



Robert Chambers at the DevNet Conference 2006

# Recent additions to the Dev-Zone Library

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**Dev-Zone** is a programme of the Development Resource Centre—a not-for-profit, non-governmental organisation governed by a charitable trust. Dev-Zone provides information services on international development and global issues to the development sector and the general public. We are core funded by NZAID Nga Hoe Tuputupu-mai-tawhiti, a semi autonomous body in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade.

Dev-Zone is managed by Maria McMillan. Marion Lienert coordinates the Library with the assistance of Shirley Meyers. Bonnie Flaws, Eli Chilsholm and Terence Wood are information officers. Together the team offer a wealth of expertise and experience in development and information management. One of our aims is to ensure the voices of the most vulnerable people get heard.

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## **Agriculture**

### **The Eighth plague : West Africa's locust invasion (CD ROM)**

Geneva : Integrated Regional Information Networks (IRIN), 2004

During the course of 2004, several West African countries fell victim to the largest locust invasion in 15 years. In Senegal farmers watched their livelihoods disappear overnight. Millions of hectares of crops and pasture were destroyed by giant swarms of insects. The United Nations Food and Agriculture Organisation issued a warning about the locusts in 2003 but international donors did not respond. By October 2004, ten different West and North African countries were affected - This CD and documentary looks at the origins of the current catastrophe, its devastating consequences for the affected populations and possible solutions to prevent a disaster in the future.

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**Not for sale (DVD)** / Dworkin, Mark (Director). Young, Melissa (Director).

Oley, PA : Bullfrog Films, 2002

This is an engaging documentary that explores some little known aspects of global trade agreements like the WTO. Patents and other intellectual property rights are expanding what corporations can own and control -- from things like machines, to knowledge and even living creatures. What does this mean for the environment, our food supply, and human rights? This film looks at farmers, indigenous people, and anti-globalization activists who oppose patents on life and advocate for a world where life is not a commodity but something to be treasured.

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## **Aid**

**Relationships for aid** / Eyben, Rosalind (ed).

London : Earthscan, 2006

International aid is about much more than money. The UN Millennium Development Goals and major events like Live 8 have focused the world spotlight on issues of poverty relief and aid like never before but have not focused on the quality of relationships that can make aid succeed or fail. This book, authored by an internationally renowned group of aid practitioners reveals the contradictions and challenges.

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## **Children**

**Building trust in immunization - partnering with religious leaders and groups**

New York : United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), 2004

By approaching religious groups with an informed respect for their views, communication and health officers can often gain the trust needed to garner their support.

[http://www.unicef.org/ceecis/building\\_trust\\_immunization.pdf](http://www.unicef.org/ceecis/building_trust_immunization.pdf)

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**From faith to action : strengthening family and community care for orphans and vulnerable children in Sub-Saharan Africa : A Resource for Faith-Based Groups and Donors Seeking to Help Children and Families Affected by HIV/AIDS/**

Olson, Kerry. Knight, Zanele Sibanda. Foste, Geoff.  
Santa Cruz, CA : Firelight Foundation, 2006

This publication highlights the programs and strategies that help ensure that children remain in family care. It describes organizations that are doing this important work, especially those established by people of faith in the areas of Sub-Saharan Africa that are hardest hit by HIV/AIDS. All major religions share common ground in areas of social concern, upholding values such as respect for life, the importance of family and community, and concern for the poor and underprivileged. Faced with children who are going hungry, without adequate clothing or shelter, out of school, and grieving, religious and community members are taking action. One of the greatest challenges faced by faith-based and community groups serving children on the ground in Africa is that their work is under-recognized and under-funded. It is the intent of this report to make the breadth, depth, and effectiveness of these local groups come to life. The authors offer this as a guide to faith-based organizations, congregations, and other groups and individuals seeking to contribute their resources to support the needs of children made vulnerable by HIV/AIDS.

<http://www.firelightfoundation.org/FtA%20-%20Africa%20ready.pdf>

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## **Commodities**

**Bitter-sweet harvest : Afghanistan's new war (CD Rom)**

Geneva : Integrated Regional Information Networks (IRIN), 2004

This film explains why farmers in Afghanistan are drawn to poppy cultivation and highlights the devastating effects of drug trafficking. More than two years after the fall of the Taliban regime, as Afghanistan works to rebuild itself, poppy cultivation continues to prove a major obstacle in the country's quest for peace and stability.

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**Who buys fairtrade products and why? Characteristics of consumers of fairtrade in Colchester, UK / O'Sullivan, Siobhan.**

*Development education journal vol 13.1 October 2006*

The author shares the results of her research, which could usefully inform the approaches of development education practitioners to community education on fair trade and trade justice.

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## **Development**

**Building effective states : taking a citizens' perspective / Eyben, Rosalind;**

Ladbury, Sarah. Brighton

Development Research Centre on Citizenship, Participation and Accountability,  
2006

Lessons learned from the five-year research programme on work conducted in 12 developing countries. Target readers for this publication are those concerned with

the policies and practice of international aid. Increasingly donors have picked up the challenge of building effective states as critical for effective aid that reduces poverty and helps achieve the Millennium Development Goals.

<http://www.ids.ac.uk/ids/particip/information/drccitizensperspective%5B1%5D.pdf>

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**Community-led total sanitation (CLTS) information and resources September 2006** (CD Rom)

Brighton : Livihoods Connect, IDS, 2006

Community Led Total Sanitation (CLTS) is an innovative methodology for mobilising communities to completely eliminate open defecation. CLTS is characterised by participatory facilitation, community analysis and action, and no hardware subsidy. In a matter of often just weeks, communities mobilise themselves to construct latrines and achieve total sanitation. This CD-ROM contains resources and describes the project "Going to scale: the future of community-led sanitation".

[http://www.livihoods.org/hot\\_topics/CLTS.html](http://www.livihoods.org/hot_topics/CLTS.html)

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**Deadly catch : Lake Victoria's AIDS crisis (DVD)**

Rami, Hugo (Producer). Gough, David (Producer). Geneva : Integrated Regional Information Networks (IRIN), 2005

More than 20 years since the discovery of the AIDS virus, and despite huge advances in the prevention and treatment of the disease, AIDS is still decimating communities across Africa. This is the story of one such community. Seventy percent of Kenyan fisherman in this community on Lake Victoria have tested positive for HIV because of activities in this region. The distribution and dispatching of the fish from the catch is managed by the women. The relationship between the women and young girls and the fishermen is often sexual in nature and called the "joboya" system. The problem of the pandemic is magnified by false beliefs and cultural practices such as polygamy and even an experienced HIV/AIDS educator has problems convincing the people that AIDS can be prevented.

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**Fifty key thinkers on development** / Simon, David (ed).

London : Routledge, 2006

The essential guide to the world's most influential development thinkers, this authoritative text presents a unique guide to the lives and ideas of leading contributors to the contested terrain of development studies.

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**From North to South : Sudan's displaced head home (DVD)**/ Greste, Peter.

Geneva : Integrated Regional Information Networks (IRIN), 2006

When Sudan's warring factions signed the Comprehensive Peace Agreement in January 2005, millions of southerners displaced by the war started to plan their long journey home. But a stark reality awaits these people as they return to a region devoid of services and utterly devastated by war. The Northerners slow return to the South is challenging for large families. Promises of aid are not being honoured by donors and villages that were once home have been destroyed in the conflict.

Assistance by the United Nations Return & Reintegration Unit ensures some food aid is given until the displaced people can make their own livelihoods.

