

WID *Information*

**Office of Women in International Development
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
320 International Studies Building
910 South Fifth Street
Champaign, Illinois 61820
(217) 333-1977**

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RESEARCH NOTES

These notes are derived from a paper entitled "Energizing the Poor in South Africa: The Dilemma of an Emerging Economy" by Wendy Annecke, visiting research fellow at the Office of Women in International Development, UIUC, from the University of Natal, King George V Avenue, Durban, 4001, Republic of South Africa. Phone (031) 2601259; Fax (031) 2601340; email: annecke@studaff.und.ac.za (abridged version, full paper available).

The objective of the paper was to assess changing domestic energy policy in South Africa and its likely effect on women in low-income households. The paper attempts to do a number of things. Firstly it establishes the commitment to equity pledged by the new political order in South Africa and compares this with the apartheid socio-economic and political context within which current energy policy was developed. Secondly it explores some of the less visible reasons for the ostensible changes. In doing this the paper highlights some of the dilemmas the new government faces and the choices that have to be made in order to fulfil prevailing expectations. Thirdly the likely impact of these decisions on women in low-income households is assessed in terms of case studies from informal areas in the Durban Functional Region. The paper concludes with recommendations of how energy policy could be made more friendly, particularly to women.

1. The commitment to equity

The need for transformation and redress of systems, structures and institutions throughout South Africa is undisputed. The new government has expressed its will to effect substantial change through the Reconstruction and Development Program (RDP). The problem, of course, is how to accomplish this redress. The infra-structures and delivery systems were designed to cater for four million whites rather than all thirty-six million citizens. The economy is in decline, there are very high rates of unemployment, and the majority of people are becoming poorer rather than richer, and will continue to do so, at least for the foreseeable future.

Apartheid energy policy was directed largely towards the generation of electricity in order to satisfy the needs of industry and the small number of primarily white middle-class domestic users. Current thinking still stresses electricity, the difference being that now, professing to be mindful of the need to redress the inequalities of the past, and citing ethical, socio-economic and political pressures, the focus is almost entirely

on the electrification of black townships and rural areas. In South Africa over 60% of the population is urbanized, and subsists on low incomes in the burgeoning informal settlements in or around (electrified) metropolitan areas. A rapid household electrification strategy is a fundamental part of the RDP and the alleviation of poverty is conflated with the provision of electricity. Only minimal attention is being given to paraffin, coal, and LPG which together constitute the dominant energy sources for the majority of the population in formal and informal settlements.

This paper postulates that increasing the potential to access electricity will have little short-term benefit for the poor unless policy makers make considerable allowance for the very limited ability of these households to make regular payments for energy, and develop innovative ways to overcome entry cost barriers (for example the cost of house connections and electrical appliances) for the poor.

2. Some of the less visible reasons for change

In order to understand the dilemmas of the policy makers, and the emphasis on electrification, the vested interests in energy supply need to be briefly explained. South Africa produces more than 66% of Africa's total electricity output, primarily through the national electrical power utility company, Eskom. Electricity is generated primarily from the burning of low-grade coal which is associated with air pollution problems of a magnitude that rank among the worst in the world. Eskom owns and operates twenty-five power stations with a combined generating capacity of more than 33,843MW. Because there was the technology, the capacity and linear supply-side planning in the eighties, Eskom expanded its generation capacity more than South Africa required. Consequently with the slump in the economy, several power stations had to be mothballed. The result is that Eskom, a parastatal institution, not only has the monopoly on the generation of electricity at present but also has surplus capacity lying idle. This surplus capacity is specifically noted in the RDP as a potential source of strength in the much needed growth and expansion of South Africa's economy.

