

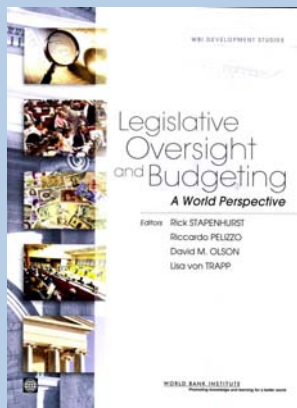
Equality for Women:
Upon signing the Millennium Declaration in 2000, the international community committed itself to eight development goals with time bound targets and measurable indicators. The third of these eight goals was to "promote gender equality and empower women". The third Millennium Development Goal (MDG3) in the Millennium Declaration has spurred national

and international efforts to improve women's situation around the globe. This book tracks countries' progress with implementing and financing MDG3 by examining national experiences and successes with policies and programs? It also contains an assessment of the effectiveness of different strategies in achieving MDG3 and the financial requirements needed to attain MDG3 by 2015. Equality for Women will be useful for gender analysts, policy makers, government officials, and others working to promote gender mainstreaming.



The World Bank Annual Report 2008:
This Annual Report, which covers the period from July 1, 2007, to June 30, 2008, has been prepared by the Executive Directors of both the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD) and the International Development

Association (IDA) collectively known as the World Bank in accordance with the respective bylaws of the two institutions. Robert B. Zoellick, President of IBRD and IDA, and Chairman of the Board of Executive Directors, has submitted this report, together with the accompanying administrative budgets and audited financial statements, to the Board of Governors. Annual reports for the International Finance Corporation (IFC), the Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency (MIGA), and the International Centre for Settlement of Investment Disputes (ICSID) are published separately.

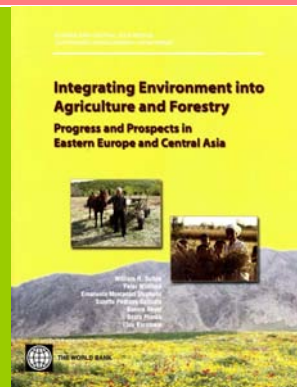


Legislative Oversight and Budgeting: A World Perspective:

In most countries, parliament has the constitutional mandate to both oversee and hold government to account. In light of the increased focus on good governance, academics and legislative strengthening practitioners are re-examining parliament's oversight function with a view to increasing public financial accountability, curbing corruption, and contributing to poverty reduction. This volume brings together research from many different perspectives and many different legislative settings worldwide. As the country case studies in section III demonstrate, the accountability mechanisms or oversight tools available to the legislature vary based on constitutionally defined powers of the legislature, institutional arrangements between the branches of government, divisions of authority between national, regional, and local governments, the degree of legitimacy conferred on the legislature, and the resources available to it.

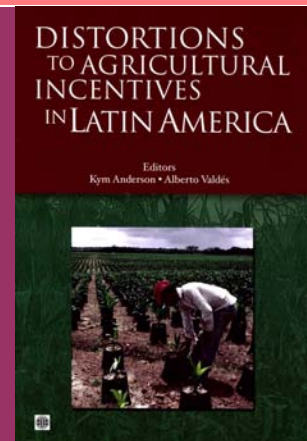
Integrating Environment into Agriculture and Forestry:

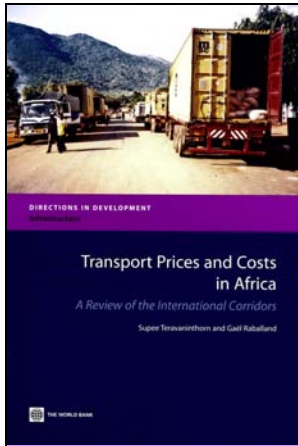
In the transition countries of Eastern Europe and Central Asia, environmental considerations are lagging behind other factors in the agriculture and forestry sectors. The cost of increasing soil salinity in one country is estimated at \$1 billion per year, the cost of soil erosion in another at \$40 million per year. Agriculture and forestry will also be highly sensitive to changes in climate. There is therefore a critical need for the countries in this region to proactively integrate environmental concerns into policies, programs, and investments in the agriculture and forestry sectors.