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**A Good place to start : the IDS Knowledge Services guide to finding development information online** / Hurst, Gabrielle (ed). Brown, Cheryl (ed). Brighton : IDS Knowledge Services, 2006

Drawing on the collective expertise of staff at the Institute of Development Studies (IDS) Knowledge Services, this guide will point you to some good places to start your search on over 30 development themes. You'll find a list of websites on each topic, selected by people who have spent countless hours searching the Internet for the latest development information to share with their readers. And if these starting points inspire you to cast your net further, this guide includes some handy hints on how to improve your search results.

<http://www.ids.ac.uk/ids/info/docs/Good%20place%20to%20start.v14.pdf>

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**Insights into participatory video : a handbook for the field** / Lunch, Nick. Lunch, Chris.

Oxford, UK : Insight, 2006

This handbook is a practical guide to setting up and running participatory (PV) projects anywhere in the world. PV is a tool for positive social change; it empowers the marginalised and it encourages individuals to take control of their destinies. This book gives the nuts and bolts of PV and helpful tips for the facilitators; from how to set up a new project, to key games and activities to use. The authors draw on two decades of experience of facilitating PV projects. A selection of participatory videos and a training film are included in the accompanying CD-ROM.

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**Learning for social change - exploring concepts, methods and practice**

Taylor, Peter. Deak, Andrew. Pettit, Jethro. Vogel, Isabel.

Sussex : Institute of Development Studies, 2006

This document is an outcome of a dialogue on facilitating learning for social change (FLASC) which took place through e-fora and an international workshop in 2006.

<http://www.ids.ac.uk/ids/particip/information/FLASC.pdf>

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**Learning from poor people's experience: immersions** / Irvine, Renwick.

Chambers, Robert. Eyben, Rosalind.

Sussex, Brighton : Institute of Development Studies (IDS), 2004

'Immersion' are a practical means for development professionals to learn directly about the lives of the people their organisations are there to help. This paper draws on the practice and experience of immersions in developing countries, particularly those arranged for staff from development agencies, diplomats or visiting politicians. The process described has broad applicability and the authors hope this will also be a useful, practical guide for all development professionals, including public officials and staff of voluntary agencies, who seek experiential and reflective learning through

engagement with the realities of poor and marginalised people.  
<http://www.livelihoods.org/lessons/docs/IMMERSIONS2.pdf>

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**Making change happen : citizen engagement and global economic power**

Washington, DC : Just Associates, 2005

In the last decade, increased openings for civil society participation in economic policy processes have presented opportunities for economic justice advocates to make their case in a wide array of spaces—consultations on Poverty Reduction Strategies, WTO and regional trade negotiations, IFI risk assessment panels, and more. Campaigners and researchers share their experiences and questions on what campaign experiences tell us for connecting local realities and citizens to global economic decision-making processes.

[http://www.justassociates.org/publications\\_files/MCH2.pdf](http://www.justassociates.org/publications_files/MCH2.pdf)

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**Making change happen : power : concepts for revisioning power for justice, equality and peace citizen engagement and global economic power**

Washington, DC : Just Associates, 2005

This paper provides an examination of the complexities of power and opportunities for constructing and transforming power. This edition looks at concepts and ways of understanding power with the hope of contributing to debates on how to strengthen analysis, action and movement building. Building on this conceptual basis and debate, a second companion piece will focus on empowerment and action strategies.

[http://www.justassociates.org/index\\_files/MCH3red.pdf](http://www.justassociates.org/index_files/MCH3red.pdf)

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**Practical guide to triggering community-led total sanitation (CLTS) / Kar, Kamal.**

Brighton, UK : Institute of Development Studies (IDS), 2005

This is a practical guide for use by frontline extension staff, based on the experience of facilitating Community-Led Total Sanitation (CLTS) in at least eight different countries in South and South East Asia and in East Africa

<http://www.ids.ac.uk/ids/bookshop/wp/Wp257%20pg.pdf>

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**Sahel: a prisoner of starvation? A case study of the 2005 food crisis in Niger /**

Mousseau, Frederic. Mittal, Anuradha.

Oakland, California, USA : Oakland Institute, 2006

The 2005 food crisis in Niger has been blamed on locust invasion and drought. Yet Niger did not face an exceptional drop in production in the 2004-05 agricultural year. The 2005 crisis cannot be singled out as an isolated episode in Niger's history as the country faces a chronic nutritional emergency. According to Action against Hunger, a relief organisation in Niger, the country experiences food crises in a cyclical and structural manner with levels of vulnerability and malnutrition increasing year after year.

<http://www.oaklandinstitute.org/pdfs/sahel.pdf>

**Somalia : a state of need (DVD)** / Hanan, Lucy (Producer).  
Geneva : Integrated Regional Information Networks (IRIN), 2006

After years of conflict and isolation, Somalia finds itself once more at the brink. Much of the country is now under the control of the Union of Islamic Courts, but will Somalia's new actor bring security and development or set it on the path to regional conflict? There is now safe delivery of food aid through the ports of Mogadishu with the new authority providing a framework for some security. However years of displacement of people living in the outskirts of Mogadishu without basic services - especially health and education have left their scars. Problems now include droughts and floods and the threat of conflict with Ethiopia forcing some people to flee to Kenya. Somalia remains a nation without a state.  
<http://www.irinnews.org/film/>

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**Which knowledge? Whose reality? An overview of knowledge used in the development sector** / Powell, Mike.

*Development in practice vol 16:6 November 2006*

This article provides an overview of issues relating to the use of knowledge by development organisations. It starts by exploring the various definitions of knowledge that exist in a world of many cultures and intellectual traditions, and the role of language. It considers their relationship with each other and with the many and varied 'informational developments' – information-related changes in work, culture, organisations, and technology across the world. It argues that these issues pose a number of fundamental strategic challenges to the development sector. The second part considers where, in practice, development organisations get their information and knowledge from and identifies problems with many of the channels used. Its conclusion is that most current practice consistently militates against the type of relationship and type of communication that are essential if development policy and practice is to be anything other than an imposition of external ideas, however well intentioned.

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## **Disasters**

**Aftershock : rebuilding after the earthquake (DVD)**

Geneva : Integrated Regional Information Networks (IRIN), 2006

At 08.52 am on October 8th 2005 a massive earthquake struck northern Pakistan. An estimated 73,000 people lost their lives and more than two million lost their homes. Six months after the quake, the Pakistani authorities began to move the displaced out of winter camps and back to their villages so that they can attempt to start rebuilding their lives. But with houses, schools and infrastructure all but destroyed, the challenges look set to continue for decades to come.  
<http://www.irinnews.org/film/>

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**Disasters, Disability and Technology** / Hans, Ashok; Mohanty, Reena.

*Development (SID) vol 49:4 December 2006*

The authors appeal for international standards to be set for disability in disaster management and response. They assess technologies available during disasters and

argue that excluding the disabled out of disaster policies and plans and technology usage is a violation of their basic human rights.

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## **Education**

**Mainstreaming conflict: toward crises-preventive education assistance** /Seitz, Klaus

*Development education journal vol 13.1 October 2006*

The author warns of the potential for education to contribute to societal conflict rather than to foster peace and suggests principles and guidelines for a conflict-sensitive education system.

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## **Energy**

**Charcoal making from agricultural residues** / Ganesan, S.; Nema, B.P.

*Boiling point no. 52, 2006*

The process described in this article is one that uses the heat given off from wood or residues as it becomes charcoal to make the charcoal itself. This process is developed from an age-old method of making charcoal in a pit or, more recently using metal or masonry chambers (kilns). The article describes the making of a kiln, loading and firing the kiln, and converting the charcoal to briquettes.

