites (e.g. Eurodad, Trócaire).

In so far as providing practical steps forward for CSOs trying to engage strategically in PRSP processes, the site is not particularly

e-participation

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useful (i.e. in the toolkits and manual section, the two more attractive manuals listed under the 'civic engagement' subtitle are inaccessible, the others are World Bank documents). That is not to say that there are not other good resources online here – for example, from the Institute for Development Studies – but they can be difficult to find.

The site is a good place to find basic background information and to understand where the World Bank and the other more powerful 'discourers' are at vis-à-vis participation and civic engagement in the PRS processes, and with a bit of searching some (but by no means sufficient!) 'how to' recommendations could be found.

Thanks to Alexandra Hughes for this review.

Trócaire

www.trocaire.org/policyandadvocacy/policyandadvocacyhome.htm

Trócaire is the official overseas development agency of the Catholic

Church in Ireland. In the policy and advocacy section of their website, you can find many articles and reports relating to HIPC debt relief and PRSP strategies, overseas aid and trade. Each document is summarised with a link to a full-text PDF document.

Learning and teaching for transformation

www.pnet.ids.ac.uk/

Learning and Teaching for Transformation is a network hosted by the Participation Group at the Institute of Development Studies (IDS), which aims to enhance the capacity of education institutions to develop and deliver effective programmes that contribute to a wider transformation of individuals, institutions and society. The initiative has focused mainly on the context of institutions of higher learning, although the ideas that have emerged have wider implications across the whole education system.

The network supports dialogue, participation, collaboration and community development across and within all levels of the education system. It advocates forms of learning that are grounded in the principles and practices of participatory development and action research, and seeks to encourage these through the sharing and generation of both theory and practice.

The website includes:

- recent developments, discussions and issues, with an interactive noticeboard for news and events;
- global e-dialogue about teaching, learning, institutions, power, curriculum and change;
- resources and cross-cutting thematic summaries;
- case studies and pictures from partner organisations.

To find out more, click on 'topic guides' and follow the 'learning' links. There is lots of recommended reading for each section free to read online.

RCPLA Network

In this section, we aim to update readers on activities of the **Resource Centres for Participatory Learning and Action Network (RCPLA) Network** (www.rcpla.org) and its members. RCPLA is a diverse, international network of 17 national-level organisations which brings together development practitioners from around the globe. It was formally established in 1997 to promote the use of participatory approaches to development. The network is dedicated to capturing and disseminating development perspectives from the South. For more information please contact the RCPLA Network Steering Group:

RCPLA Coordination: Tom Thomas (Network Coordinator), Director, Institute for Participatory Practices (Praxis), S-75 South Extension, Part II, New Delhi, India 110 049. Tel/Fax: +91 11 5164 2348 to 51; Email: tomt@praxisindia.org or catherinek@praxisindia.org

Janet Boston, Director of Communications, Institute for Environment & Development (IIED), 3 Endsleigh Street, London WC1H 0DD, UK. Tel: +44 20 7388 2117; Email: janet.boston@iied.org; Website: www.iied.org

Asian Region: Jayatissa Samaranayake, Institute for Participatory Interaction in Development (IPID), 591 Havelock Road, Colombo 06, Sri Lanka. Tel: +94 1 555521; Tel/Fax: +94 1 587361; Email: ipidc@panlanka.net

West Africa Region: Awa Faly Ba, IIED Programme Sahel, Point E, Rue 6 X A, B.P. 5579, Dakar, Sénégal. Tel: +221 824 4417; Fax: +221 824 4413; Email: awafba@sentoo.sn

European Region: Jane Stevens, Participation Group, Institute of Development Studies (IDS), University of Sussex, Brighton BN1 9RE, UK. Tel: + 44 1273 678690; Fax: + 44 1273 21202; Email: participation@ids.ac.uk; Participation group website: www.ids.ac.uk/ids/particip

Latin American Region: Jordi Surkin Beneria, Grupo Nacional de Trabajo para la Participacion, Calle Padre Musani #40, Santa Cruz, Bolivia. Tel/fax: +591 3 337 607; Email: jbeneria@cotas.com.bo; Website: www.gntparticipa.org

North Africa & Middle East Region: Ali Mokhtar, Center for Development Services (CDS), 4 Ahmed Pasha Street, Citibank Building, Garden City, Cairo, Egypt. Tel: +20 2 795 7558; Fax: +20 2 794 7278; Email: cds.lrc@neareast.org; Website: www.neareast.org/explore/cds/index.htm

Southern and Eastern Africa Region: Eliud Wakwabubi, Participatory Methodologies Forum of Kenya (PAMFORK), Jabavu Road, PCEA Jitegemea Flats, Flat No. D3, P.O. Box 2645, KNH Post Office, Nairobi, Kenya. Tel/Fax: +254 2 716609; Email: pamfork@nbnet.co.ke

News from the RCPLA coordinator

RCPLA is still sponsoring a few writeshops for its members. The latest was in Bolivia, which focused on 'Experiences with Promoting People's Participation in Local Governance in Bolivia, Peru, Ecuador and Brazil.' A number of Latin American practitioners were brought together and shared their experiences in local governance and shared some lessons learnt from these experiences.