Baldly stated, in order to take advantage of Eskom's potential, more electricity must be sold, but to whom? The potential to sell to neighboring countries is constrained not only by their capabilities to install the infrastructure, connect, consume and pay, but also by their desire to establish their own generation capacities. Internally, significant industrial growth and demand is unlikely. Thus the only other feasible market, domestic end-user capacity, has come under the spotlight. Only about 35% of South African houses are electrified. In brief, the new market appears deserving, politically and ethically correct, and almost limitless. What should be borne in mind is that firstly this minority percentage (which is already electrified) includes the majority of households with incomes above the poverty datum line, and secondly that in cities the growth areas are indicated by the informal settlements which present their own challenges in terms of cost and viability. This point is further elucidated elsewhere.

Another less visible and contradictory factor is cost. The RDP states that electrification should be self-financing. Currently Eskom and local authorities distribute electricity, collecting profits along the way. The latter will not willingly relinquish these to finance further electrification, particularly as recent programs have not proved cost effective. If the electrification program is not self-financing who pays? It is unlikely that households in the informal sector would be able to, and unjust to expect new connectors to finance the extension of the grid.

3. Electrification and women in low-income households

Since the intention is to supply electricity to those sectors of society who were previously neglected, and most of whom may be classified as "poor", valid questions to ask would be 'who are the poor in South Africa?' and 'what energy source(s) do "the poor" want?' It is estimated that there are at least 17 million people surviving below the Minimum Living Level in South Africa, and at least 6 million of these live in urban areas. Since women are more likely to be poor than men, we may assume that at least half the poverty-stricken adults are women, and overwhelmingly black women. The question of what type of domestic energy source would be preferred has been asked repeatedly, and the response has been overwhelmingly in favor of electricity.

So what is the point of this paper? The issue is not quite as simple as it appears. The response depends primarily upon the manner in which the question is framed. If asked *What source of energy would you like to have?* The response is overwhelmingly *Electricity*. If the question is posed as *Here are a range of facilities which may become available at a price. Which would you prefer to have and in what order?* Then electricity is placed after water, housing, jobs, food, education and clinics. Electricity features low on the list of priorities even in those areas that are immediate potential clients. Equally important, for reason explained elsewhere, the market preference is for paraffin, coal and wood for low-income families. Needless to say, much of the rationale for the electrification drive is premised on the first, mass-survey type of question. It took in-

depth, qualitative and women-centered studies to determine the second response which situates the role of energy and electricity in the context of women's daily living patterns and problematizes it. A brief look at the different conditions pertaining in just three low-income households illustrates the complexities to be considered and what should constitute the dilemmas of the decision-makers:

Dolly Ntuli owns a formal, four-room dwelling in a partially electrified township. Since the infrastructure and tenure are already secure, Mrs Ntuli would appear an appropriate new customer for Eskom. Mrs Ntuli was widowed and her seventeen year old son was crippled in the township violence of 1988. She has six people living in her house, all of whom are financially dependent. She runs an immaculate house on two small welfare grants (every second month) and her earnings from being a runner-collector for a chinese gambling house. In response to a question about energy Mrs Ntuli said: "Heating and lighting are very important because light is important for children who go to school... Fuel is life to a busy home. But electricity? No. Paying for electricity would complicate my life." The study revealed just how well she copes in the face of her fragile solvency, and how easily this balance could be upset by extraneous pressures such as electrical connections and/or appliances.

In the second household NZ rented a shack on tenured land in an area where incomes were above the breadline and which Eskom considered suitable for electrification. But like most other women in the area, NZ made her above average living from selling iJuba (beer), dagga (cannabis) and guns. She sent most of her money home to her mother who was taking care of her children (therefore it was not available to spend on improvements to her own living conditions) and seldom did housekeeping or cooked for herself. In response to a question about electricity she said: "Yes, I like it. But it is not good for me here. I don't cook, and the people don't want strong light for dagga and guns". It is not the morality of NZ's lifestyle which is in question here. It is her perception of her own need for electricity. Given that her shack was a likely target for electrification, her erratic income and specific context are likely to render her an erratic client and possible defaulter in payments since she had no strong interest in the electrification of her dwelling in the first place.