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**Nigeria: why the troubles in the Niger Delta** / Barrett, Ejiroghene

*New African November 2006 no. 456*

Over the years, the policy of neglect fostered by a revenue-sharing formula that has shortchanged the inhabitants of the Niger Delta from where Nigeria produces most of its oil, has breed serious discontent within the region. This inequality has encouraged leaders in the area to organise resistance to the government and the oil companies, and until major concessions are made, the confrontations will not end. The author looks at the background of this conflict where the demands of the people in the Niger-Delta have been brought to the fore of debates on socio-economic reforms as these affect minority groups all over the nation.

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**Oil and violence in Sudan : drilling, poverty and death in Upper Nile State** /

Wesselink, Egbert; Weller, Evelien.

*Multinational monitor May/June 2006*

The discovery of oil in a developing country can be a blessing or a curse. In Sudan's case, oil exploration and development has helped to fuel vicious warfare. The Northern Upper Nile has suffered the same pattern of oil-related death, destruction and displacement as Western Upper Nile. Most displaced people have little knowledge of the signing of the Sudan Comprehensive Peace Agreement and conditions for impoverished citizens have improved minimally.

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**Pollution factors affecting health and safety in rural Zimbabwe** / Muchawaya, Davidzo.

*Boiling point no. 52, 2006*

Households in developing countries are characterised by use of inefficient and polluting energy sources. However the implications of such on health and safety of family members is rarely explored. This article is based on qualitative fieldwork done by the author in rural areas of Zimbabwe Sep 2005-Jan 2006 in order to examine energy consumption patterns. The rationale behind the study was to find out knowledge, attitude, behaviour and practice of the rural inhabitants. The article concludes with recommendations for raising awareness on indoor air pollution in order to prevent and mitigate the negative effects on health of the rural people.

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**Powerdown: options and actions for a post-carbon world**

Heinberg, Richard. Canada : New Society Publishers, 2004

Resource depletion and population pressures are about to catch up with us, and no one is prepared. The political elites, especially in the US, are incapable of dealing with the situation and have in mind a punishing game of "Last One Standing." The alternative is "Powerdown," a strategy that will require tremendous effort and economic sacrifice in order to reduce per-capita resource usage in wealthy countries, develop alternative energy sources, distribute resources more equitably, and reduce the human population humanely but systematically over time. While civil society organizations push for a mild version of this, the vast majority of the world's people are in the dark, not understanding the challenges ahead, nor the options realistically available. The author speaks frankly to these dilemmas. Avoiding cynicism and despair, he begins with an overview of the likely impacts of oil and natural gas depletion and then outlines four options for industrial societies during the next decades.

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**Protecting children from indoor air pollution exposure through outdoor cooking in rural South Africa** / Barnes, Brendon (et al).

*Boiling point no. 52, 2006*

Among other health problems, indoor pollution exposure has been associated with acute lower respiratory infections (ALRI) amongst young children. The aim of this study was to evaluate the effectiveness of a low-cost "intervention" - promoting the health affects of out-door cooking on the exposure of children to indoor air pollution - affecting peoples' behaviour. Changes of behaviour are not intended to replace technical interventions in poor rural households, but to provide an alternative until such interventions are feasible.

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**Shell shock : the secrets and spin of an oil giant** / Cummins, Ian; Beasant, John. Edinburgh and London : Mainstream Publishing, 2005

This book is a timely and valuable history of one of the three remaining oil giants. The authors start with the company's recent Enron-like crisis where bosses knowingly overstated reserves--and therefore the company value--for four years. Shell wanted to continue with this policy and provide the public with 'an external

story line and investor relations script'. But this book lifts the lid on the story and many other episodes in the company's unprincipled history. The first part covers Shell's early history which will be familiar to those who have read Anthony Sampson's *The Seven Sisters*. The second reveals the power battles and marriages of convenience between oil companies and national governments; Shell's aggressive marketing of persistent pesticides; its lobbying against the Kyoto Protocol; and its disgraceful record in Nigeria.

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**Solar power : cheap energy source for Africa** / Madamombe, Itai.  
*African renewal*, vol 20:3 October 2006

The New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) was adopted as the continent's main development framework at a July 2001 summit meeting of African heads of state. Under NEPAD, countries are seeking innovative alternative to give rural families efficient means to cook food and light their homes. Stand-off sources of energy such as solar, wind and mini-hydro generators can fill the gap. Beside domestic use, people are harnessing solar power to run small businesses.

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**Spreading innovative biomass stove technologies through China and beyond** / Spautz, Laura (et al).  
*Boiling point* no. 52, 2006

A new partnership in China was formed to speed up the speed of spread of highly improved biomass stoves. The article describes how the partnership is delivering the project in three stages. This project is intended to serve as a pilot for a permanent award programme that would stimulate ongoing innovation and highlight to governments and the public the important role that cleaner-burning stove technologies play in sustainable rural development and improved quality of life in rural communities.

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## **Environment**

**Costing climate change** / Monibot, George  
*New internationalist issue* 396 December 2006

Now the dismissal of climate change is no longer fashionable, the professional deniers are trying another means of stopping us taking action. One example is that they say it would be cheaper to wait for the impacts of climate change and then adapt to them. The author suggests that we either decide it is right to spend a lot of money seeking to prevent catastrophic climate change or we decide that it isn't. We need to make a decision on the grounds of how much we value people and places as people and places, rather than figures in a ledger.

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**Development dialogue no. 48 September 2006 : Carbon trading : a critical conversation on climate change, privatisation and power**  
Uppsala, Sweden : The Dag Hammarskjold Centre, 2006

The globe is warming. More carbon dioxide from combustion of coal, oil and gas pours into the air, the less stable the climate becomes and the more urgent it becomes to leave the remaining fossil fuels in the ground. Yet the dominant neoliberal approach to the crisis of carbon trading, promoted by the US and enshrined in the Kyoto Protocol and the EU Emissions Trading scheme is failing. Slowing social and technological change, dispossessing ordinary people in the South of their lands and futures and undermining already-existing positive approaches on prolongs industrialised societies' dependence on fossil fuels. Compiling the latest research and analysis, this special report lays out what can be done.  
[http://www.dhf.uu.se/pdffiler/DD2006\\_48\\_carbon\\_trading/carbon\\_trading\\_web.pdf](http://www.dhf.uu.se/pdffiler/DD2006_48_carbon_trading/carbon_trading_web.pdf)

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**The Drama of the commons** / Committee on Human Dimensions of Global Change. Ostrom, Elinor (et al).  
Washington, DC : National Academy Press, 2002

The "tragedy of the commons" is a central concept in human ecology and the study of the environment. It has had tremendous value for stimulating research, but it only describes the reality of human-environment interactions in special situations. Research over the past thirty years has helped clarify how human motivations, rules governing access to resources, the structure of social organizations, and the resource systems themselves interact to determine whether or not the many dramas of the commons end happily. In this book, leaders in the field review the evidence from several disciplines and many lines of research and present a state-of-the-art assessment.

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**Field notes from a catastrophe : man, nature and climate change**  
Kolbert, Elizabeth. New York : Bloomsbury, 2006

Americans have been warned since the late nineteen-seventies that the buildup of carbon dioxide in our atmosphere threatens to melt the polar ice sheets and irreversibly change our climate. With little done since then to alter this dangerous course, now is the moment to salvage our future. By the end of the century, the world will likely be hotter than it's been in the last two million years, and the sweeping consequences of this change will determine the future of life on earth for generations to come.

