

**[Blog: “Development from the Ground Up? Mining Community Development Agreements in Sierra Leone”](#)**

By Jared Schott et al., on *“Governance for Development,” World Bank*

This blog discusses “Community Development Agreements (CDAs),” which a growing number of mining companies and governments have rolled out. CDAs is an umbrella term covering formal arrangements for local development between a company and designated communities. CDAs can run the gamut of the community-company relationship, including, among other areas, socio-environmental impacts, benefit sharing, employment, monitoring, and grievance redress.

**[Blog: “Putting Ourselves in Women’s Shoes: Experiences from Rural Bolivia”](#)**

By Francisco Obreque on *“Voices: Perspectives on Development,” World Bank*

The author discusses why it is vital to gain an in-depth understanding of the specific sociocultural settings of the women who participate in development programs and projects, by introducing three lessons he learned from a community-driven development project in Bolivia.

**[Blog: “The Accountability Lab: Building a community”](#)**

By Roxanne Bauer on *“People, Spaces, Deliberation,” World Bank*

The blog introduces the ‘Accountability Lab,’ which meets “people where they are, not where we want them to be,” and takes into consideration the varying levels of literacy, numeracy, and other practical skills of clients when designing a program.

**[Blog: “Radical Community Work Journal”](#)**

On *International Association for Community Development* on February 2015

The first edition of the recently launched “Radical Community Work Journal,” with some interesting articles on community development, is introduced here.

**\*Cases and evidence\***

**[Another Nargis Strikes Every Day: Post-Nargis Social Impacts Monitoring Five Years On](#)**

By World Bank, EMR and GFDRR

***Abstract:***

Natural disasters can have profound impacts on the social and economic fabric of affected communities. These evolve over time, as a function of the strength of community coping mechanisms, the effectiveness of the aid effort, subsequent external events, and changes in the wider social and economic environment. As time goes on, the needs and priorities of affected communities change accordingly. Understanding these evolving impacts and needs is vital for effective delivery of post-disaster and development assistance in the context of longer-term recovery. Cyclone Nargis hit the Ayeyarwady Delta on May 2, 2008 and killed an estimated 140,000 people. Three rounds of Post-Nargis Social Impacts Monitoring (SIM) were carried out in the post-disaster recovery period from 2008-10. By focusing on a limited set of villages, SIM

provided in-depth information on how village life was changing post-Nargis and insights into how aid responses could best help Delta communities. This fourth round of SIM (SIM 4) provides a snapshot of village economic and social life five years after Cyclone Nargis in terms of socioeconomic conditions, and social relations and institutions.

### **Participation in Kenya's Local Development Funds: Reviewing the Past To Inform the Future**

By Christopher Finch and Annette Akinyi Omolo, *World Bank Working Paper Series*

#### ***Abstract:***

Kenya's new Constitution mandates a new era of public participation in government, particularly within the devolved government structure. The new devolved structures can benefit from reviewing the country's prior experience with decentralization. The Kenyan government and citizens gained extensive experience in local participatory development through decentralized programs and funds, in particular the local authority transfer fund and the constituency development fund. This paper focuses on the two development funds because participatory initiatives both by the government and the civil society were centered on them. This paper reviews Kenya's past experiences on public participation in local service delivery to highlight practical lessons that county governments can draw from as they design participation mechanisms.

### **Mobilization, Participatory Planning Institutions, and Elite Capture: Evidence from a Field Experiment in Rural Kenya**

By Ryan Sheely, *World Development*, Vol 67, March 2015

#### ***Abstract:***

This paper examines the linkage between mobilization and elite capture in participatory institutions using a randomized experiment in Kenya. In the treatment group, an environmental organization mobilized individuals to attend a participatory local government planning meeting, which had a large positive effect on citizen participation. Despite this effect, mobilization did not lead to increased adoption of either the organization's preferred projects or the projects requested by citizens. Instead, the intervention changes the type of discrepancies observed in final allocations, indicating that elite control over planning institutions can adapt to increased mobilization and participation.

### **The Relative Distribution: An Alternative Approach To Evaluate the Impact of Community-Level Forestry Organisations on Households**

By Bhangwan Dutta Yadav, Hugh Bigsby, and Ian MacDonald, *Land Use Policy*, 42, January 2015

#### ***Abstract:***

Community forest management in Nepal has shifted from protection to distribution due to a failure of community forestry to have a significant impact on the level of poverty. This failure is often attributed to governance issues, which in Nepal are typically associated with differences in the social status of those holding positions of decision-making power and those who have the most need. Using a modified elite theory that characterizes decision-making in terms of relative wealth and caste of decision-makers, the study looks at the effect of community structure on governance and on distribution of forest products. The results show that when the poor and disadvantaged households participate in decision-making, either as members of the

executive committee or in public assemblies, the relative distribution of firewood, timber and fodder from community forests to poor and disadvantaged households increases. The results provide empirical evidence of the commonly held belief that participation of poor and disadvantaged households in decision-making is a key element of poverty reduction through community management of resources. Based on these results, efforts to increase participation of poor and disadvantaged households in decision-making should be a critical part of planning community forest governance.

## NEWS FROM THE REGION

**Press Release: [World Bank Supports Social Investments in 150 Communities Across Armenia](#)**

On March 15, The World Bank Board of Executive Directors approved a US\$30 million loan for the [Social Investment and Local Development \(SILD\) Project](#) in Armenia. This project will further assist the Government of Armenia to improve the quality, use of, and access to community infrastructure for the poor and vulnerable groups. Local populations throughout Armenia will benefit from renovated and rehabilitated social infrastructure such as schools, kindergartens, health and social service facilities, community centers, water supply, waste management, as well as economic infrastructure such as irrigation systems, agro-processing and storage facilities, markets, etc. Priority needs will be identified through assessments of economic development potential and prioritization by the communities.

