

Bimonthly Publications Review

Produced by the UN-Water Decade Programme on Advocacy and Communication (UNW-DPAC), this review brings you every two months the latest publications produced by United Nations agencies and programmes on issues related to water and sanitation. Publications presented here in alphabetical order are freely accessible from the web.

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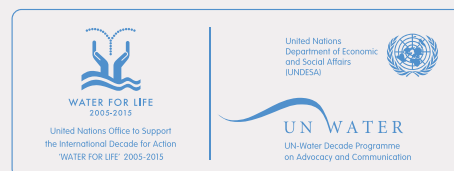
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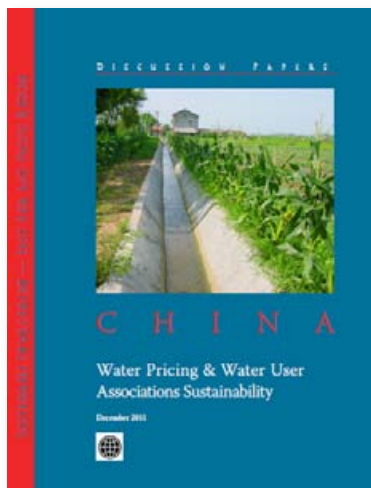
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A Decade for Water, a Decade for Life

United Nations Office to Support
the International Decade for Action
'Water for Life' 2005-2015



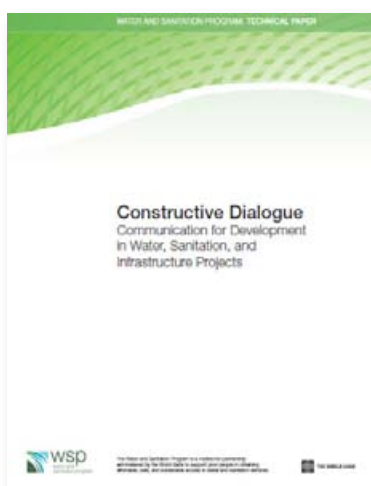
Latest publications

**China. Water Pricing and Water User Associations Sustainability**

World Bank International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD). December 2011

<http://bit.ly/u7WJqE>

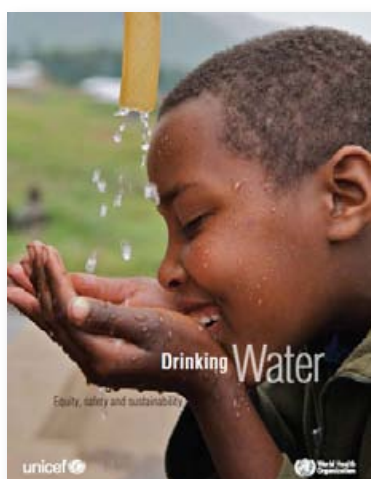
This study investigates the key aspects of irrigation water pricing in China, including the composition of the water fee, water price determination, water fee collection, and water fee management, and the role of Water Users Associations (WUAs) in water pricing. The main purpose is to provide specific reference and guidance for policy making on water pricing and improvement of WUAs which are needed for better end canal Operation and Maintenance (O&M) activities.

**Constructive Dialogue. Communication for Development in Water, Sanitation, and Infrastructure Projects**

World Bank Water and Sanitation Program (WSP). 2011

<http://bit.ly/wz1omt>

This report organizes the contents, lessons learned, and conclusions of the workshop “Constructive Dialogue: Communication for Development in Water, Sanitation, and Infrastructure Projects in Latin America”, which took place at the World Bank office in Peru in November 23-25, 2009. Following a brief theoretical overview of the concept of Communication for Development and the processes and approaches that it can entail (Chapter 1), the document reviews the importance of Communication for Development in project design and implementation of projects, in particular those related to water, sanitation, and infrastructure (Chapter 2), and provides examples and outlines communication related challenges in these areas. Through a practical view focused on the presentation of experiences and lessons learned in three specific cases, namely, building citizen engagement in Pakistan, developing a mass transit system in Colombia, and creating a water culture in Mexico, the evidence supports the strategic value of Communication for Development in ensuring the smooth progress of a project (Chapter 3), and the benefits and advantages that supplement and shape a development proposal. This is followed by a review of strategies aimed at establishing dialogue that fosters the effective participation of all groups involved. Emphasis is placed on such topics as research as a point of departure for project design, the establishment of environments conducive to behavior change by persons involved, the use of advocacy to foster engagement by decision makers, and the use of Communication for Development in handling and resolving conflicts and promoting project sustainability in the future (Chapter 4). The final chapter (Chapter 5) assesses the most significant aspects of the last group activity conducted at the workshop. This assessment underscores the significant lessons learned at the event and such pending tasks as project teams relative to the communication components and/or strategies encountered during the design or implementation process.