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**Global International Waters Assessment : Pacific Islands, GIWA Regional Assessment 62**  
Nairobi, Kenya : United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), 2004

This report presents the GIWA assessment of the Pacific Islands region, which comprises 23 island nations or territories. In addition to highlighting the overexploitation of fish and other living resources in densely populated areas, this report emphasises the vulnerability of many of these small island states to the impacts of climate change, particularly sea level rise and fluctuations in rainfall, which has enormous influence on the availability of freshwater in the region. Potential policy options to mitigate these problems in the future are discussed.

**An Inconvenient truth (DVD)**

Guggenheim, Davis (Director). Paramount Classics, 2006

The former Vice President of the United States, Al Gore, presents an eye-opening and compelling view of the planet and our civilization. This is wake-up call that cuts through myths and misconceptions to deliver the message that global warming is real and present danger. This documentary brings home Gore's persuasive argument that we must act now to save the earth. Each and everyone can make changes in the way we live our lives and become part of the solution.

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**Talking about climate change**

Manchester, UK : British Council, 2005

In 2005 the British Commission commissioned openDemocracy to run an online debate entitled 'The Politics of Climate Change', as part of the ZeroCarbonCity campaign. It included around 50 newly-commissioned articles by leading scientists, writers and others and addressed six major aspects of climate change: science and uncertainty; Kyoto and what may come after it; issues of global justice and development; technical and policy challenges; arts and imagination; and creating more environmentally friendly cities. This book is a summary of the debate below. The wide-ranging views reflected in the summary 'takes the temperature' of some of the best analysis, thinking and public discussion around this crucial global issue. <http://www.britishcouncil.org/zerocarboncity-online-debate-publication.htm>

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**Food**

**Africa launches green revolution : taking the first steps** / Versi, Anver  
*African business no. 326 December 2006*

While the rest of the world has availed itself of scientific advances to triple its food production, Africa's output is stagnating. It imports more food than it grows and three quarters of its farmland is degraded. But, as the author reports, the first step has been taken in launching the continent's Green Revolution.

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**Food Security: Empty promises of technological solutions** / Mittal, Anuradha.  
*Development (SID) vol 49:4 December 2006*

The author questions if nano-technology is going to provide the next revolution in food and agriculture industry. This powerful new technology is being rushed on to the market by corporations before even basic safety concerns can be addressed. However, she points out there are many downsides in relation to health and environmental threats that are not taking into account by the world's largest food and beverage corporations pushing nano-technology based solutions.

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**Hungry for help: Niger's food crisis (CD-ROM)**

Geneva : Integrated Regional Information Networks (IRIN), 2005

In late 2004 Aid Agencies began warning that the people of Niger were facing serious food insecurity as a consequence of drought and last year's locust invasion. But the warnings fell on deaf ears and by July 2005 dramatic pictures of the unfolding emergency began to play out in the world's media. But Niger's problems, as with much of Sub-Saharan Africa, are the consequences of poor infrastructure and lack of development. Rather than food aid, what the people of Niger really need is development aid. Chronic poverty and lack of infrastructure in Niger (and much Africa) contribute to the malnutrition and hunger. The male dominated society does not always allow the women access to what food is available.

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**Report exposes a free-market famine** / Leahy, Stephen.

*Third world economics: trends & analysis issue 388 1-15 November 2006*

Last year's crisis of starvation in Niger highlighted the fatal flaws of free-market-based development strategies, a new study charges. The Oakland Institute released a report in October 2006 "Sahel: a prisoner of starvation" investigating the causes of the 2005 food crisis in Niger, the heart of the Sahel region. Anuradha Mittal, the executive director of the Institute states "Drought and locusts did not cause the 2005 food crisis as many believe. It is a result of free-market-based development strategies of the World Bank and others." The grain bank in Niger was abolished under structural adjustment and similar free-market philosophies such as the "user-pays" were applied to medical care and school fees and these policies have made most of the people of Niger much poorer and generated "free-market famines". Mittal says Niger is a small window on what is happening in many other countries.

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## **Forests**

**The Death of the forest: a report on Wuzishan's and Green Rich's tree plantation activities in Cambodia**

Montevideo, Uruguay : World Rainforest Movement, 2006

This report examines these companies' operations in Cambodia, the impacts observed to date on the local populations and the environment, and the associated human rights violations.

<http://www.wrm.org.uy/countries/Cambodia/BookCambodia.html>

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## **Gender**

**Faith, gender and development agendas in Nigeria: conflicts, challenges, and opportunities** / Oluwafunmilayo, Josephine; Para-Mallam

*Gender & development vol 14:3 November 2006*

Religion is a dominant force in private and public life in most developing countries. Based on fieldwork in Nigeria, where Christianity and Islam are the two major religions, this article looks at ways in which religion interplays with development and gender equality, and what this means for development policy and practice. First, it explores conflicts and challenges, looking at how religious and indigenous customary values converge as powerful influences, affecting all areas of women's lives. The article goes on to examine the impact of these influences on individual

women's choices and aspirations in the context of Nigerian development policy on gender equality. Against this backdrop, it highlights opportunities that can stem from religion, pointing to the ways in which Nigerian faith-based women's organisations are beginning to use religion as a basis for challenging male bias and promoting holistic development.

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**Gender and the New Reproductive Technologies in Latin America** / Liliana, Acero.

*Development (SID) vol 49:4 December 2006*

The author focuses on the proliferation of new reproductive technologies (NRTs) in Latin America, pointing out that little objective research has been carried out on their impact. Acero illustrates the specific way new reproductive technologies are impacting upon women's bodies, tissues, reproductive capacities and rights. She argues that it is critical to involve local women's movement, international health NGOs in policy and action on NRTs from a southern social and gender justice.

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**Gender mainstreaming in humanitarian programmes: an experience from Chad** / Teigeler, Jutta (et al).

*Gender & development vol 14:3 November 2006*

Eastern Chad has received a large number of refugees due to the ongoing conflict in neighbouring Sudan. Camps tend to be overcrowded, and resource-scarce. Men and women are vulnerable to attacks by rebels, government troops and host communities. Women are usually denied a role in the decision-making processes that might improve conditions in the camp. Could having a gender adviser bring about positive changes for women in the context? Oxfam GB deployed a Gender Adviser in the 2004-2005 period and the outcomes are explored in this article.

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**Gender, New Technologies and Development** / Tyson Darling, Marsha J.

*Development (SID) vol 49:4 December 2006*

The author reflects on how new and emerging technology serve ideological, political, social, cultural and gendered interests. She argues progress on social justice and the social norms which are embedded in a public domain is increasingly being sacrificed to legal- and market-based norms in the new genomics-based consumerism that defines the current new and emerging technologies. Her focus is on the gendered dimensions of 'red biotechnologies,' particularly the legacy of using women's bodies and risking women's health to pursue largely unregulated biotechnologies.

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**Gender, Technology and Disability in the South** /Hans, Asha.

*Development (SID) vol 49:4 December 2006*

The author explores the impact of new technologies on women with disabilities, with a focus on women from developing countries. For women with disabilities, especially in developing countries, these new advances are critical not only to their future quality of life, but also their identity and very survival.

