



EVIDENCE ON DEMAND

Informing development practice – Climate & Environment, Infrastructure, Livelihoods



Evidence on Demand eBulletin

Issue 3 June 2013

Welcome to the latest Evidence on Demand eBulletin. With agriculture firmly back on the global development agenda, we are excited to announce the publication of our first Livelihoods Topic Guide - Frank Ellis's broad-ranging overview of Agriculture and Growth. We also have an exclusive Talking Point from Sir Gordon Conway on the topic of sustainable intensification in agriculture; plus comprehensive notes from two seminars given at DFID by leading agricultural scholars on Agriculture and Growth, and Agriculture and Productivity respectively. Besides this focus on the future of agriculture, we're launching the first, eagerly anticipated Climate and Environment Topic Guide. Dr Nicola Ranger's overview of Adaptation is written for DFID staff, but is relevant to all development professionals and suitable for both non-experts and experts on climate change. We also have a thought-provoking Talking Point on Strategic Environmental Assessments; our usual round-up of what's new to the Evidence on Demand library; plus our pick of relevant upcoming events.

First Climate and Environment Topic Guide Launched



Adaptation: Decision Making Under Uncertainty

This comprehensive, peer-reviewed Topic Guide, written by Dr Nicola Ranger, offers an overview of the latest thinking on how to manage the changing and uncertain climate in development decisions today. The key premise is that climate change will affect the long-term outcomes of many development interventions but that accounting for the changing and uncertain climate need not be complicated and should not paralyse action.

[DOWNLOAD THE GUIDE >](#)

Call for Papers

A special issue of *Development in Practice* focusing on Climate Change Adaption in Practice will be published in May 2014. If you are interested in sharing your knowledge and submitting a paper/article then read on for details...

This special issue, comprising 13 papers, aims to expand the communication of climate information, addressing the adaptation deficit by considering the

First Livelihoods Topic Guide Launched



Agriculture and Growth

The purpose of this Topic Guide, written by Professor Frank Ellis, is to stimulate thinking about pro-poor growth in which agriculture is expected to play a major role. It provides an overview of the topic, and presents the issues and arguments relating to it, illustrated with a series of case studies. Links to the current 'best reads' are provided in an annotated reading list and signposts are given to detailed evidence and further information.

[DOWNLOAD THE GUIDE >](#)

Upcoming Events

For a comprehensive and searchable guide to events focused on climate, environment, infrastructure and livelihoods then check out our [Events Directory](#). Here's our pick of what's coming soon...

Transforming Nutrition Ideas, Policy and Outcomes 2013

15 July 2013: This five-day course, run by IDS in Brighton, will take participants through new ways of thinking about under-nutrition and what to do about it.

Living in Low-Income Urban Settlements in an Era of Climate Change: Processes,

approaches used and the applied responses of urban and rural communities.

[READ MORE >](#)

Talking Points Revisited



RETHINKING SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURAL INTENSIFICATION FOR AFRICA

World-renowned agricultural ecologist, Gordon Conway, writes exclusively for Evidence on Demand on the topic of Sustainable Intensification

On a continent where over 200 million people suffer chronic hunger and 40% of children under the age of five are stunted, finding solutions to meeting Africa's food needs is both urgent and complex. One such solution is Sustainable Intensification. At first glance this term may seem to be an oxymoron, and indeed many consider it a ruse for industrial agriculture, in other words business-as-usual with token concessions to the environment.

[READ MORE >](#)

INTEGRATING A STRATEGIC ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL PERSPECTIVE INTO NATIONAL AND SECTOR POLICY

Senior environmental specialist, Peter Croal, addresses the increasing demand for Strategic Environmental Assessments

National and sector policies in developing countries have traditionally lacked the

Practices, Policies and Politics

9 September 2013: This two-day workshop at the University of Manchester is intended to gather together leading scholars on the topic of adaptation for the urban poor for discussion. The outputs from this session will be published as an edited book and/or journal special issue.

Water and the Green Economy Conference

8 November 2013: The Irrigation and Water Forum and UEA Water Security are hosting a one day conference on Water and the Green Economy. This will be from an agricultural point of view, however the interpretation of agriculture, water and the economy will be wide and include the farm production, water conservation, productivity, the food chain, the private sector and consumer demand and behaviours.

New to the Evidence on Demand Document Library

LIBRARY

Welcome to our searchable document library. Already packed with high quality knowledge products relating to our key thematic areas of Climate & Environment, Infrastructure and Livelihoods - it's growing by the day. So whether you're after a specific piece of information or you want to browse the collection, we've combined search and navigation of related items.

The top left corner of each document gives a useful overview of major findings and implications, and, where available, you'll also find a link to a downloadable copy of each book or file - simply click on the PDF or Word icon where you see it.