**Drinking Water. Equity, safety and sustainability. JMP thematic report**

WHO/UNICEF Joint Monitoring Programme for Water Supply and Sanitation (JMP). December 2011

<http://bit.ly/u1kw2l>

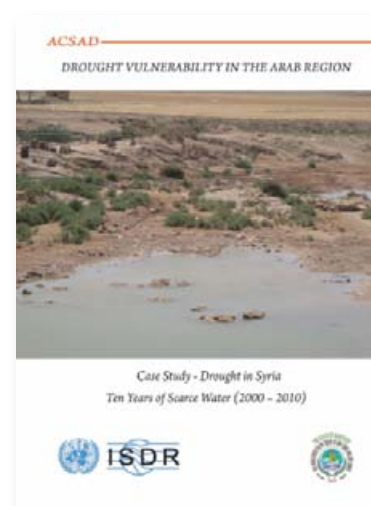
This report illustrates in detail how people access drinking water and what changes have occurred since 1990. The report includes multiple disaggregation of water service levels and analyses of trends across countries and regions. It focuses on the three key challenges of equity, safety and sustainability. Disparities in terms of geography, wealth and gender are explored, which highlight the need to target water service delivery towards specific populations. Water safety concerns are highlighted and the scope of household water treatment is investigated. The challenges involved in sustaining water services and ensuring reliable supplies, in both rural and urban contexts, are also explored, including the unique threats posed by climate change.

Drought vulnerability in the Arab region: Drought in Syria, ten years of scarce water (2000-2010) case study

United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction Secretariat - Regional Office for Arab States (UNISDR ROAS), Arab Center for the Studies of Arid Zones and Dry Lands (ACSAD). 2011

<http://bit.ly/ruPrBO>

This report addresses drought and focuses on Syria, considered one of the most economically affected countries by drought in the region. The case study provides information on historical droughts in the country between 2000-2010, including data on frequency, vulnerabilities and lessons learned with drought impacts.

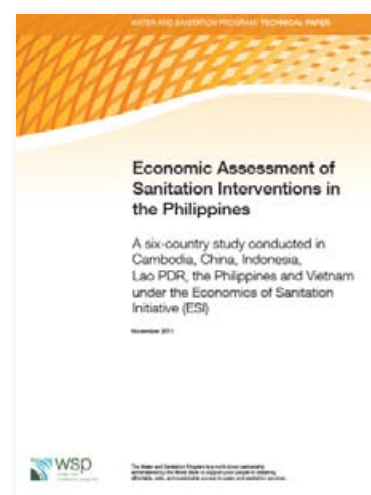


Economic Assessment of Sanitation Interventions in the Philippines. A six-country study conducted in Cambodia, China, Indonesia, Lao PDR, the Philippines and Vietnam under the Economics of Sanitation Initiative (ESI)

World Bank Water and Sanitation Program (WSP). November 2011

<http://bit.ly/rIKLTY>

This study aims to generate evidence on the costs and benefits of sanitation improvements in different contexts in the Philippines. Conducted with a view towards identifying the most economically efficient options under different conditions, it aims to contribute to the decision making processes of government, donor agencies, non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and other institutions. The study quantifies the costs and benefits associated with various sanitation options in different study sites. The benefits include the impacts on health, water sources and treatment, access time, and the reuse of human excreta. The costs include capital or investment costs and the recurrent costs associated with various sanitation options. The costs and benefits of the sanitation options were synthesized using standard indicators of economic efficiency. These indicators included the benefit-cost ratio, cost-effectiveness ratio, net present value, internal rate of the return, and payback period of sanitation options. Cost-effectiveness ratios – cost per disability life year averted, cost per disease case averted, cost per death averted – are also calculated and presented in this report.

