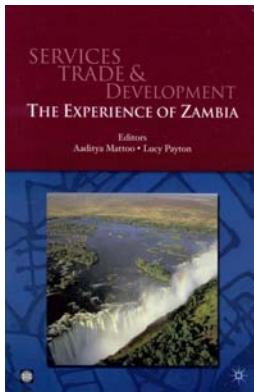


Services Trade & Development: The Experience of Zambia

Personal author: Honohan, Patrick

Corporate author: World Bank. EXTOP



Some see trade in services as irrelevant to the development agenda for least developed countries (LDCs). Others see few benefits from past market openings by LDCs. This book debunks both views. It finds that serious imperfections in Zambia's reform of services trade deprived the country of significant benefits and diminished faith in liberalization. What is to be done? Move aggressively and consistently to eliminate barriers to entry and competition. Develop and enforce regulations to deal with market failures. And implement proactive policies to widen the access of firms, farms, and consumers to services of all kinds. These lessons from Zambia are applicable to all LDCs.

In all this, international agreements can help. But to succeed, LDCs must commit to open markets and their trading partners must provide assistance for complementary reforms. Zambia, which leads the LDC group at the World Trade Organization, can show the way.

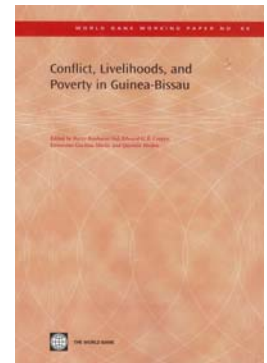
Conflict, Livelihoods, and Poverty in Guinea-Bissau

Edited by Quentin Wodon, Boubacar-Sid Barry, Estanislao Gacitua-Mario, and Edward G.E. Creppy

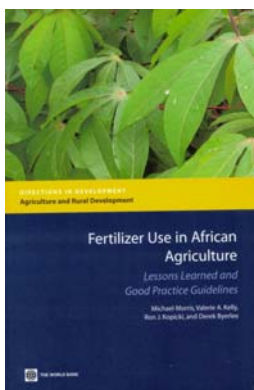
Corporate author: World Bank

Major Theme/Theme: Poverty; Social and Cultural Issues

Conflict and political instability have weakened Guinea-Bissau's productive infrastructure considerably during the past three decades. This situation contributes to an increase in the degree of vulnerability of the population, especially in rural areas where most economic activities continue to take place. As growth has been weak, poverty levels remain high. This book covers issues such as: growth and poverty, institutions and social networks, the determinants of poverty, the means of livelihoods of the population, cashew production and taxation.



Fertilizer Use in African Agriculture: Lessons Learned and Good Practice Guidelines



Personal author: Morris, Michael

Corporate author: World Bank. AFRVP

Major Theme/Theme: Agriculture and Rural Development; Public Policy

The limited use of fertilizer by farmers in Africa stands in contrast to the much more extensive use of fertilizer by farmers in other developing regions. This contrast has stimulated considerable discussion about what should be the role of fertilizer in helping countries of Africa achieve their agricultural development goals, and what types of policies and programs can help realize the potential benefits of fertilizer in African agriculture.

This book summarizes the findings of a major study undertaken by the World Bank to identify promising policy options for promoting increased fertilizer use in Africa, with the ultimate goal of boosting agricultural productivity in smallholder farming systems and reducing poverty.

New Arrivals: April 2007

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The Caucasian Tiger: Sustaining Economic Growth in Armenia

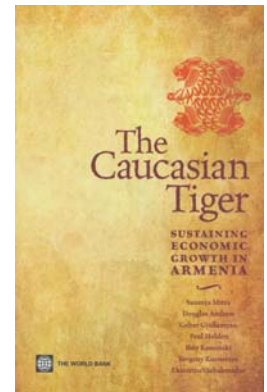
Personal author: Mitra, Saumya

Corporate author: World Bank. EXTOP

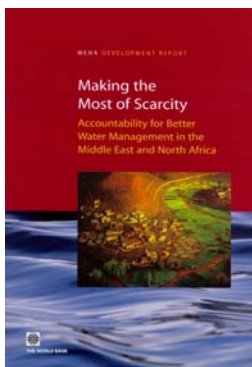
Major Theme/Theme: Development Economics

The Caucasian Tiger explains the factors underlying Armenia's stellar economic growth record, which has led to the country's emergence as a pre-eminent reformer among the former Soviet republics, and provides advice on policies that will entrench growth over the next decade.

It describes how Armenia created an environment of macroeconomic stability and pursued reforms aimed at establishing a market economy that was integrated with the rest of the world.



Making The Most of Scarcity: Accountability for Better Water Management in the Middle East and North Africa



Personal author: Bucknall, Julia

Corporate author: World Bank. MNAV

Major Theme/Theme: Water Supply and Sanitation

Water -- the resource itself as well as the irrigation and water supply services derived from it -- is important for every country. It is fundamental to human health, wellbeing, productivity, and livelihoods. It is also essential for the long-term sustainability of ecosystems. Here, in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region, the most water-scarce region of the world, good water management matters even more than it does elsewhere. The report suggests that MENA can meet its water management challenge.

The paper includes the following headings: factors inside and outside the water sector drive MENA's water outcomes; progress, but problems; several factors that drive the politics of water reform are changing; MENA countries can leverage the potential for change by improving external accountability; and MENA countries can meet the water management challenges of the 21st Century.

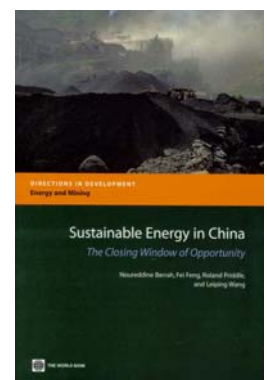
Sustainable Energy in China: The Closing Window of Opportunity

Authors: Fei Feng; Roland Priddle; Leiping Wang; Nouredine Berrah

Corporate autho: The World Bank

Major Theme/Theme : Energy, Industry, and Mining

This title uses historical data from 1980 and alternative scenarios through 2020 to assess China's future energy requirements and the resources to meet them. It calls for a high-level commitment to develop and implement an integrated, coordinated, and comprehensive energy policy. The authors recommend eight building blocks to reduce energy consumption growth well below the targeted rate of economic growth, to use national resources on an economically and environmentally sound basis, and to establish a robust energy system that can better ensure the security of a diverse supply of competitively priced energy forms. Sustainability calls for persistence of effort, greater reliance on advanced energy technologies, and better standards enforcement.



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