### **"Our bodies..their battleground " gender based violence during conflict (CD-ROM)**

Geneva : Integrated Regional Information Networks (IRIN), 2004

Gender-based violence now kills and maims more African women between 15 and 44 years than the combined effects of cancer, malaria, road accidents and war. The ongoing conflict in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) has left an estimated 3.3 million people dead and countless women and children the victims of sexual atrocities. Rape victims are often ostracised by their communities and thrown out of their homes by their husbands. In Eastern DRC local know of only one man who has been prosecuted. This film uses DRC and Liberia to illustrate the psychological, medical and socio-economic consequences of rape during conflict and explains why these crimes often go unpunished.

<http://www.irinnews.org>

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### **Razor's edge : the controversy of female genital mutilation (CD-ROM)**

Geneva : Integrated Regional Information Networks (IRIN), 2005

Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) is a surgical procedure performed on the genitals of girls and women in many parts of the world. It is estimated that one girl is circumcised every 15 mins. The term FGM covers a range of procedures, which are also referred to as female circumcision and introcision. FGM is found extensively in Africa and is also indigenous to other parts of the world. In Sierra Leone, still suffering from the consequences of HIV/AIDS and conflict which has become the focus of many NGOs, Rugiatu Turay is working to convince FGM practitioners, who earn a living this way, to stop this practice. However government support is necessary but can only happen with support from local NGOs. In Ethiopia there is a zero tolerance commitment from government which allows NGOs to run awareness-raising campaigns but elimination of this practice is still a long way off. Targeting religious leaders is not an easy task and FGM is perpetuated through the cultural views of men in a society dominated by these views.

<http://www.irinnews.org>

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### **Tackling HIV and AIDS with faith-based communities: learning from attitudes on gender relations and sexual rights within local evangelical churches in Burkina Faso, Zimbabwe, and South Africa / Marshall, Mandy; Nigel Taylor** *Gender & development vol 14:3 November 2006*

Recognising that unequal gender relations are a driving force behind the AIDS pandemic, this article explores the position of local evangelical churches in Africa with respect to gender relations and sex, and the implications for HIV and AIDS. Based on desk and field research carried out by the UK-based NGO Tearfund, the findings indicate that these churches were largely silent on the issue of gender and sex, or were reinforcing traditional values which contribute to HIV infection. In a number of countries, the church seems to have failed to provide leadership to young people, especially young women, facing huge pressure to be sexually active. Strategies for responding are outlined. On the basis on this research, Tearfund is funding a small pilot initiative to try new ways of working with the church to change behaviours, balance biblical theory and work to address gender inequity.

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## **Globalisation**

**Fences and windows: dispatches from the front lines of the globalisation debate**  
/Klein, Naomi (ed); Levy, Debra Ann (ed).  
New York : Picador, 2002

Fences and windows recur throughout this ardent and inspiring anthology of Naomi Klein's commentaries, reports and speeches on the very real and present dangers of the "global market economy". The fences are a metaphor for the barriers erected by the multinational corporations, para-governmental institutions and superstates to contain and separate people from what were previously public resources, thus "locking them away from much-needed land and water, restricting their ability to move across borders, to express political dissent, to demonstrate on public streets, even keeping politicians from enacting policies that make sense for the people who elected them". The windows are for us to open so that we may "breathe deeply and taste freedom".

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**The Globalizers: the IMF, the World Bank and their borrowers**  
Woods, Ngaire. Cornell University Press, 2006

The greatest success of the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank has been as globalisers. But at whose cost? Would borrowing countries be better off without the IMF and World Bank? In this book Ngaire Woods takes readers inside these institutions and the governments they work with, brilliantly decoding what they do and why they do it. She traces their impact in the recent economic history of Mexico, of post-Soviet Russia, and in the independent states of Africa. She concludes by proposing a range of reforms that would make the World Bank and the IMF more effective, equitable and just.

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## **Health**

**The Backpacker medics** / Yeni.  
*Third World resurgence, issue 194-195 Oct/Nov 2006*

Several hundred volunteer healthcare workers dodge bullets and risk arrest to bring a little comfort to tens of thousands of displaced people in eastern Burma. The Backpack Health Worker Team are not deterred by the political situation as the number of displaced people in the area continues to increase with fresh reports of killing and plundering of the Karen State by Burmese unites implementing forced labour, confiscation of land and other threats to stability.

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**Fighting TB on the front lines : highlights and recommendations from Stop-TB eForum 2005 : a joint publication of health and Development Networks and the AIDS-Care-Watch Campaign**  
Thailand : Health & Development Networks, 2006

As a member of Stop TB Partnership, Health and Development Networks moderated and managed a six-month discussion on the Stop TB eForum on the 2005 theme of World TB Day: Key roles and needs of front-line health workers in

stopping tuberculosis. The overall aim of the discussion was to share information and assess the critical role that front-line health workers play in turning back the tide of TB.

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**Killer sting : Corruption and the World Bank** / Srinivasan, Sandhya.  
*New internationalist issue 396 December 2006*

The World Bank has vowed to tackle corruption and fight transparency in the development programme it funds. In this light the author takes a close look at one of its programmes such as the Enhanced Malaria Control Project in India

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**The Mae Tao Clinic : a clinic in exile** (DVD) / Stannard, Peter (Director).  
Bangkok, Thailand : Media and Documentation Unit IRC, 2005

Years of political upheaval in Burma has forced thousands of people to seek refuge in neighbouring Thailand, either as registered refugees or unregistered migrant workers. There are thousands of internally displaced peoples from Burma and the Thailand border. The first wave of asylum seekers fled Thailand after the 1988 student uprising in Rangoon, among them was a doctor, Dr Cynthia Maung. When in Mae Sot, she collaborated with Karen and Thai communities to establish the Mae Sot hospital in 1989. In an effort to curb rampant malaria and diarrhoea in the border region, Dr Cynthia started to train others in basic health care and these efforts slowly grew into a comprehensive health centre - the Mae Tao Clinic - servicing 150,000-200,000 displaced people. The clinic provides free comprehensive health services, outpatient care and training of healthcare workers. Also included are family planning and reproductive health services and a school health programme.

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**Malaria : number one killer** (DVD) / Raimi, Hugo (Producer). Geneva : Integrated Regional Information Networks (IRIN), 2006

Malaria claims three million lives every year worldwide, most of them in the countries south of the Sahara. Among the places hardest hit is Ethiopia. Here malaria can wipe out the lives of hundreds of thousands of villagers in a single epidemic - mainly women and children. Forty percent of people in Ethiopia have no access to health services. Diagnosis is sometimes a problem for health workers when the disease is compounded with malnutrition and HIV/AIDS. Resistance to anti-malarial medicines is becoming a growing problem and the biggest challenge is the shortage of effective drugs. The UNICEF Anti-Malarial Programme features in this film.

<http://www.irinnews.org>

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**Marketing of Assisted Human Reproduction and the Indian State** / Mulay, Shree; Gibson, Emily.  
*Development (SID) vol 49:4 December 2006*

The authors examine the factors responsible for the phenomenal growth of the private fee-for-service health sector in India and the industry related to Assisted Human Reproduction, its negative effect on the public health sector as well as the

feeble attempts by the Indian state to regulate this industry, and its implications for women's reproductive rights and health.

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**Programme guidance for counselling for STI/HIV prevention in sexual and reproductive health settings : for counsellors, health workers, educators and all those working in STI/HIV/AIDS**

London, UK : International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF), 2002

This guide aims to provide information, ideas and suggestions for those who work with clients (young people, male and female clients, individuals and couples) and who want to improve their knowledge and skills in counselling.