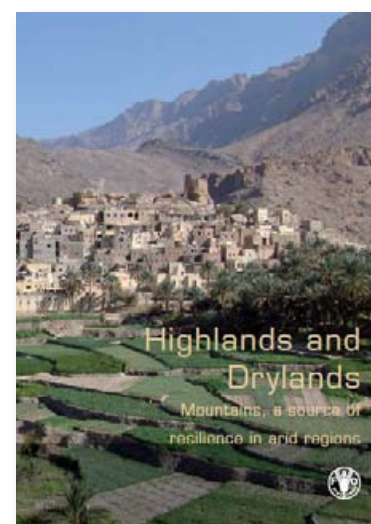


Highlands and Drylands. Mountains, a source of resilience in arid regions

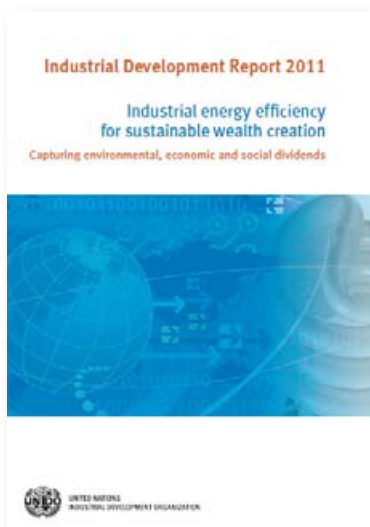
Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), Centre for Development and Environment of the University of Bern. December 2011

<http://bit.ly/tNoaHH>

This publication aims at raising the awareness of the global role of dryland mountains by including these key ecosystems in important global processes such as in particular the UN High Level Panel on Sustainability (GSP), the Rio2012 Conference on Sustainable Development, and the forthcoming next biennium of the Commission for Sustainable Development (CSD) in 2013/2014. It also helps address the particularities of dryland mountains within the global process of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD). The publication is intended to (1) provide an overall vision of the ecological, social and cultural features of dryland mountain socio-ecosystems, highlighting those processes and elements which have determined their resilience to past and present disturbances, describing current and future impacts, and offering a perspective on conservation and sustainable development based on successful examples from all regions of the world, (2) raise the awareness of development experts, donors and policy and decision makers about the relevance, extent, main challenges, solutions and good practices developed to address desertification and development issues in dryland mountain ecosystems worldwide.



Latest publications

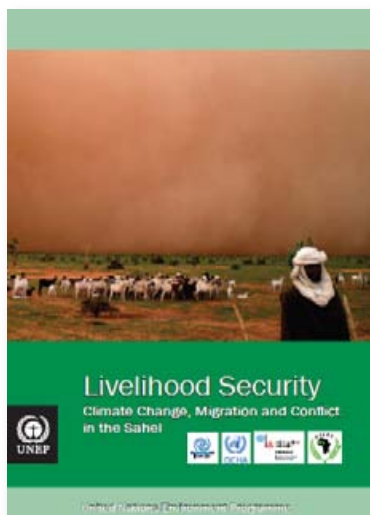


Industrial Development Report 2011. Industrial energy efficiency for sustainable wealth creation. Capturing environmental, economic and social dividends

United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO). January 2012

<http://bit.ly/w2LzBa> Executive summary <http://bit.ly/A93enO>

The Industrial Development Report 2011 (IDR) addresses the role of industrial energy efficiency in sustainable industrial development. It focuses on industrial energy-efficiency challenges in developing countries, which are emerging as key actors in global industrial development. The report looks in depth at long-term trends in industrial energy intensity and related technological and structural change; examines the environmental, economic and social benefits of industrial energy efficiency; and identifies obstacles to its promotion and uptake and ways to overcome them. Water use and pollution, water linkages to energy efficiency, etc. are intrinsically linked to manufacturing; these and other water-related challenges are also addressed by the report.



Livelihood Security. Climate change, Migration and Conflict in the Sahel

United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP). December 2011

<http://bit.ly/shYMT7> Executive summary <http://bit.ly/sY3sVh>

This joint study, involving four UN agencies, analyzes regional climate trends over the past 40 years and their implications for the availability of natural resources, livelihoods, migration and conflict in 17 West African countries. The study has two objectives: to analyze the historical climate trends in the region, identify hotspots and determine the potential implications for livelihoods which depend on natural resources; and to provide recommendations for improving conflict and migration sensitivity in adaptation planning, investments and policies across the region. The analysis shows that overall temperatures have raised, droughts have been recurrent and severe, rainfall has generally increased and floods have occurred more frequently and with more intensity



Managing the growing impacts of development on fragile coastal and marine ecosystems: Lessons from the Gulf

United Nations University Institute for Water, Environment and Health (UNU-INWEH). 2011

<http://bit.ly/srQFPY>

The eight countries surrounding the Gulf (referred to as both the Persian and Arabian Gulf) – Bahrain, Kuwait, Iran, Iraq, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, and the United Arab Emirates – share a valuable marine ecosystem that now risks becoming seriously degraded by a number of anthropogenic impacts. This policy report highlights the greatest environmental threats facing the Gulf region and offers advice to managers and decision makers on how to avoid or mitigate the impacts of coastal development and improve environmental management.