In March, we held an event for the *Communication for Change* initiative. This was an India-level consultation exploring the 'Democratisation of the Media' with a number of different prominent people in the field of media and

communication. This India-level consultation will help us establish the theoretical context of democratising global media spaces and lead into our international workshop for *Communication for Change* that will be held in mid-May. Look out for more information on this in the next issue.

News from the Institute for Development Studies

The Institute for Development Studies (IDS) are pleased to announce the launch of their new webpage, *Learning and Teaching for Transformation*.

Learning and Teaching for Transformation is a network hosted by the Participation Group at the Institute of Development Studies

(IDS). It aims to enhance the capacity of education institutions to develop and deliver effective programmes that contribute to a wider transformation of individuals, institutions and society. The initiative has focused mainly on the context of institutions of higher learning, although the ideas that have emerged have wider implications across the whole education system.

The network supports dialogue, participation, collaboration and community development across and within all levels of the education system. It advocates forms of learning that are grounded in the principles and practices of participatory development and action research, and seeks to encourage these through the sharing and generation of both theory and practice.

RCPLA Network

RCPLA NETWORK

The webspace draws together all the elements on the LTT initiative so far, some of which were published in *PLA Notes 48: Learning and teaching participation* (December 2003). The LTT website includes:

- recent developments, discussions and issues, with an interactive notice board for news and events;
- global e-dialogue about teaching, learning, institutions, power, curriculum and change;
- resources and cross-cutting thematic summaries; and
- case studies and pictures from partner organisations.

To view, visit www.pnet.ids.ac.uk/ then click on the 'topic guides' and follow the 'learning' links. For more information, you can also email: LTT@ids.ac.uk

News from IIED

IIED welcomes Mary Robinson as Chair of its Board of Trustees

Mary Robinson, former President of Ireland and United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, was appointed the new Chair of IIED's Board of Trustees in January 2005. Mary Robinson follows Jan Pronk, who resigned as Chair following his appointment by Secretary General Kofi Annan as UN Special Envoy to Sudan.

In her seven years as President of Ireland, Mary Robinson received international recognition for her work bridging partnerships with

Small farmers from Andhra Pradesh at the workshop



developing countries and highlighting the needs of the disadvantaged. From 1997-2002, she served as a United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights. She is currently director of the Ethical Globalization Initiative (EGI), a new project to integrate concepts of human rights, gender sensitivity and enhanced accountability into efforts to address global challenges and governance shortcomings. Visit www.eginitiative.org for more information on the EGI.

The Farmer Exchange for Mutual Learning workshop

This international learning workshop took place in a rural setting in Medak District (Andhra Pradesh, India) from 14th-28th February 2005 and was attended by Michel Pimbert from IIED. Small farmers from Indonesia and India, nomadic pastoralists from Iran and indigenous peoples from Peru were centre stage in this international event, with outside professionals playing support and facilitating roles. This was a timely and exciting opportunity for all

Nomadic pastoralists from Iran at the workshop



present to share experiences and lessons learnt from the participatory action research which partners in India (DDS), Peru (ANDES), Iran (CENESTA) and Indonesia (FIELD) have been doing with IIED on 'Sustaining Local Food Systems, Agricultural Biodiversity & Livelihoods.' (see www.diversefoodsystems.org). A very rich and exciting menu of verbal presentations, songs, video films, power point presentations, and exhibits/displays were used by participants to communicate what is emerging from this collaborative project in Peru, India, Iran and Indonesia. Holistic and experiential learning in a convivial atmosphere! A joyful expression of our shared humanity and a search for unity in diversity.

This was all about peoples' voice, knowledge, priorities and struggles to sustain diverse local ecologies, culture and food systems – on their own terms. The soon to be published proceedings of this *Farmer Exchange for Mutual Learning* event will be reviewed in a future issue of *Participatory Learning and Action*.



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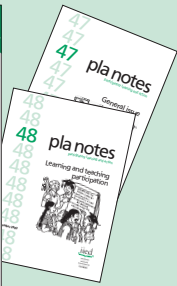
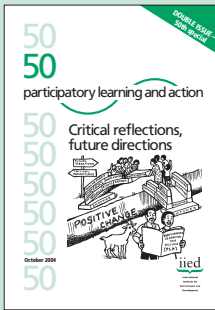
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RRA Notes 16:	July	1992	US\$18.00	6085 IIED	Applications for health	<input type="checkbox"/>
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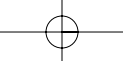
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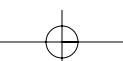
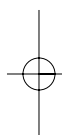
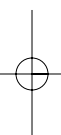
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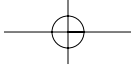
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