COUNTRY: [dropdown] CATEGORY: [dropdown] SEARCH [button] CLEAR SEARCH

DOC TYPE	FILE	DOCUMENT TITLE	AUTHOR	YEAR	NO. OF PAGES	SUMMARY	KEYWORDS	COUNTRY	CATEGORIES	DATE ADDED
PDF	RETHINKING SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURAL INTENSIFICATION FOR AFRICA	RETHINKING SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURAL INTENSIFICATION FOR AFRICA	CONWAY, GORDON	2013	35	This is one of a number of EOD working papers that are intended to support the development of a Sustainable Intensification (SI) strategy for Africa. It examines the role of SI in the context of the continent's food security and livelihoods challenges, and discusses the need for a more holistic approach to SI that takes account of the environmental and social implications of SI.	agriculture, food security, livelihoods, sustainable intensification, africa	Kenya	Environment, Livelihoods	17/10/12
PDF	RETHINKING SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURAL INTENSIFICATION FOR AFRICA	RETHINKING SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURAL INTENSIFICATION FOR AFRICA	CONWAY, GORDON	2013	35	This is one of a number of EOD working papers that are intended to support the development of a Sustainable Intensification (SI) strategy for Africa. It examines the role of SI in the context of the continent's food security and livelihoods challenges, and discusses the need for a more holistic approach to SI that takes account of the environmental and social implications of SI.	agriculture, food security, livelihoods, sustainable intensification, africa	Kenya	Environment, Livelihoods	17/10/12

FEEDBACK | ACCESSIBILITY | PRIVACY POLICY | TERMS & CONDITIONS

HELPDESK REPORTS

Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency financing for poorer households and small to medium enterprises

This brief report supports a DFID project business case for proposed renewable energy and energy efficiency financing schemes for poorer households and small to medium enterprises to be implemented in four Caribbean states. The report outlines evidence on barriers

consideration of environmental and social aspects as well as an integrated and strategic perspective of overall national objectives and goals. The achievement of their sector goals has in some cases compromised other sectors or national goals as well as achievement of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). Therefore, there is an increasing number of Strategic Environmental Assessments (SEA) being undertaken in developing countries. SEA, simply stated, addresses the direct and indirect, positive and negative environmental issues that can result due to the development and implementation of a proposed policy, plan or program (PPP). Over 60 countries now have SEA requirements stipulated by law or policy.

[READ MORE >](#)

Around the Web



[A tool for gender-sensitive agriculture policy formulation](#)

FAO provides guidance for ministries of agriculture on how to implement the 'Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women' (CEDAW) in rural development projects

[Research uptake: a guide for DFID-funded research programmes](#)

This guidance note aims to support research programmes as they develop and implement their research uptake strategy. Research uptake includes all the activities that facilitate the use of research evidence by policymakers. The document

to scaling up, lessons from financing schemes and energy smart funds and their use and considerations for effective design.

[Technology to promote transparency around land acquisitions](#)

This study investigates and reviews how technology is being used in developing countries to promote transparency around land acquisitions. This includes reactive solutions to identify and highlight what land acquisitions have taken place and proactive solutions that promote and protect land rights.

[Large scale land acquisitions and food security](#)

This report presents a brief assessment of the available literature which attempts to answer these questions:

- What are the impacts of large-scale land acquisitions (LSA) on local food insecurity and malnutrition levels?
- Is there a difference in impacts whether investments are international or local?

[Overview Report: Donor Approaches to Improving Access to Finance for Independent WASH Providers](#)

DFID commissioned a small study to evaluate how donor support for access to finance by small and medium scale independent providers of water and sanitation services can be used to leverage private sector finance.

CONSULTANCY REPORTS

[Agricultural productivity seminar: notes](#)

Agricultural economist Professor Peter Hazell and agroecologist Professor Amir Kassam tackled differing aspects of agricultural productivity, at this professional development seminar held at DFID on 21 March 2013. Further discussion was led by DFID's Chief Economist, Professor Stefan Dercon.

[Agriculture and growth seminar: notes](#)

This seminar, delivered by Professor

is primarily aimed at DFID-funded research but is a worthwhile read for all development professionals.

[Guidance for measuring and maximising value for money in infrastructure programmes](#)

The purpose of this guidance note is to equip development professionals with the tools to measure and maximise value for money (VfM) in infrastructure programming. Infrastructure has certain characteristics which magnify the importance of getting VfM right in infrastructure programming, including long time frames, path dependency (lock-in to decisions once made) and infrastructure's central role in poverty reduction.

Frank Ellis and Professor Stefan Dercon on 31 January 2013 at DFID, tackled issues surrounding whether small-farm agriculture should be regarded as the engine of pro-poor growth in the developing world.

Climate & Environment Assessments

Failure to address climate change and a continual degradation of natural resources will drive poor people deeper into poverty and mean that development efforts and growth achievements are short-lived. DFID recognises this and as a result has integrated Climate and Environment Assessments into its planning process. The Evidence on Demand team regularly contributes to DFID Climate and Environment Assessments including the following:

[CEA: Business case for support for the Disability Rights Fund](#)

[CEA: Support to the IMF capability assessment program in Tunisia and Libya](#)

[CEA: Deauville partnership small and medium-sized enterprise mentoring initiative for the Middle East and North Africa](#)

[CEA: Support to political transition in Yemen](#)

[CEA: Rapid social response multi-donor trust fund](#)

[CEA: Building an evidence base in Yemen](#)