The third household was a large shack built illegally on unstable land and unlikely ever to be electrified. However, Mrs. T's household income was a middle-class one derived from a successful shebeen (bar) and informal shop. All members of the household contributed to housekeeping and the business. There is a rich description of her household's activities, ending with the field worker's observation that: "All the time I was there, there was music playing in the sitting room area from a radio operated by a car battery... people were coming in and out buying whatever stuff there was... knowing that the beer would be cold from the gas fridge and there was enough food for everyone..." The gender and economic relations in this household receive attention elsewhere. What is significant is the variety of energy sources used and the income available: paraffin for the baby's food, a car battery for the music, gas for the refrigerator, candles for the shop and occasionally wood for cooking meat outside. Ironically the planned electricity grid extension bypasses this household completely.

4. Recommendations

- ◆ The Government must be responsible for national energy policy formulation. While the need for an electrification strategy cannot be denied, the importance of each fuel should be determined by the number of people who use it and not only by its significance in terms of the national economy.
- ◆ In developing national energy policy the Government must determine whether energy or electricity is a basic right, and make provision accordingly. Until this distinction has been made and taken cognisance of, there will continue to be a conflict of interest between the national electricity utility, other energy suppliers and the poor.
- ◆ In determining energy policy appropriate for an emerging economy, the Government should take at least the following into consideration: integrated facility planning (rather than just energy planning), further research necessary to determine women's perceptions of fuel and priorities, low current supply with circuit breakers rather than metered payments that can be tampered with, fuel-switching, alternative strategies and pricing, health, safety and conservation aspects of all energy types, women on policy making bodies, and on-going research into demand-side information to be fed into the policy process.
- ◆ Finally, socio-economic and political pressures for extensive electrification cannot be ignored, yet there remains a certain stubborn recklessness in going ahead with electrification schemes when economic growth rate is low and will be slow to regenerate, without examining priorities and alternatives of other possibly more sustainable options. Just because one has the means to produce electricity should not imply a compulsion to do so. There is a danger that having been largely excluded from energy policies and electrification programs for the past fifty years, African people are now going to have electricity and the attendant costs thrust upon them.

UPDATE ON THE 4TH UN WORLD CONFERENCE ON WOMEN

From *Women on the Move*, 1995/No. 7, United Nations, Secretariat of the Fourth World Conference on Women Division for the Advancement of Women, DC2-1234, Two United Nations Plaza, New York, NY 10017, USA. Prior to the world conference, a number of meetings are taking place at the national, regional and international levels, organized by NGOs as well as by the United Nations. Following is a preliminary calendar which includes other major UN conferences:

May 22, 1995 - New York, NY, USA

-- Meetings of States Parties to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, special session.

May 22 - June 9, 1995 - Geneva, Switzerland

-- Committee on the Rights of the Child, ninth session.

June 12-16, 1995 - Geneva, Switzerland

-- UNCTAD - Standing committee on Poverty Alleviation, third session

August 21, 1995 - New York, NY, USA

-- Youth Leadership Summit.

August 30 - September 8, 1995, Beijing, China

-- NGO (non-governmental organizations) Forum

September 4-15, 1995 - Beijing, China

-- Fourth UN World Conference on Women.

WOMEN IN INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES AT UIUC

A REPORT OF THE SPRING CONFERENCE ON "WOMEN CHANGING THE WORLD: NEW PERSPECTIVES ON THINKING GLOBALLY AND ACTING LOCALLY" April 22, 1995 University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
by Consolata Kabonesa

The conference was intended **TO LOOK AT THE WORLD THROUGH ILLINOIS WOMEN'S EYES** by a) finding new ways of networking around "issues of critical concern" as stated in the Platform for Action to be presented at the United Nation's Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, China, September 1995; b) linking the concerns as presented in the Platform for Action with concerns of women in Illinois; and c) helping women in Illinois to learn more about these issues, to exchange information, to act more effectively, and to change legislation. About 100 women from around Illinois participated in the all-day discussion on issues of critical concern to women around the world.

