

## FURTHER READING

### GROUP-BASED FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS FOR THE RURAL POOR IN BANGLADESH: AN INSTITUTIONAL- AND HOUSEHOLD-LEVEL ANALYSIS

Zeller M, M Sharma, AU Ahmed, S Rashid. 2001. Research Report 120. International Food Policy Research Institute, Washington, D.C. Download from: [www.ifpri.org/pubs/abstract/abstr120.htm#download](http://www.ifpri.org/pubs/abstract/abstr120.htm#download)

Faced with inadequate responses from both the private and the government sectors, to the need for financial support to the poor and micro-entrepreneurs in Bangladesh, NGOs have spearheaded a worldwide movement to provide affordable financial services to the poor. IFPRI is making lessons from the Bangladeshi experience available to a global audience. In 1988, IFPRI published a research report that examined the Grameen Bank's approach to providing credit services and the manner in which it affected the livelihood of its clients. Other successful models of credit and savings delivery have emerged since then. This research report looks at three institutions that represent three distinct approaches to providing services to households organised in small groups. The authors report on three major issues. By the same author, the theme paper *Models of Rural Finance Institutions* is expected to be released soon via: [www.basis.wisc.edu/rfc/themes/models.html](http://www.basis.wisc.edu/rfc/themes/models.html)

### URBAN POLICY IMPLICATIONS FOR FOOD SECURITY IN AFRICAN CITIES

UN-Habitat. 2002. Report of the workshop (under the same title) held in Nairobi, Kenya, on 27-31 May, 2002, organised by UN-Habitat in partnership with FAO, IDRC and SIUPA.

This report presents an overview of the discussions on urban food security and the various strategies and mechanisms towards achieving this. Major themes of the workshops were Food Security and Poverty Reduction; Rural-Urban Food Flows; Land Tenure and Land Use, and Credit and Investment for Urban Agriculture.

### URBAN FRINGE AGRICULTURE

Asian Productivity Organization. 2002. Report of the APO Seminar on Urban Fringe Agriculture held in Tokyo, Japan, from 17-24 May, 2000 (246 pages). Order: Asian Productivity Organization, Tokyo, 102-0093, Japan, Tel: (81-3) 52226-3920; e-mail: [apo@apo-tokyo.org](mailto:apo@apo-tokyo.org); URL: [www.apo-tokyo.org](http://www.apo-tokyo.org)  
This report contains four resource papers on urban and periurban agriculture in the Asia-Pacific Region, and prospective issues and challenges of urban fringe agriculture; with an additional 19 country reports on Bangladesh, China, Fiji, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Mongolia, Nepal, Pakistan, Philippines, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Vietnam.

### LEARNING FROM CLIENTS: ASSESSMENT TOOLS FOR MICROFINANCE PRACTITIONERS

Nelson, C and Garber, C (eds, with contributions from B Mknelly, E Edgcomb, G Gaile, K Lippold, N Horn and B Beard). 2001. The SEEP Network (The Small Enterprise Education and Promotion Network). Management Systems International, Washington, D.C. 341 pp. (available in English, French and Spanish). Download or Order via: [www.microfinancegateway.org/static/1646.htm](http://www.microfinancegateway.org/static/1646.htm)

An in-depth process of consultation and field testing, reflection, and improvement has gone into this manual. The process was led by a core team of SEEP Network private voluntary organisation (PVO) practitioners. It was supplemented by the guidance of AIMS researchers and USAID, and it engaged NGO practitioners of microfinance (in six sites around the world) as testers, trainees, and early users. Out of this pooling of diverse experience and skills, has emerged a document that offers several critical advances in the practice of mid-range impact assessment: Detailed guidance - written by and for practitioners - for planning and implementing impact assessments and for analysing all data generated; A coherent set of quantitative and qualitative tools that address the most common hypotheses that undergird microfinance programmes; Clear explanations of indicators and measures used, along with supplementary discussions of additional sets of potential interest to individual users; and Methods that provide information on impact and client satisfaction and that result in specific feedback for programme improvement.