<http://www.go2itech.org/itech?page=db-02-00&id=50200&type=rg&bkto=db-01-00&bktopost=1&p-name=rg&p-value=UK>

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**Providing economic opportunities to achieve community-based reproductive health commodity security : the Batam Island experience**

Rahardjo, Pudjo. Faisal, Maya. Malaysia : International Council on Management of Population Programmes (ICOMP), 2006

The case study illustrates the principle of “putting people first” such as empowering local villages and village communities by mobilizing and harnessing their potential to fulfil their needs. Attaining income security, improving health status and reproductive health commodity security and advancing the community development agenda are just several of the community’s needs. The Batam project proved that the integration of family planning and reproductive health activities with community development endeavors; particularly, at the field level, could produce results in reproductive health behavior change among both women and men in a certain period of time.

[http://www.icomp.org.my/Leader\\_mgmt/images/Batam.pdf](http://www.icomp.org.my/Leader_mgmt/images/Batam.pdf)

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**Regional advocacy & alliance building for sexual and reproductive health : ICPD at 10 : Countdown 2015: Sexual & Reproductive Health & Rights for All**

Kuala Lumpa, Malaysia : International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF) East & South East Asia and Oceania Region, 2005

A meeting on "Regional Advocacy and Alliance Building" was held from 1-4 June 2005 in Kuala Lumpur. This activity was to strengthen alliance and collaboration with partner agencies and donors for further implementation of the International Conference on Population (ICPD) Programme of Action (PoA). This meeting was held jointly with the Post Roundtable Follow up Activity. The follow up activity was planned to focus on the priority issues of the East, Southeast Asia and Oceania region (ESEAOR) and the outcome was a set in recommendations of the strategic issues for the region. This report looks at the objectives and contains outcome recommendations of the Meeting by the various participants.

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## **Human rights**

### **Programming for justice : access for all - a practitioner's guide to a human rights-based approach to access to justice**

Bangkok, Thailand : United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), 2005

This comprehensive programming guide aims to help practitioners design rights based access to justice projects. It introduces a holistic model of access to justice, provides guidance on how to programme and prioritize access to justice strategies, and maps a large number of capacity development strategies of justice system institutions and processes.

<http://regionalcentrebangkok.undp.or.th/practices/governance/a2j/tools/index.htm>

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### **Stealing a nation / Pilger, John.**

*New African November 2006 no. 456*

This is an extract for "Freedom next time" by John Pilger. The plight of the people of the Chagos Islands and their "crown" territory, Diego Garcia is not new. What is new are the details of the conspiracy between the British and American governments to take the Islands from their African inhabitants. This article is the first of a two and will be concluded next month with details of the conspiracy to take the islands and what happened in Washington DC and London.

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### **Stealing a nation Part 2 / Pilger, John.**

*New African no. 457 December 2006*

In the November 2006 issue of New African, the author described the first stages of how Britain & America robbed the African islanders of the Chagos archipelago in the Indian Ocean of their homeland, and turned it into an American military base, one of the largest outside the USA. Here in Part 2, Pilger writes about the conspiracy to steal the Islands, what happened in London and Washington, and the Islanders' current struggle to return home. It is an absorbing story of power and intrigue, much loved and preached by George Bush and Tony Blair, mean different things in different countries, according to the interests of the big powers.

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## **Information Technology**

### **Catching history on its wings: the experience of Pambazuka News /Manji,**

Firoze; Burnett, Patrick

*Development in practice vol 16:6 November 2006*

The authors reflect on the establishment and rapid evolution of an African electronic newsletter, Pambazuka News, an initiative rooted on the one hand in the relationship between information and communication technologies (ICTs), and (on the other hand) in the struggle against impoverishment and injustices. Among the main learning points are that electronic publishing is a long-term commitment, because of the trust established between the organisation providing the service and those using it. The immediacy of the medium enables information to move around

in a range of different ways, and exerts new forms of mutual accountability. There remains, however, the critical issue of how to guarantee the resources to maintain such a service without compromising the content or diluting the purpose.

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**Knowledge and learning in online networks in development: a social-capital perspective** / Cummings, Sarah; Heeks, Richard; Huysman, Marleen.

*Development in practice vol 16:6 November 2006*

The authors examine whether the concept of social capital can facilitate our understanding of online networks in development. Much of the knowledge generation and social learning in development takes place in networks, which increasingly operate online. Although these networks are assumed to be a positive force in development, there are many unknown factors, partly because they are in their infancy. The concept of social capital has traditionally been applied to examine the functioning of groups and societies. More recently, it has also been applied to development and to online networks outside development. Three non-development approaches to examining social capital in online networks and communities are reviewed in the article. Elements of these approaches, combined with development-related aspects, are used to produce a framework to facilitate the analysis of social capital in online networks in a development context.

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**Latin America**

**Chevron Texaco cornered** / Angel, Luis.

*Latinamerica press October 18, 2006 vol.38: 19*

The Ecuadorian government is suing the US oil giant for having spilled large amounts of toxic water into the Amazon. This will be the first time a sovereign country accuses a large oil company of fraud in a US court. Now the Ecuadorian government has accused the oil company of fraud for having allegedly sent out a false report stating it had cleaned up the damage it had caused.

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**Health be damed in Guadalajara** / McCulligh, Cindy.

*World rivers review vol 21:5 October 2006*

When Mexican state authorities announced in 2003 that they would dam the Santiago at Arcediano to meet the Guadalajara Urban Area's (GUA's) drinking water needs, many local people asked the obvious question: How can you dam an open sewer as a source for drinking water? More than 2,300 litres per second of the GUA's raw sewage – including that from major industrial areas – flow into the Santiago before Arcediano, and eventually to the Pacific Ocean. On August 2006, local organizations published a letter signed by more than 60 researchers and water and human rights activists from 11 countries, demanding that state and federal authorities halt construction on the dam and undertake “a comprehensive health impact study for the Arcediano Dam”.

<http://www.irn.org/pubs/wrr/issues/WRR.V21.N5.pdf>

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**Water and mining : tensions in development** / Liulla, Ibis.  
*Latinamerica press October 18, 2006 vol.38: 19*

Water contamination in mining areas paints a bleak picture for environmental issues. Although Peru's mining industry has generated billions of dollars for the country, the impact of mining has sparked social conflicts as well. Reports of contaminated water and air and the impact of mining on the forestlands have become the norm in many communities living near the mines. Despite the economic boom, the environmental and social impacts caused by this industry continue unabated as neither the companies nor the state have done much to stop it.

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## **Microfinance**

**Recipe for success (DVD)** / Golan, Linda (Producer).  
Auckland : Extreme Closeup Productions, 2005

This is the story of the struggles and successes of two entrepreneurs in Cambodia. Souna is a widow and single mum who has worked her way up from scavenging rubbish to her own shop and she dreams of giving her son the education she never had. Her success started with \$25 from VisionFund, World Vision's business loan programme. Bo Phon is a mother of seven, a successful business woman and another VisionFund client. With her loans she has built a successful noodle business. Her profits have enabled her to send her children to school, pay for medical bills and rebuild their house and buy a motorcycle.

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## **Militarization**

**Fields of fire (DVD)** / Zulifar, Salma (Producer); Gough, David (Producer).  
Geneva : Integrated Regional Information Networks (IRIN), 2006

In south Lebanon as many as one million unexploded cluster bombs litter the countryside following the recent war with Israel that began July 2006. More than a hundred people have been killed or injured by these munitions since the war ended, and farmers are in danger of losing their livelihoods out of fear of entering contaminated fields and the unaffordable payment to get mines cleared by an expert. Organisations such as the Mine Action Group and UN Mine Action are working to clear the cluster bombs but it will be the end of 2007 before they have completed this task.