The conference was divided into the following sections: an historical overview of the Fourth UN World Conference on Women; a key note speech on "Beijing and Beyond"; concurrent discussions and drafting of recommendations on: women and health, women and violence, and women's economic roles; a keynote speech "On The Road to Beijing"; concurrent discussions and drafting recommendations on: women and education, women and leadership, and women, science and technology; and the wrap-up.

Historical overview of the Fourth UN World Conference on Women. Kate Cloud, Director of the Office of Women in International Development at UIUC, pointed out that there are issues which seem to be important to all women which we can talk about globally. There is a real true bedrock of women's movements world wide, women are coming together and getting their voices heard through the United Nations's meetings. There are issues which are important in Illinois which have transnational concern. It is important for Illinois women to come together to share ideas, build networks, develop strategies and make recommendations to be carried to the NGO Forum for women as a way of linking with the larger network. Kate also noted that about 40,000 women will come to Beijing for the Forum. The forum is divided into: a) the UN meetings whereby governmental representatives will debate the Draft Platform for Action and pass the Platform for Action. Governments then will be held responsible for putting the Platform of Action to work. b) The NGO Forum will be holding meetings and lobbying on issues of critical concerns to women. Workshops and exhibitions of women's achievements worldwide also will be in progress. Kate said that as women in Illinois we come

today to examine how issues in the Draft Platform for Action matter to us and to link them to the larger world. Some of us will go to Beijing, and those of us who are not able to go can still lobby and participate in the Forum via electronic technology like e-mail.

Beijing and Beyond. Connie E. Evans, President of Women's Self-Employment Project, Chicago, Illinois addressed the relevancy of the Beijing Conference to women in Illinois. She said the Beijing Conference should be seen as going beyond Beijing. Connie used the example of the self-help project (micro-enterprise program) in Chicago to show how an international experience can be used to guide policy formulation. She explained how the Grameen Bank concept has been utilized in the US and some of the policy changes which were implemented in order to give credit to poor women on welfare benefits. She further noted that the Platform of Action from the Fourth UN Conference on Women will be adapted by the U.S. government and international organizations to bring focus on the local issues of women. She emphasized that the results of the conference will show up on the kitchen table. If local communities are empowered and organized, they will put pressure on congress to change some legislation, for example, increasing the minimum wage. Governments should and will be held accountable and responsible for implementing the Platform for Action. From the conference, she said, we should come back with new ideas and tools for continued development. We should develop alliances, and use the focus on women's issues on the international level to improve local communities.

On the Road to Beijing. Kristen Timothy, Deputy Director and Coordinator for the Fourth World Conference on Women, Division of Advancement of Women, United Nations, New York, noted that three previous global UN Conferences have been important for networking, and the goal of all the conferences is to make the world a better place for women to make their own decisions. Women are vulnerable because of their lower status in the family and in society. Kristen pointed out that domestic violence in 1985 was considered private, but now it is a public issue. Because of the awareness of issues of critical concern to women world wide, it is important to get women from all over the world together, and to put forward practical measures to deal with these issues. Twelve areas of concerns were highlighted: the persistent and increasing burden of poverty on women; unequal access to and inadequate educational opportunities; inequalities in health status and unequal access to and inadequate health care services; violence against women; effects of armed or other kinds of conflict on women; inequality in women's access to and participation in the definition of economic structures and policies and the productive process itself; inequality between men and women in the sharing of power and decision-making at all levels; insufficient mechanisms at all levels to promote advancement of women; lack of awareness of, and commitment to, internationally and nationally recognized women's human rights; insufficient mobilization of mass media to promote women's positive contributions to society; lack of adequate recognition and support for women's contribution to managing natural resources and safeguarding the environment; and the girl child. The Beijing conference is intended to bring about social change. This change is evident in the world-wide communication networks through internet connections where people can follow, participate and lobby for their concerns during the conference regardless of their geographical location. As we move towards Beijing we should keep in mind what we mean by partnership, what we mean by gender and women's role in society: that an investment in women is an investment in society.