### DISTRIBUTION, GROWTH AND PERFORMANCE OF MICROFINANCE INSTITUTIONS IN AFRICA, ASIA AND LATIN AMERICA

Lapenu, C and Zeller M. 2001. International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI), Washington, D.C., 34 pp. Download via: [www.ifpri.org/divs/fcnd/dp.htm](http://www.ifpri.org/divs/fcnd/dp.htm)

How many microfinance institutions (MFIs) exist in the developing world? What are their current performances? In 1999, an IFPRI team on microfinance conducted a survey on MFIs in Asia, Africa and Latin America in order to offer a new in-depth analysis on the distribution and performance of MFIs at the international level. The database of MFIs from 85 developing countries shows 1,500 institutions (790 institutions worldwide plus 688 in Indonesia) supported by international organisations. The IFPRI database underlines the presence of a multitude of MFIs that, except in unstable countries, are widespread with no forgotten regions. MFIs are very diverse in terms of lending technologies and legal status, which allows room for innovation but they remain highly concentrated. The data are analysed by type of MFIs and by geographic regions. The results presented give an overview of the current development of MFIs and offer a benchmark for comparisons.

### STRENGTHENING THE KNOWLEDGE AND INFORMATION SYSTEMS OF THE URBAN POOR

Theo Schilderman. 2002. Intermediate Technology Development Group (ITDG), London, 54 pp. To view the document, visit: [www.itdg.org/html/shelter/docs/kis\\_urban\\_poor\\_report\\_march2002.doc](http://www.itdg.org/html/shelter/docs/kis_urban_poor_report_march2002.doc)

### THE GOOD FOOD BOX GUIDE: HOW TO START A PROGRAM IN YOUR COMMUNITY

Scharf, Kathryn and Morgan, Mary Lou. FoodShare, Toronto. Cost: CA\$25. Order via: [www.foodshare.net/learn.htm#pub3](http://www.foodshare.net/learn.htm#pub3)

This manual was published for people who are thinking about starting a programme in their own community. The Good Food Box Guide is designed to provide direction to people and organisations who are interested in developing a non-profit fresh fruit and vegetable distribution system in a way that also encourages community development. Examples are provided of newsletters, promotional pamphlets, sample box contents, work rhythms and growth mechanisms. A summary of a professional evaluation that was carried out on the Good Food Box is also included for use with potential supporters and funders.

[www.unCDF.org/english/microfinance/index.html](http://www.unCDF.org/english/microfinance/index.html)

is the site of the United Nations Capital Development Fund. UNCDF, through its micro-finance programmes, supports a variety of initiatives that facilitate the provision of financial services to the poor, such as investments in micro-finance institutions (MFIs) and the MicroStart Programme with UNDP country offices; technical advisory services; a supportive learning agenda; best practice dissemination and capacity building. A joint unit between UNDP and UNCDF, established in 1997 called the Special Unit for Microfinance (SUM), is integrated fully into UNCDF, and is now considered the lead technical unit on all matters pertaining to micro-finance in the UNDP Group.

[www.basis.wisc.edu/rfc/lit/longbib.html](http://www.basis.wisc.edu/rfc/lit/longbib.html)

On this site of the CRSP (Collaborative Research Support Program), an annotated version of a review of rural finance is available (with abstracts). The BASIS CRSP seeks to improve rural prosperity by making markets work for all. Supported by the US Agency for International Development, BASIS CRSP targets global constraints by undertaking and disseminating collaborative, policy-oriented research.

[www.microfinancegateway.org](http://www.microfinancegateway.org)

The Microfinance Gateway is a public forum for the micro-finance industry at large that offers a wealth of tailored services for micro-finance professionals, including resource centres on specific related topics, a searchable library of electronic documents, a consultant database, a job listing service, and specialised discussion groups. The Gateway's resources constitute the most comprehensive source of information on micro-finance on the Web, featuring 2,500 online documents, over 500 listings of micro-finance institutions (MFIs) and nearly 200 consultant *curricula vitae*.