Mountain Forests in a Changing World. Realizing values, addressing challenges. Chapter 2 Sources of freshwater

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO). December 2011

<http://bit.ly/vVDmiS>

This publication is intended to raise awareness of the global importance and the need for sustainable management of mountain forests. Chapter 2 focuses on these valuable ecosystems and on their role and influence in both the quantity and quality of water supplies. Four specific cases are analyzed, including the following:

- The forests of the Catskill Mountains, USA: Watershed for a megalopolis;
- Ensuring the provision of environmental services from Selva de Florencia Natural National Park, Colombia;
- Popa Mountain Park: An oasis on the dry plains of Myanmar;
- The proposed Mavavi Area for Protection of Flora and Fauna, Sonora, Mexico.

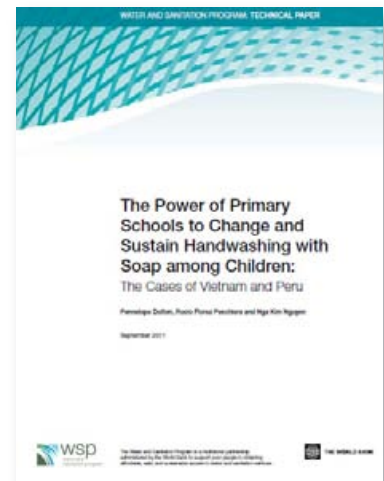


(The) Power of Primary Schools to Change and Sustain Handwashing with Soap among Children: The Cases of Vietnam and Peru

World Bank Water and Sanitation Program (WSP). September 2011

<http://bit.ly/zkkDaU>

The WSP Global Scaling up Handwashing Project focuses on applying innovative promotional approaches to generate widespread and sustained improvement in handwashing with soap practice. This document describes the approaches to changing children's handwashing with soap behavior, first in Vietnam, then Peru, followed by some lessons learned and conclusions.

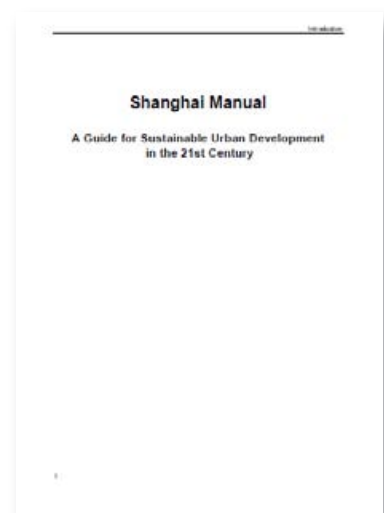


Shanghai Manual: A Guide for Sustainable Urban Development in the 21st Century

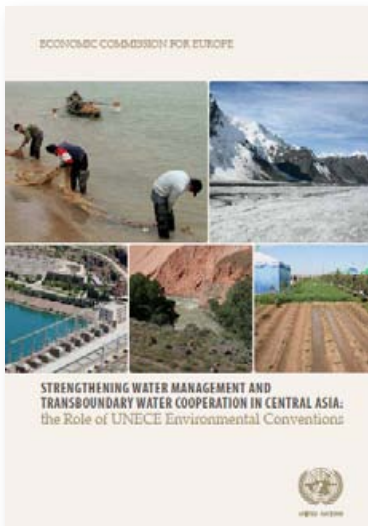
United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA). November 2011

<http://bit.ly/sUv6aU>

This manual is intended to provide a resource on sustainable urban development to mayors, urban planners and decision-makers of cities around the world and is a result of the debates that took place at the World Expo 2010, held in Shanghai, dedicated to the theme "Better City, Better Life." The chapters in this Manual reflect the topics that were analyzed in depth during the thematic forums organized during the Shanghai Expo. Each chapter focuses on a particular theme. There is a discussion of issues and challenges faced by city leaders followed by a description of policy options and measures that have been successfully employed in cities to address those challenges. This is followed by the presentation of a number of practical case studies outlining the experience of cities in implementing a mix of policy measures. The case studies and best practices compiled in the manual use examples from large cities in both developed and developing nations. Water supply and sanitation are an important component in most cases analyzed.