Key points from discussion sessions

Women and health -

- ◆ Women's access to and control over information on health will make women gain power to make changes.
- ◆ Women's health should be looked at through the women's eyes, with the focus on women's total health experience not just individual organs.
- ◆ Consider cultural factors in dealing with women's health.
- ◆ Women's involvement in legislation, education, and their empowerment are very important.

Women and violence -

- ◆ Both physical and emotional abuse occur, some perpetuated by women, some by men; neither is acceptable.
- ◆ Female children need advocates.
- ◆ Boys need to be taught to respect girls/women.
- ◆ Classes on conflict resolution should be offered from grade schools on up.
- ◆ Gender-free classrooms should be encouraged.
- ◆ We need to become aware of violence and demand change in all forms which promote violence.

Women's Economic Roles -

- ◆ Develop support systems for women and ways to help women attain economic power.
- ◆ Recognize young women's rights.
- ◆ We need to determine how to bring what comes out of Beijing back to the local community.

Women and education -

- ◆ Multiple roles of women act as barriers and obstacles to continuing or beginning education. Needed is subsidized day care, paid maternity leave, and tenure process roll back.
- ◆ Self-esteem was identified as one of the problems of female educational attainment. We need to promote equity in gender representation and establish legislation on equal pay for equal work.
- ◆ There is a need for role models in education to achieve equality in fields that are male dominated.
- ◆ There needs to be an awareness and change in sexual harassment laws.

Women and Leadership -

- ◆ Women have different leadership styles and need to have an equal part in defining leadership in the "Revision of the World" in terms of values in partnership.
- ◆ Women and men need to give more support to women in the political leadership and decision-making positions and to give recognition to the experience women gain from volunteer work.
- ◆ A dilemma is finding ways to help sisters in war-torn countries and countries with repressive regimes develop leadership roles.

Women, Science and technology

- ◆ To the degree that the world is changing in terms of technology and the degree that science has real and perceived power to transform the world, it is important that issues of women, science and technology be discussed at the Beijing Conference.
- ◆ Women must be active participants in creating, designing, learning and using emerging technologies.

News of WID Associates.

Monica Awuor Ayieko, Department of Vocational and Technical Education, successfully defended her dissertation on Household Allocation of Labor Time in Two Types of Smallholder Farming Systems in Rural Kenya."

Suja George, Department of Human Development and Family Studies, has been working with the State of Illinois on family violence awareness and prevention projects since January 1994. In the spirit of the conference theme, Thinking Globally and Acting Locally, Suja reports on Family Violence Coordinating Councils in Illinois.

In improving the criminal justice and community response to family violence, one of goals of the Illinois Family Violence Coordinating Council is to develop local family violence councils at the judicial circuit level. Local family violence coordinating councils, under the leadership of the Chief Judge, allow the various agencies involved in any family violence case to coordinate their efforts. The professionals represented in local councils include: judges, probation officers, state attorneys, public defenders, law enforcers, circuit clerks, victim advocates, clergy, public health nurses, emergency room staff, 911 dispatchers, social workers, therapists, child protection, educators, mediators, and attorneys. The council must be inclusive to achieve its goals of prevention, implementation, education and training.

The goals of the local council are four-fold:

- ◆ To implement public policy as it relates to family violence through cooperation among agencies and departments for the purpose of protection and safety of victims.
- ◆ To improve training to professionals for prevention, intervention, and treatment efforts.
- ◆ To improve a community's response to family violence so as to reduce the incidents.
- ◆ To develop community education through media, schools, and agencies.

The formation of local councils commences with an all-day training for professionals on the dynamics and prevalence of violence. The speakers are experts in the area of family violence, the effects of children, and professionals who have successfully coordinated similar councils in the country. The symposium has been well-received and well-attended with nearly 500 professionals attending from judicial circuit.