Distortions to Agricultural Incentives in Latin America:

Distortions to Agricultural Incentives in Latin America provides an overview of the evolution of distortions to agricultural incentives caused by price and trade policies in five economies of South America plus the Dominican Republic, Nicaragua, and Mexico. Together these countries comprise about 80 percent of the region's population, agricultural output, and overall GDP. The new empirical indicators in these country studies provide a strong evidence-based foundation for assessing the successes and failures of the past and for evaluating policy options for the years ahead.





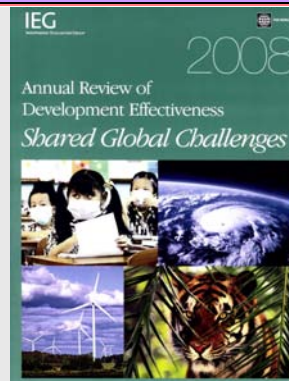
Transport Prices and Costs in Africa: Transport prices for most African landlocked countries range from 15 to 20 percent of import costs. This is approximately two to three times more than in most developed countries. It is well known that weak infrastructure can account for low trade performance. Thus, it becomes necessary to understand what types of regional transport services operate in landlocked African nations and it is critical to identify the regulation disparities and provision anomalies that hurt infrastructure efficiency, even when the physical infrastructure, such as a road transport corridor, exists. *Transport Prices and Costs in Africa* analyzes the various reasons for poor transport performance seen widely throughout Africa and provides a compelling case for a number of national and regional reforms that are vital to the effort to address the underlying causes of high transport prices and costs and service unpredictability seen in Africa. The book will greatly help supervisory authorities throughout the region develop and implement a comprehensive transport policy that will facilitate long-term growth.



Innovative Financing for Development:

This book argues that poor countries need additional, cross-border capital channeled to the private sector for employment generation, growth, and poverty reduction. For that, innovative financing mechanisms are necessary. The volume brings together

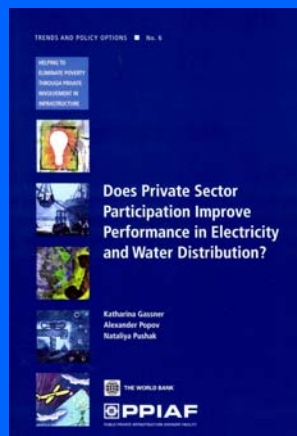
various market-based innovative methods of raising development finance including securitization of future flow receivables, diasporas bonds, and the role of shadow sovereign ratings in facilitating access to international capital markets.



Annual Review of Development Effectiveness:

For the World Bank and its partners, the ever-present test is to deliver results-to lift people out of poverty and promote socially and environmentally sustainable development. Achieving such success in any individual country is increasingly intertwined with

making progress on shared global challenges. This review presents evidence on the Bank's efforts in two important and connected areas: tracking outcomes of Bank projects and country programs; and progress in fostering global public goods, such as protecting the earth's climate and preventing the spread of dangerous communicable diseases.



Does Private Sector Participation Improve Performance in Electricity and Water Distribution?:

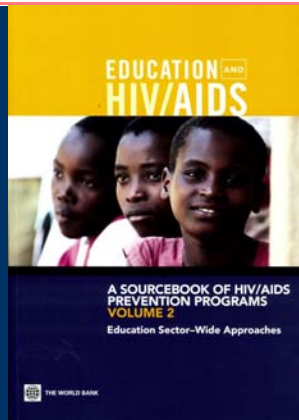
Does Private Sector Participation Improve Performance in Electricity and Water Distribution? this question has proven deceptively difficult to answer in the context of utilities in developing economies. The authors examine the question of private versus public performance in a natural monopoly setting. They address the shortfalls of earlier research and arrive at fact-based conclusions that are robust globally. Using a data set of more than 1,200 utilities in 71 developing and transition economies the largest known data set in the area this study finds that privately operated utilities convincingly outperform state-run ones in operational performance and labor productivity.