[www.fao.org/ag/ags/agsm/biblio.htm](http://www.fao.org/ag/ags/agsm/biblio.htm)

At this FAO site, you will find the Bibliography on Agricultural Credit and Rural Savings, Second Series No. 10, which has been prepared by the FAO Rural Finance Group in AGSM, in collaboration with the Department of Agricultural Economics at Ohio State University (OSU), USA.

[www.gdrc.org/icm/icm-bibliography.html](http://www.gdrc.org/icm/icm-bibliography.html)

This is another library on micro-credit, this time containing 810 entries, from the Global Development Research Centre. Giving you categories such as Newsletters on Micro Finance, Islamic Banking and the Urban Informal Sector. Also of interest is the page [www.gdrc.org/uem/index.html](http://www.gdrc.org/uem/index.html) on Urban Environmental Management.

[www.ipes.org/aguila/Novedades/agenciasfinancadoras.pdf](http://www.ipes.org/aguila/Novedades/agenciasfinancadoras.pdf)

[www.ipes.org/ProgramaGA.htm](http://www.ipes.org/ProgramaGA.htm)

At this site, you will find an overview of the major donor agencies and their programmes related to environmental action. The site is in Spanish but it contains a wealth of information, providing names, addresses, webpages and financing areas.

[www.bath.ac.uk/cds/microhome.htm](http://www.bath.ac.uk/cds/microhome.htm) and

[www.bath.ac.uk/cds/microbibl.htm](http://www.bath.ac.uk/cds/microbibl.htm)

The University of Bath (UK) presents here over 200 references on micro-finance and micro-enterprises.

[www.puvep.com/asiaurbs.htm](http://www.puvep.com/asiaurbs.htm)

This is the site of the project of the GIS-based Urban Environmental Resources Management and Food Security Project. This EuropeAid-funded project assists the city government of Cagayan de Oro (Philippines) to set up a community-based GIS databank, which will enable it to run an integrated plan for the environment and sustainable development. It is to promote agricultural activities in the city through the establishment of allotment gardens. Aside from addressing food security issues, particularly for the urban poor, the aim is to solve a number of the city's waste management problems by converting biodegradable waste into organic fertilisers for allotment gardeners.

[www.bagelhole.org](http://www.bagelhole.org)

Bagelhole is a not-for-profit project that came out of the Y2K scare and the advent of the internet. By collecting and sharing low-tech, alternative, sustainable information, the site organisers hope to assist in building a low-tech, alternative, sustainable infrastructure globally. Everyone is free to participate. Under various categories (Food, Water, Housing, etc.), one can read about many different technologies.

[www.earthlypursuits.com](http://www.earthlypursuits.com)

Earthly pursuits was first envisioned as an e-book reference library on all aspects of gardening. They have been collecting old books and magazines to be digitised and offered online and as reprints through print-on-demand technology. A series of eight pamphlets published by the U.K. Ministry of Agriculture at its wartime base at the Berri Court Hotel in Lytham St. Annes, Lancashire, England is also available.

[www.sites.si.edu/education/search\\_pubs.asp?main=1&sub=3](http://www.sites.si.edu/education/search_pubs.asp?main=1&sub=3)

This book explores the history of vegetable gardens, from Aztec *chinampas* to the backyards of Americans today. Illustrated with over 100 historical and contemporary images, the book provides a fascinating and humorous discussion on how vegetables and vegetable gardens have been perceived across time and across cultures.

[www.gardenvisit.com/got/](http://www.gardenvisit.com/got/)

This site gives a rich overview of gardening throughout the ages, from ancient Egypt to modern society, but also links to garden societies, references, etc.

[www.microcreditsummit.org/](http://www.microcreditsummit.org/)

The Microcredit Summit +5 (held in November 2002 in New York, USA) was attended by over 2,000 delegates. Six papers were presented in the plenary sessions covering the following topics: Ensuring impact; Building better lives; Innovations from the field; Policies, regulations and systems that promote sustainable financial services to the poor; Empowering women through micro-finance; Financing micro-finance for poverty reduction; Executive summaries of these papers can be found on the Summit website.