**Feature Story: [Village-Run Enterprises Improve the Delivery of Water Services in Indonesia](#)**

A new law has paved the way for village enterprises to be more involved in providing clean water access but many are not effectively managed. A World Bank Group-supported program is helping transform informal water organizations managed by the community into established enterprises. Transformation from an informal entity to a legal enterprise is helping communities gain access to clean and reliable water supply. [Check out the slide show here.](#)

**Press Release: [World Bank Continues Supporting Local Governance and Rural Development in the Kyrgyz Republic](#)**

On March 27, The World Bank Board of Executive Directors approved IDA financing in the amount of US\$12 million equivalent for the [Third Village Investment Project](#) in the Kyrgyz Republic. US\$6.6 million is a highly concessional credit and US\$5.4 million is a grant. The Third Village Investment Project aims to build the capacity of local self-governments to work with their communities to plan and implement local development programs. In particular, the project will work with local community members, local administration staff and local council members to increase their capacity for participatory development through social mobilization, training and peer-to-peer learning activities. It will also support the design and implementation of sub- and micro-projects from local investment plans to improve access of rural citizens to quality community infrastructure services.

**Press Release: [“Supporting Sustainable Forest Plantations in Vietnam”](#)**

Implemented from 2005 to 2015 in the provinces of Binh Dinh, Quang Ngai, Quang Nam, Thua Thien Hue, Nghe An and Thanh Hoa, the [Forest Sector Development Project](#) has brought strong social, environmental, and economic benefits to local communities. More than 43,000 households in central Vietnam have received access to micro finance and technical support to establish over 76,500 hectares of forest under this project.

## PAST EVENTS

### **BBL: “Governance Challenges and Successes; Case of Afghanistan National Solidarity Program (NSP)”** Tuesday, February 17, 12:30-2:00

In Afghanistan, the Ministry of Rural Rehabilitation and Development (MRRD) implements the country’s flagship national CDD program—called [the National Solidarity Program](#) (NSP)—which has established more than 33,000 Community Development Councils (CDCs) throughout the country, and has invested more than \$1.2 billion in more than 60,000 sub-projects for small-scale transport, irrigation, energy, water and sanitation, education, and health facilities in a transparent, accountable, and cost effective way. CDCs have played an important role in establishing the legitimacy of the state and in gradually transforming decision-making and governance in Afghan villages, yet challenges remain to ensure that CDCs are representative, inclusive, active throughout the country, and mobilize communities for the long-term. Abdul Rahman, NSP’s executive director, spoke about the experience of the program in promoting governance in rural Afghanistan and the challenges the program was facing.

- *Speakers:* **Abdul Rahman**, Executive Director, NSP
- *Discussant:* **Janmejay Singh**, Senior Strategy and Operations Officer, MNA
- *Chair:* **Sean Bradley**, Lead Social Development Specialist, GPSURR

### **BBL: “Cultural Dimensions of Post-Disaster Reconstruction: The Links between Housing, Culture, Lifestyles, and Livelihoods,”** Wednesday, April 1, 2015, 12:30 PM - 2:00 PM

The way communities build reflects their culture, social organization, livelihoods and lifestyles. When disasters destroy houses they also destroy their owners' identity and history with severe consequences on their wellbeing and resilience. It is important that post-disaster housing responses are culturally sensitive. This will be illustrated through the case of housing reconstruction in Tamil Nadu following the Indian Ocean Tsunami of December 2004, where emphasis was put on the provision of multi-hazard resistant houses without paying much consideration to their cultural appropriateness. The presentation will describe the highly ritualized building process of traditional dwellings, the role of women, and the strong links between traditional housing and local lifestyles, livelihoods, and informal social security systems. Discussion will focus on what is to be done to ensure that post-disaster reconstruction recognizes the value of local housing and building processes and the importance of disaster-affected communities to have a leading role in reconstruction. The presentation is based on a longitudinal research project carried out over a period of 10 years on *“Understanding habitats, housing and social change in traditional and relocated post-*

*disaster settlements in India,"* funded by the Swiss National Science Foundation and the Swiss Agency for Development Cooperation.

- **Chair: Maninder Gill**, Director, GSURR
- **Presenter: Jennifer Duyme Barenstein**, World Habitat Research Centre, University of Applied Sciences of Southern Switzerland
- **Discussant: Anna O'Donnell**, Social Development Specialist, GSURR

**Forum: [GPSURR Forum April 20-24](#):** Please check out the event page to learn more about the Forum held by the Global Practice for Social, Urban, Rural, and Resilience from April 20 to April 24. In a separate email, we have shared event information with the CDD CoP members (World Bank internal). [Visit here \(WB members\):](#) ): [Washington DC](#); [Istanbul](#); [Bangkok](#).

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### STAY IN TOUCH!

The Community-Driven Development Community of Practice (CoP) connects peers, thought leaders, and practitioners across governments, diverse agencies, and academia, to share ideas and experiences on CDD, Community-based, and Participatory approach. This CoP is facilitated by the Global Social Development Unit of the Global Practice for Social, Urban, Rural, and Resilience at the World Bank, with inputs from around the world.

To share papers, project news, interesting blogs, or upcoming events on CDD and other relevant themes with the CDD CoP, please email me ([sbradley@worldbank.org](mailto:sbradley@worldbank.org)) and Kaori Oshima ([koshima@worldbank.org](mailto:koshima@worldbank.org)) and we'll incorporate these in the next "What's happening in CDD" email.

*The team would like to thank Markus Kostner and Patricia Fernandes for their contribution to this issue of the newsletter.*