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## **Mining**

**Digging in corruption - fraud, abuse and exploitation in Katanga's copper and cobalt mines : A report by Global Witness July 2006**  
Washington DC, USA : Global Witness, 2006

The copper and cobalt mining industry in Katanga, in southeastern Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), continues to be plagued by fraud, abuse and political interference. Global Witness's research confirmed entrenched patterns of illicit exports of minerals across the DRC-Zambia border, with government and security

officials either turning a blind eye to false or inaccurate export certificates, or actively colluding with trading companies to circumvent control procedures. Large quantities of minerals are leaving the country undeclared, representing a huge loss for the Congolese economy – but a vast gain for a small number of powerful actors. The big influx of foreign companies pouring into Katanga since 2004 has presented yet more opportunities for the political elite to enrich itself. Historic elections scheduled for 30 July 2006 could provide a unique opportunity for fundamental reform. Global Witness's report contains recommendations for priority actions by the new government, by companies and by international donors. These measures could have long-lasting effects for the development of Katanga province – and for the country as a whole – if they are embarked upon without delay.

[http://www.globalwitness.org/media\\_library\\_detail.php/154/en/digging\\_in\\_corruption](http://www.globalwitness.org/media_library_detail.php/154/en/digging_in_corruption)

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**Reforming the DRC diamond sector - a briefing document by Global Witness**

Washington DC, United States of America : Global Witness Publishing Inc., 2006

Global Witness is a British-based non-governmental organisation which investigates the role of natural resources in funding conflict and corruption around the world. The Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) is extremely rich in natural resources. The responsible management of these resources is the key to future stability and peace in the country, as well as economic growth.

<http://www.reliefweb.int/rw/RWB.NSF/db900SID/HMYT-6QSRBA?OpenDocument>

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## NGOs

**Debating NGO accountability** / Bendell, Jem.

New York : United Nations, 2006

This Dossier focuses on activities that concern the key constituencies of the United Nations. Thus the accountability challenges arising from non-governmental Organisations (NGOs) involvement in international development assistance and engagement with global governance are discussed. The Dossier is therefore mostly concerned with those NGOs that are headquartered in the West, as these lead much international development assistance and have a longer history of engagement with International Governmental Organisations (IGOs). The aim of this publication is to help those within the United Nations (UN) system and those NGOs that engage with it to develop an understanding of the current debate, and practice, and reveal some of the myths, as well as pointing towards a more progressive agenda on NGO accountability”

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## **Pacific**

**Are Pacific countries coping with surging oil prices?** / Levantis, Theodore; Groeger, Christine; McNamara, Scott.  
*Pacific economic bulletin vol 21:3 2006*

The Pacific island countries rely almost exclusively on oil-based fuel for their energy needs. The recent surge in oil prices has exposed the vulnerability of these countries to the vagaries of world oil markets. The implications for import bills and for national incomes are considerable. This paper investigates these implications and explores measures for mitigating the impacts.

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**Black Saturday: New Zealand's tragic blunders in Samoa** / Field, Michael.  
Auckland : Reed Publishing (NZ) Ltd, 2006

New Zealand ruled Samoa from 1914 to 1962 and during this time managed to kill 25 percent of the population in the space of a couple of weeks through the careless introduction of Spanish influenza. Faced with growing Samoan calls for independence New Zealand responded violently, gunning down eight people in the streets of Apia, including high chief Tupua Tamasese, in 1929. The working title comes from a line in a speech given two years ago by Prime Minister Helen Clark when she went to Samoa and offered a formal apology for the events above. The book relates the story of New Zealand's rule, from the invasion by soldiers from Wellington to Auckland, up to Helen Clark's apology.

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## **Peace disarmament**

**The Shadows of peace : life after the LRA (DVD)**  
Geneva : Integrated Regional Information Networks (IRIN), 2006

The Lord's Resistance Army (LRA), formed in 1987, is a rebel paramilitary group operating mainly in northern Uganda. The group is engaged in an armed rebellion against the Ugandan government in what is now one of Africa's longest-running conflicts. But now in Northern Uganda the bells of peace are starting to ring out. After two decades of death, displacement and trauma, the obstacles on the path toward peace could be just as challenging as the war itself.

<http://www.irinnews.org/film/>

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## **Politics**

**Silent theft : the private plunder of our common wealth** / Bollier, David.  
New York and London : Routledge, 2003

In this book, David Bollier describes America's vast "common wealth" and the increasing threat of commercial enclosure that is denying a fair return to taxpayers and eroding shared cultural values. The American Commons encompasses both tangible assets and resources that are neither private nor public property in a conventional sense including natural systems, such as the atmosphere, the airwaves and the human genome, but also resource management regimes, including the

Internet, that are largely cooperative, decentralized, and democratic in character -- arrangements with substantial attributes of a "gift economy." Our government is not adequately protecting or promoting these common assets and commons management systems.

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## **Trade**

### **Behind the scenes at the WTO: the real world of international trade negotiations lessons of Cacun** /Jaware, Fatoumata; Kwa, Aileen.

London : Zed Books, 2004

World hunger, jobs, the overall economic prospects of developing and developed countries alike are all being influenced by the international negotiations about trade, agriculture, services, investment and intellectual property rights going on at the World Trade Organization (WTO). Based on interviews with the participants, this remarkable book lifts the shroud of secrecy surrounding these ostensibly democratic negotiations. What emerges is a disturbing account entirely at odds with the official picture of a rules-based consensus emerging out of multilateral trade discussions in which all WTO member countries are equal participants. The revelations contained in this book are of enormous importance to all those concerned that international institutions should be more transparent and democratic, and that the rules being developed for the world economy should primarily be geared to solving the pressing humanitarian problems of poverty, hunger, jobs and improvements in the standards of living of all those being left behind by the process of globalization.

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### **The Price of coffee** / Garcia, Maria.

*Progressive December 2006*

This article reviews the documentary film "Black Gold". The first thing you learn is that the coffee you are drinking was likely purchased by a broker employed by a multinational company. "Black Gold" uses the plight of the Ethiopian tenant farmers to illustrate the inequities of world trade. The film's directors Marc and Nick Francis argue that ineffective domestic policies alone do not bankrupt a country that exports the most desirable coffee in the world. Failed trade agreements, the International Monetary Fund, neocolonialism and indifferent multinationals accomplished that.

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### **Trade policy, development and poverty reduction** / Helleiner, Gerry

*Third world economics: trends & analysis issue 388 1-15 November 2006*

The author looks at policy approaches for harnessing the - not always clear-cut - poverty-reducing potential of trade, and considers the need to build capacity in developing countries to "mainstream" development in trade strategy.

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### **The True price of cheap T-shirts** / Kunz, Stephan.

*Development and cooperation vol 33:10 October 2006*

KarstadtQuelle, the German retail giant, is pushing for improvement in working conditions in the textile industry in Bangladesh. In order to do so, it has teamed up

with the government-owned German Investment and Development Company (DEG), a Bengali research institution and a consortium based in Cologne. The objective of the project is to bring 20 companies with around 29,000 staff up to scratch. It covers the transfer of practical knowledge, the introduction of simple management methods to monitor the required practices and long-lasting compliance with the important social and environmental requirements. This approach complements endeavours – by German Technical Cooperation (GTZ), for example – to persuade the government of Bangladesh to design and enforce stricter workplace regulations.