After the family violence symposium, efforts are geared towards forming a steering committee and

local council for each judicial circuit. The Chief Judge, with assistance of the local shelter directors and staff from the Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts, appoints key community representatives from a variety of professions to participate on the steering committee. The function of the steering committee is to assess the needs of the community and to monitor and support the progress of individual committees within the local council.

While the membership on the steering committee requires an appointment from the Chief Judge, the local council is more inclusive and memberships volunteer based. Committees are formed within the local council to address concerns of specific professions. In the Sixth Judicial Circuit, which includes Champaign County, the Chief Judge convened eight committees to address issues and needs of the community. These committees include the Clergy Committee, Law Enforcement, Schools, Helping services, Health Care, Coordination, and Community Education and Prevention committees. Each committee is to promote the enactment, enforcement, understanding of anti-violence laws, and support those in the justice system in carrying out their duties through the development of protocols, procedures, policies, and training. Writing protocols, providing training for professionals on family for each committee.

When relevant systems actively participate in local councils, they serve as catalyst for greater community awareness and effective response to family violence. Local councils support and encourage communities to make family violence a public matter, to address violence as a crime, to provide adequate resources for victims and hold all systems accountable for detecting, intervening, and preventing future family violence. Currently, five of the twenty-one judicial circuits in Illinois have established local Family Violence Coordinating Councils. Four more are projected for this year.

RESEARCH, STUDY AND TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

If you or a friend is interested to study in Asian Universities, especially, in India, contact Ms. Jatinder V. Sandhu at 44 Rushmani Nagar, New Sama Road, Nizampura, Baroda - GUJ, India. Phone:091-0265-21772/0910265-444732; FAX: 091-0265-444078.

The Society of Fellows, Harvard University announces The Junior Fellows program for three years beginning July 1, 1996. Junior fellows receive no credits for the courses, need not be working towards an advanced degree other than for the Ph.D.; and are not required to make reports. They are free to devote their work to productive scholarship. They may undertake sustained projects of research or other original work or they may devote their time to the acquisition of accessory disciplines, so as to prepare themselves for the investigation of problems lying between conventional fields. Students should have demonstrated their capacity for independent work. Eligibility: Persons of exceptional ability, originality and resourcefulness; fellow must be at an early stage of his or her career; they are ordinarily college graduates; men and women from any field of study; recent recipient of or are candidates for the Ph.D. Candidates are nominated by those under whom they have studied. A letter of nomination should include an assessment of the candidates work and promise, the address of the candidate, the names and addresses of three people who have agreed to write additional letters of recommendation by early October. Deadline: September 18, 1995. Send nominations to: The Society of Fellows, Harvard University, 78 Mount Auburn Street, Cambridge, Mass. 02138.

CONFERENCES AND CALL FOR PAPERS

The 9th Annual International Conference on Women in Higher Education will be held on January 4-7, 1996 at Camino Real Paso del Norte Hotel, El Paso, Texas. The conference is hosted by the Women's Studies Program and the Division of Professional and Continuing Education, The University of Texas at El Paso. The conference will focus on women in their various roles in higher education. Previous conferences were attended by participants from Australia, Canada, Greece, Mexico, Argentina, Turkey and Bahrain. The conference will provide an opportunity for networking and discussing possible collaborative research venture. Paper abstracts on women in International education, multicultural women's studies issues, equity issues, women in their disciplines, women's roles in higher education, career mobility, minority women in higher education, and support systems for women in higher education. Deadline for papers is September 1, 1995. For more

information contact: The Director, Women's Studies Program, University of Texas at El Paso, 500 West University, El Paso, Texas 79968, Tel. (915) 747-5200.