Latest publications

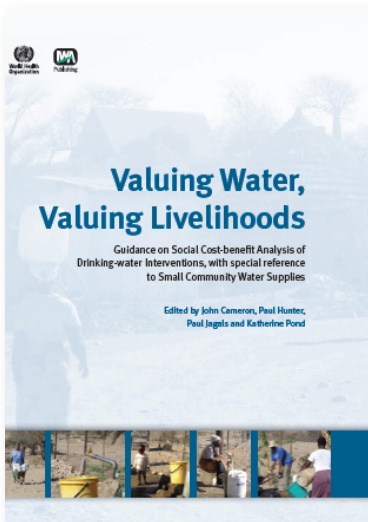


Strengthening Water Management and Transboundary Water Cooperation in Central Asia: the Role of UNECE Environmental Conventions

Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE). December 2011

<http://bit.ly/zl3EVu>

This publication is intended to help experts and policymakers alike to better understand how the UNECE environmental conventions can contribute to the development of transboundary cooperation and more effective management of regional water resources in Central Asia. The publication presents these legal instruments together in a comprehensive way and focuses on the legal framework for inter-State cooperation on water as provided by UNECE multilateral environmental instruments. The publication goes further than explaining the principles and provisions of the UNECE Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes by exploring the synergies between the five UNECE environmental Conventions and their protocols. The publication is specifically tailored to the interests of the Central Asian region. It addresses a wide range of thematic issues important for regional water management in Central Asia – from water quantity and water quality to floods, climate change and building of hydrotechnical installations – and shows how UNECE environmental instruments regulate these issues.

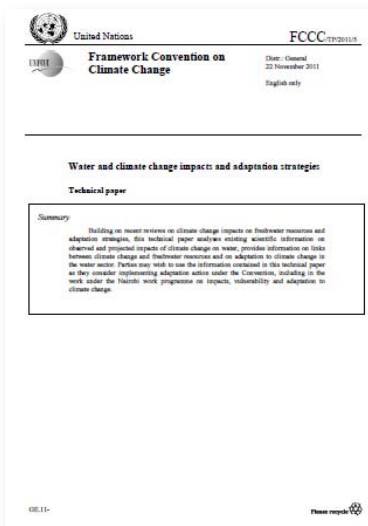


Valuing Water, Valuing Livelihoods. Guidance on Social Cost-benefit Analysis of Drinking-water Interventions, with special reference to Small Community Water Supplies

World Health Organization (WHO), International Water Association (IWA). December 2011

<http://bit.ly/AAy5aA>

The aim of this publication is to give decision-makers, health professionals and analysts a comprehensive view of the arguments and challenges associated with establishing the value of drinking-water interventions. The experts who have contributed to this publication provide guidance on assessing the benefits from improving access to safe drinking-water and from reducing the burden of water-related diseases. They show how to compare the value of these benefits to the costs of interventions, with special reference to small-scale drinking-water systems. The specific focus of this publication is on the socioeconomic appraisal and evaluation of drinking-water interventions. This book is especially concerned with small-scale drinking-water systems. Such systems are predominantly relevant to rural areas (although the methods described could also be applied, in principle, to large-scale drinking-water systems in urban areas).



Water and climate change impacts and adaptation strategies. Technical paper

United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). November 2011

<http://bit.ly/uFjgao>

Building on recent reviews on climate change impacts on freshwater resources and adaptation strategies, this technical paper analyses existing scientific information on observed and projected impacts of climate change on water, provides information on links between climate change and freshwater resources and on adaptation to climate change in the water sector. Parties may wish to use the information contained in this technical paper as they consider implementing adaptation action under the Convention, including in the work under the biennial work programme on impacts, vulnerability and adaptation to climate change.

