

Agrarian change, gender and land rights

Shahra Razavi (ed), UNRISD and Blackwell Publishing, Oxford, 2003

This book brings together a collection of essays on gender and land rights, drawing together thinking and experience from a wide range of researchers and countries in Africa, Asia and Latin America. Topics covered range from policy discussions about women's land rights in sub-Saharan Africa to land tenure reforms and women's interests in Tanzania; and from new prospects with respect to gender and land rights in India, to agrarian reform to rural social movements and women's land rights in Brazil.

The chapter by Ann Whitehead and Dzodzo Tsikata "Policy Discourses on Women's Land Rights in Sub-Saharan Africa: The implications of the re-turn to the customary" looks at current ideas on land tenure reform and their implications for women's interest in land. It shows that there is increasing agreement among decision makers (policy institutions, lawyers, academics) of the potential of customary systems of land tenure to meet the needs of all land users. This chapter provides a very good the implications of this growing consensus for women's land interests as customary institutions are often based on male dominated systems for making decisions.

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Keep it in the family



In this video Awa Faly Ba of IIED Sahel argues that family farms are best for the environment social stability and sustainable harvests. *In keep it in the family* Awa travels around Senegal to discuss with farmers and policy makers the challenges and misconceptions surrounding family farming. She demonstrates that while small-scale farmers are eager to modernise, they face many obstacles, including the import of cheap rice from Asia. This video was shown as part of the Earth Report series on BBC World. The video will also be translated into French.

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