The Office of Continuing Education and Public Service, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, announces An International Affairs Conference on "Africa Struggling Toward the 21st Century" June 22-23, 1995 at Levis Faculty Center, 919 West Illinois Street, Urbana, Illinois. The conference is intended for business leaders, teachers, students and members of the general public who wish to become more knowledgeable about Africa and its future. Speakers will focus on 1) Africa's future in the changing world; 2) an historical analysis of the challenges facing African countries; 3) the quest for sufficient food; 4) the stresses of population/resource/environmental pressures; and 5) a discussion about what is right with Africa today.

For more information call (217) 333-2883 or Fax (217) 333-9561.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/RESOURCES/PUBLICATIONS

ANNOUNCEMENTS.

The National Institute of Rural Development, India announces the *Journal of Rural Development* which has been in publication for the past 13 years. The journal is a window of developmental processes and programs that are under way in India and other developing countries. The contributors are policy makers, planners, researchers and implementors of developmental programs. Subscribers will get a complimentary copy of the bi-monthly National Institute of Rural Development Newsletter. Subscription fee: UK Pounds 40.00; All other countries US\$ 50.00. For more information contact: The Director, National Institute of Rural Development, Rajendranagar, Hyderabad - 500 030, A.P., India. Tel. 91-44-245001/4; Fax: 91-44-345 277.

RESOURCES/PUBLICATIONS

Available from WOMEN INK ., 777 United Nations Plaza, NY, NY 10017, USA, Tel. (212) 687-8633; Fax: (212) 661-2704.

The Wall in my Background: East German Women in Transition, 1995, Edited by Dinah Dodds and Pam Allen-Thompson. The book is a collection of interviews with 18 urban women (ages 20-69 and varied background) of former East Germany. The stories challenge conventional notions about the gains and losses of East German women under socialism. The book shows how women are negotiating the obstacles of transition, taking responsibility for their lives in ways that were not possible in the German Democratic Republic. Price US\$13.95

Women and Work, 1994 by Susan Bullock. The book highlights the ideology and structures that limit and undervalue women's participation in the world of work, and the actions women are taking to analyze and overcome their subordination. The book explores the issues of credit, land ownership, division of labor, access to markets, and the "informal" versus "formal" sector. Price US\$17.50.

Methods of Measuring Women's Economic Activity - Technical Report 1994. The report offers a solution to the continuing exclusion of women's contributions and potential in development planning, by examining actual contributions of women to the economy in over twenty countries. It presents illustrative tabulations derived from population and labor force surveys, and explains the data in detail, making it highly accessible for practical application. It also discusses methods for gathering other sources of data to improve coverage of women's work, and provides guidelines for setting up gender sensitive tabulations. Price US\$25.00.

A Question of Access: Training Workshops on Planning Credit Projects that Take Women into Account. A *Question of Access* is a participatory training manual designed to raise awareness about gender issues in credit projects. It is structured for 5-7 days and is divided into four modules following the components of the project cycle: project identification, formulation, implementation, and monitoring and transition. Each contains

training activities and exercises; a wide range of case studies, handouts and overheads are provided to illustrate key learning points. The modular arrangement of the book lends itself to local and regional adaptation. Price US\$15.95

An End to Debt: Operational Guidelines for Credit Projects edited by Ellen Pruyn. The book represents the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM) experience and its partner organizations over the past 15 years in the effective implementation of projects to ensure access to affordable credit for poor women. The book is intended for those directly involved in establishing or managing a credit program for women, addresses each stage of the project cycle, highlights relevant issues and decisions to be made at each stage, and recommends policies to guide those decisions. Price US\$15.95

Tools for the Field: Methodologies Handbook for Gender Analysis in Agriculture, 1994. Edited by Hilary Sims Feldstein and Janice Jiggins. Presents 38 cases from Africa, Asia, and Latin America and provides a systematic presentation of how development planners, trainers, and project coordinators can incorporate gender analysis in agriculture. It explains initial diagnosis, research planning and on-farm experimentation; ongoing diagnoses, and extension training and formalizing gender analysis into agricultural institutions and training programs. Price US\$24.95.

Source: WOMEN INK.

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