



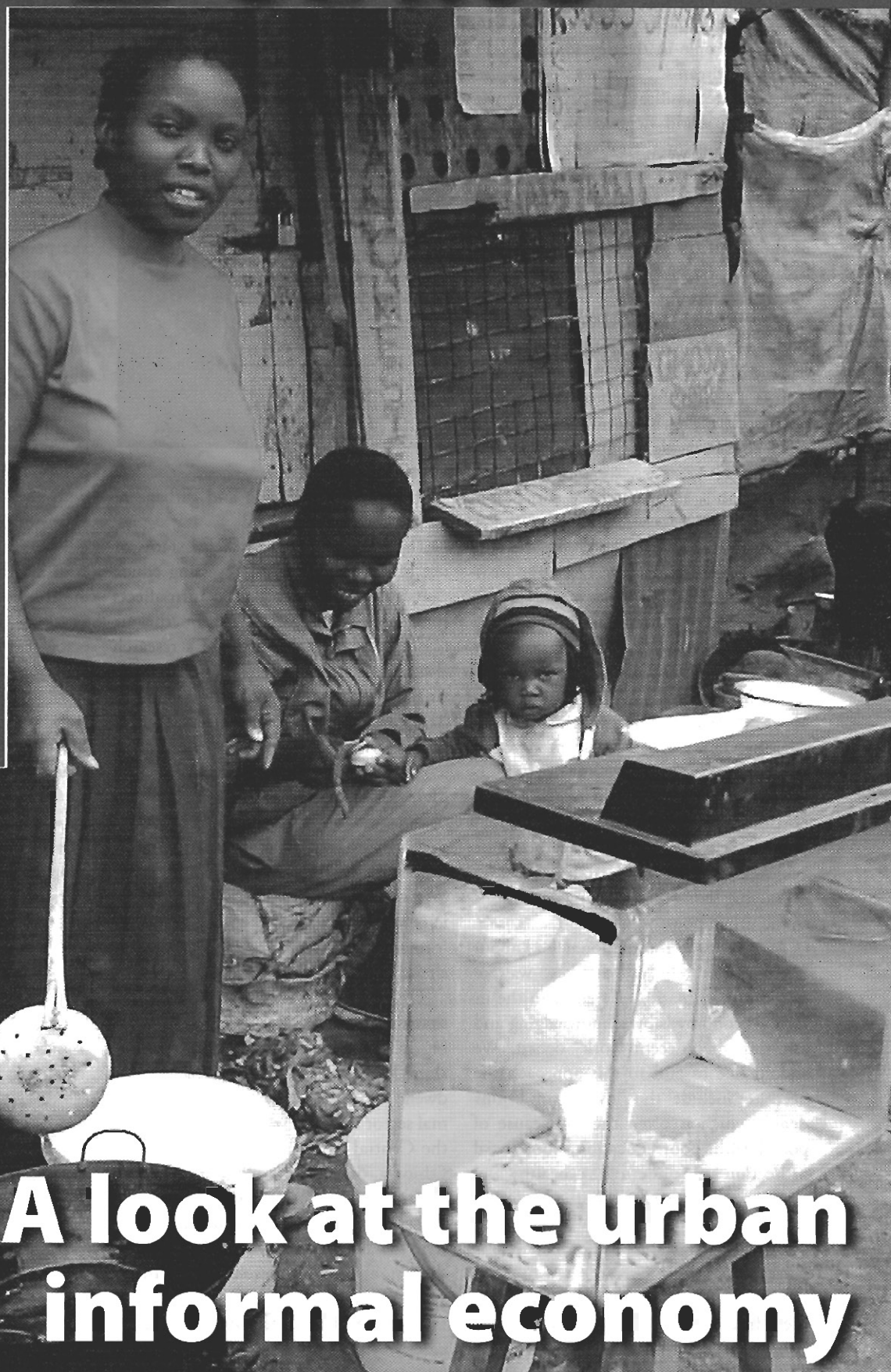
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Habitat Debate



A look at the urban informal economy

Innovative Policies for the Urban Informal Economy

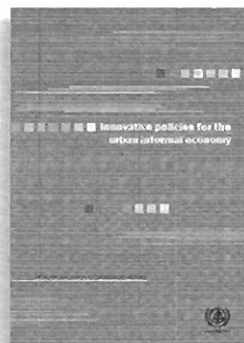
ISBN: 92-1-131846-7

HS: 852/06E

Language: English

Price: US\$ 10.00

Publisher: UN-HABITAT



This report identifies and develops national or municipal regulations and policies aimed at improving the operational efficiency of the urban informal economy and strengthening its income- and employment-enhancing effects on the urban poor. The proposed policies and recommendations contained in the report are based on detailed analyses of existing municipal by-laws and national policies on informal economic activities in selected developing country cities in Africa, Asia and Latin America, namely Bangkok, Delhi, Durban, Lima, Mexico City and Nairobi. Each case study primarily examines innovative experiences of regulatory reform and identifies successful reform policies that could serve as models for other developing country cities.

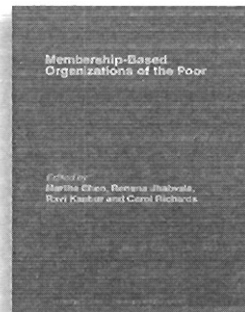
Membership Based Organizations of the Poor

ISBN: 9780415770736

Language: English

Price: US\$135.00

Publisher: Routledge



With contributions from leading experts, this work explores questions about membership based organizations of the poor. Looking at their successes and failures, it uses studies from both developed and developing countries. Several chapters are case studies about membership-based organizations of the poor. They include Cooperatives and the Emancipation of the Marginalized: Case Studies From Two Cities in India by Sharit Bhowmik; Shack/Slum Dwellers International: One Experience of the Contribution of Membership Based Organizations to Pro-poor Urban Development by Celine d'Cruz and Diana Mitlin and Informal Governance Procedures and the Exir Option Among Lima's Street Vending Organizations by Sally Roever.

We Are Poor But So Many: The Story of Self-Employed Women in India

ISBN: 13 978-0-19-516984-3

Author: Ela Bhatt

Language: English

Price: US\$ 45.00

Publisher: Oxford University Press

In 1972, Ela Bhatt founded the Self-Employed Women's Association (SEWA) to bring poor women together and give them ways to fight for their rights and earn better livings. Three years after SEWA was founded, it had 7,000 members. Today it has a total membership of 700,000 women, making it the largest single primary trade union in India. The book provides fascinating accounts of the struggles of women in the informal sector in India. The author asserts that the poor do not need charity; they need work so that they can live with dignity. This book should be of interest to policy makers as it may open their eyes to reality. Academics and activists would certainly find it inspiring. Bhatt led SEWA to form a cooperative bank in 1974 - with a share capital of \$30,000 - that offered microcredit loans to help women save and become financially independent. Today the SEWA Cooperative Bank has \$1.5 million in working capital and more than 30,000 depositors with a loan return rate of 94 percent. Through years of organization and strategic action, Ela Bhatt developed SEWA from a small, often ignored group into a powerful trade union and bank with allies around the world.

**We Are Poor
but So Many**

THE STORY OF SELF-EMPLOYED WOMEN IN INDIA



ELA B. BHATT

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