[http://www.inwent.org/E+Z/content/archive-eng/10-2006/foc\\_art2.html](http://www.inwent.org/E+Z/content/archive-eng/10-2006/foc_art2.html)

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**Under the influence - exposing undue corporate influence over policy-making at the World Trade Organization : trade justice campaign** / Eagleton, Dominic. Johannesburg, South Africa : Actionaid International, 2006

This report highlights many examples of privileged corporate access to, and excessive influence over, the WTO policy-making process. It argues that governments must take urgent action to curb corporate influence in the WTO and put the rights of poor people before the profits of multinationals in the current round of global trade talks.

[http://www.actionaid.org.uk/doc lib/174\\_6\\_under\\_the\\_influence\\_final.pdf](http://www.actionaid.org.uk/doc lib/174_6_under_the_influence_final.pdf)

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## **Water**

**Damming Burma's War Zone** / Salween Watch Coalition  
*World rivers review vol 21:5 October 2006*

The proposed dams on the Salween in Burma cement military control over the ethnic peoples of Burma, their lands and their rich natural resources. Officials in Thailand have stated that the main purpose of the Salween cascade of dams is to provide large amounts of "cheap" electricity to Thailand and "much needed foreign exchange" to the Burmese military regime. The dams will also have a permanent impact on the local ethnic people most of whom have already suffered displacement.

<http://www.irn.org/pubs/wrr/issues/WRR.V21.N5.pdf>

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**The Mumbai Slum Sanitation Programme** / Moooooulik, Soma Ghosh; Sen, Somnath.  
*Waterlines Appropriate Technologies for Water Supply and Sanitation vol 25:2 October 2006*

Community toilet blocks may be the most appropriate sanitation provision in slums where insecure tenure and a shortage of space make household toilets problematic. Involving the community in a demand-driven process was found to be the best way to keep these services running.

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**Scaling-up using condominal technology** / Vargas-Ramirez, Miguel; Lampoglia, Teresa Cristina.

*Waterlines Appropriate Technologies for Water Supply and Sanitation vol 25:2 October 2006*

Unlike conventional sewerage, condominal sewers run at shallow depths within the household boundaries. Although they require greater levels of co-operation install and maintain, they are much less expensive and they are taking off in a big way in Latin American cities.

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**Sharing innovative experiences - examples of successful experiences in providing safe drinking water; volume 11**

New York, USA : United Nations Development Programme, 2006

The case studies contained in this volume offer examples of hands-on experience in addressing issues around the provision of safe water in 18 countries of the South. Together, they offer vital lessons to people interested in their replication or adaptation. However, they by no means represent the entire range of similar initiatives now being undertaken throughout the global South; this would go beyond the scope of this particular knowledge-sharing objective.

<http://tcdc.undp.org/sie/experiences/vol11/content11new.asp>

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**Sudan Dam authority plans to push affected people to desert** / Askouri, Ali  
*World rivers review vol 21:5 October 2006*

The author is a Sudanese exile working with people affected by the Merowe Dam. The hydropower dam is now under construction on the Nile River and this project will displace approximately 50,000 people - mainly small farmers living along the Nile. It is becoming apparent that the Nile State authority has plans that will force the Manasir tribal group (the largest of the three tribal groups affected by the dam) onto a harsh desert location. The Manasir's intention at the signing of an agreement with the River Nile State, was to be resettled around the dam reservoir. The agreement also stipulates that the Nile State finance a study to assess technical issues related to establishing small agricultural projects around the reservoir but this has been obstructed by the Dam authority.

<http://www.irn.org/pubs/wrr/issues/WRR.V21.N5.pdf>

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**Taking sanitation to scale** / Perez, Eddy. Parkinson, Jonathan.

*Waterlines Appropriate Technologies for Water Supply and Sanitation vol 25:2 October 2006*

What are the challenges that need to be overcome and the promising approaches being advanced to deal with the world's global sanitation crisis? A major step forward was made during the World Summit on Sustainable Development when government prioritised the need for improved sanitation as part of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) to half the proportion of people without sustainable access to safe drinking water by 2015. However progress to date has been far from adequate. The article discusses complications preventing progress and looks at promising developments.

## Women

### **Female condom - a powerful tool for protection**

Shane, Barbara C.. Seattle : United Nations Population Fund and PATH, 2006

Although the female condom has been on the market for more than ten years, the supply and adoption of this device, which protects against both pregnancy and sexually transmitted infections, is still too low to have an impact on the AIDS epidemic. This publication, a follow up to the 2005 Global Consultation on the Female Condom, answers key questions about the female condom. It presents evidence about its effectiveness and impact, identifies challenges to wider use and suggests steps to strengthen condom programming worldwide.

[http://www.unfpa.org/upload/lib\\_pub\\_file/617\\_filename\\_female\\_condom.pdf](http://www.unfpa.org/upload/lib_pub_file/617_filename_female_condom.pdf)

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### **Promoting gender equality? Some development-related uses of ICTs by women**

Gurumurthy, Anita.

*Development in practice vol 16:6 November 2006*

Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs) have created new economic and social opportunities all over the world. Their use, however, continues to be governed by existing power relations whereby women frequently experience relative disadvantage. Amid this inequality are individuals and organisations that are working to use ICTs to further gender equality. These are the issues addressed by the BRIDGE Cutting Edge Pack on Gender and ICTs. The first section of this article consists of extracts from the Overview Report in the Pack. It describes ways in which women have been able to use ICTs to support new forms of information exchange, organisation, and empowerment. The second section, taken from the textbox 'Telecentres: Some Myths', describes three assertions which frequently lead to problems in all forms of investment in development-related information exchanges with poor or less powerful groups, not only those relating to telecentres and women.

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### **'Rent-a-womb': the latest Indian export / Ghosh, Jayati**

*Third World resurgence, issue 194-195 Oct/Nov 2006*

Surrogate motherhood is the latest form of services outsourcing which India is offering the West. More and more Indian women are being paid to become surrogate mothers for childless couples, a phenomenon that is not subject to government regulation in the country.

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### **The Sex trade in colonial West Africa / Ray, Carina.**

*New African November 2006 no. 456*

In a three part series the author examines the sex trade in colonial British West Africa and uncovers racial ideologies that allowed traffic in women and children to flourish despite its adverse effects in Nigeria and the Gold Coast, such as Ghana was then known.

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## **World issues**

**Darfur: local strife with global repercussions** / El-Battahani, Atta.  
*Third World resurgence, issue 194-195 Oct/Nov 2006*

The conflict in the Darfur region of Sudan is a complex one, with multiple factors intersecting at local, national and international levels. There has been an 'involution of conflict' as various parties are drawn into a cyclical, seemingly unending dynamic of violence. It is not simply about Arabs versus Blacks.

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## **Youth**

**Wanted: jobs for Africa's youth** / Mutume, Gumisai.  
*African renewal, vol 20:3 October 2006*

African leaders are expressing a renewed sense of urgency to tackle youth unemployment and beginning to implement plans to create jobs. However most countries have not incorporated job creation plans into their national development frameworks. The UN Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) and the European Union (EU) are leading a drive to encourage African countries to incorporate job plans as part of the Poverty Reduction Strategy Papers (PRSPs). Many countries need to rebuild their formal education system. The effects of IMF and World Bank's 'structural adjustment' policies during the last few decades led to deep cuts in public spending including education and many schools were obliged to introduce school fees. This led to a rapid decline in the education system.



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