Women at the frontline of climate change. Gender risks and hopes**United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP). December 2011**<http://bit.ly/rPs50X>

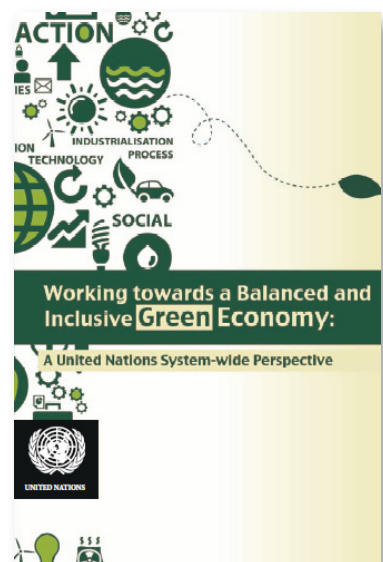
This publication presents an overview of central issues relevant to opportunities for adaptation – and also the risks that women are exposed to with climate change in mountain regions. Adaptation strategies as well as climate change impacts on the environment and water resources are especially analyzed.

**(The) WHO e-atlas of disaster risk for the European Region. Volume 1. Exposure to natural hazards****World Health Organisation (WHO) Europe. December 2011**<http://bit.ly/vjFEKE>

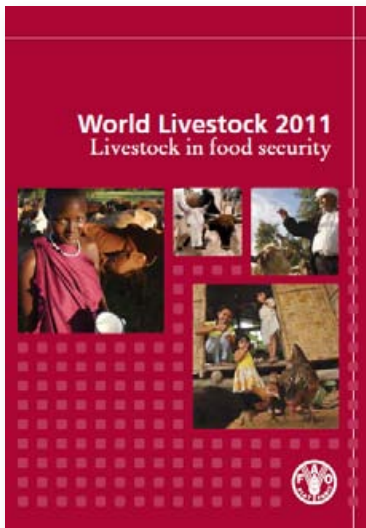
This e-atlas models the distribution of five natural hazards – seismic activity, floods, landslides, heat-waves and winds – and populations' exposure to them in 32 countries of the European Region. It provides the baseline data and maps needed to assess where the potential for damage may be the greatest and to underpin the call for more resources to improve emergency preparedness, reduce the health risks to vulnerable populations and aid the emergency response. This information also supports the identification, planning and prioritization of areas for prevention and mitigation activities. The aim of the e-atlas is to raise awareness of disaster risk among ministries of health and other health stakeholders, and so stimulate improvement in their disaster-management capacity.

**Working towards a Balanced and Inclusive Green economy: A United Nations System-wide Perspective****United Nations Environment Management Group (UNEM). December 2011**<http://bit.ly/vL7Kcz>

This report builds on the statement of June 2009 by United Nations entities on the "Green Economy: A Transformation to Address Multiple Crises" and provides a common reference for United Nations agencies on the meaning and implications of a green economy approach including the possibilities such an approach brings in terms of improved public-private collaboration. It highlights key messages from our evolving understanding of what is required to meet current economic and resource challenges. The report is organized into four main Parts, covering (i) concepts and institutions; (ii) investing in physical infrastructure and target sectors; (iii) investing in people and human capital and the societal infrastructure; and (iv) enabling policies and measures for the transition. Chapter 4 provides an update on infrastructure needs in developing countries and the urgent need for longer-term investment to deal effectively with services such as the supply of cleaner energy and water.



Latest publications

**World Livestock 2011. Livestock in food security**

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO). December 2011

<http://bit.ly/rsJXVg>

Feeding the world's poor is one of the most pressing challenges of the present day, as human populations grow and put increasing strain on natural resources. This report expands the 2009 State of Food and Agriculture (FAO 2009) and tells the story of livestock and food security from three perspectives. The first section of the report presents a global overview, examining the role that livestock play in various dimensions of food security. It describes the place of livestock products in human nutrition, the contribution of livestock to the world food supply and its stability, and it discusses the way that livestock can affect food access, particularly for poor families, as a direct source of food and a source of income. The second section shifts from the global level to a human perspective, examining the way in which livestock contributes to the food security of three different human populations – livestock-dependent pastoralists and ranchers, small-scale mixed farmers and urban dwellers. The chapters briefly describe the main issues each population faces and then introduce related case studies to examine certain points in more practical detail. The final part of the report looks to the future. It discusses the expected demand for livestock source food and the way that increased demand can be met with ever more limited resources. It reviews the drivers that led to the livestock revolution, how these have changed and what the implications will be for livestock contributing to food security. The issues of water availability, water supply, sanitation and livestock being closely interlinked are addressed by the report.

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