This book compares the change over time in performance measures for the two groups of utilities and isolates the effect of private sector participation (PSP) from time trends and firm-specific characteristics. It accounts for ex-ante difference between state-owned

enterprises that were selected for PSP and those that were not, and corrects for possible bias in the estimations induced by such differences. It distinguishes between full divestitures, partial divestitures, concessions, and lease and management contracts.

The study finds no robust evidence of an increase in investment by either the public or private sectors, even if PSP leads to an increase in operational efficiency. Nor is there robust evidence of a change in average residential prices as a result of PSP. Given the well-documented underpricing of utility services in many developing countries, this result may reflect the economic and political difficulties of aligning tariffs with the costs of service provision.

This book will be of interest to people involved in sector reform and infrastructure service delivery, in particular in developing countries.



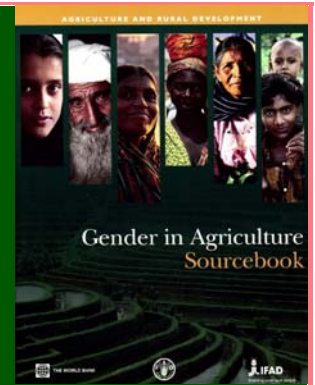
A Sourcebook of HIV/AIDS Prevention Programs Volume 2:

A Sourcebook of HIV/AIDS Prevention Programs Volume 2 is part of a global effort to accelerate the sector's response to HIV/AIDS, particularly in Africa, and reflects the increasing recognition of the role that education has to play in the national response to HIV. A good education is now recognized as

making a crucial contribution to reducing stigma and discrimination and to helping young people avoid infection. This new volume was produced in response to requests from educators for programmatic examples of education sector-wide approaches. With lessons that are replicable and scalable, this new analysis of 10 HIV/AIDS prevention programs from 6 Sub-Saharan African countries as well as the Dominican Republic and Israel fills an important gap in programming expertise in the education sector.

Gender in Agriculture Sourcebook:

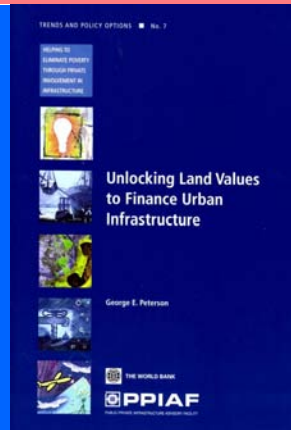
The Gender in Agriculture Sourcebook provides an up-to-date understanding of gender issues and a rich compilation of compelling evidence of good practices and lessons learned to guide practitioners in integrating gender dimensions into agricultural projects and programs. It serves as a tool for: guidance; showcasing key principles in integrating gender into projects; stimulating the imagination of practitioners to apply lessons learned, experiences, and innovations to the design of future support and investment in the agriculture sector. The Sourcebook looks at: access to and control of assets; access to markets, information and organization; and capacity to manage risk and vulnerability through a gender lens.



Innovation for Development and the Role of Government:

This book is organized around three themes: The relationship between innovation, competitiveness, and development; innovation and financial sector development; and innovation and government policies in China. It analyzes the nature of innovation and its role in

economic development and competitiveness, and it offers practical policy options for decision makers, especially those in China. Throughout the volume, the authors argue that the concept of innovation encompasses not only the technological but also the non-technological forms. This book will be a fascinating read for those involved or interested in business economics, finance, government, innovation, public policy, taxes, technology, or East Asia.



Unlocking Land Values to Finance Urban Infrastructure:

Land-based financing of urban infrastructure is growing in importance in the developing world. Why is it so difficult to finance urban infrastructure investment, when land values typically increase by more than the cost of investment? This book examines the theory

underlying different instruments of land-based finance, such as betterment levies, developer exactions, impact fees, and the exchange of publicly owned land assets for infrastructure. It provides a wealth of case-study illustrations of how different land-based financing tools have been implemented, and the lessons learned from these experiences. This practical guide is designed to help expand the role of land-based financing in urban capital budgets in a way that strengthens urban infrastructure finance and urban land markets.