

Best
seller

Agricultural value chain finance

Tools and lessons

Agriculture remains an important means of alleviating poverty, but shortage of finance can constrain its development. At the same time agriculture is evolving towards a global system requiring high-quality, competitive products, organized in value chains which often exclude smallholders. Value chain financing in agriculture offers an opportunity to increase the scope and reduce the cost and risk of financing to agriculture. It can also help value chains to be more inclusive, by making resources available for smallholders to integrate into higher value chains. This publication provides a comprehensive look at the models, tools and approaches used by industry leaders in all parts of the developing world. It is essential reading for bankers, microfinance practitioners and credit union leaders working in agriculture, as well as NGO practitioners, agribusiness technical staff, researchers and policy makers.

By: Miller, C., Jones, L.
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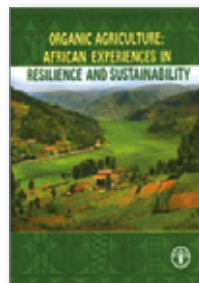


Children's work in the livestock sector: Herding and beyond

Child labour in the livestock sector is widespread and largely ignored. This publication, the first global study on child labour issues related to livestock, points out that agriculture accounts for most of the reported child labour in the world, and livestock accounts for some 40 percent of the agricultural economy. Curbing child labour will require governments, farmer organizations and rural families to become directly involved in finding alternatives to practices that often reflect the need for survival.

FAO, Rome, 2013
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Organic agriculture: African experiences in resilience and sustainability

This publication demonstrates that organic agriculture can benefit people, the economy and ecosystems and that this can be achieved in Africa, where hunger and degradation stubbornly persist despite decades of development efforts. The different chapters document sustainability experiences, including: mainstreaming organic agriculture into African development approaches; community-based livestock systems; indigenous ethno-veterinary practices and new understanding of customary systems of resource management; ecofunctional intensification through management of legumes, systems of rice intensification and integrated farming; and smallholders' knowledge harnessed through family farmers' learning groups and customized information and communication technologies.

Edited by: Auerbach, R., Rundgren, G., El-Hage Scialabba, N.
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Save and Grow: Cassava

A guide to sustainable production intensification

This guide is the first on the practical application of FAO's "Save and Grow" model of agriculture to specific smallholder crops and farming systems. It comes as cassava production intensifies worldwide, and growers shift from traditional cultivation practices to monocropping, higher-yielding genotypes, and greater use of agrochemicals. Intensification carries great risks, including soil nutrient depletion and upsurges in pests and diseases. The guide shows how ecosystem-based "Save and Grow" approaches and practices can help tropical developing countries to avoid the risks of unsustainable intensification, while realizing cassava's potential for producing higher yields, alleviating hunger and rural poverty, and contributing to national economic development.

FAO, Rome, 2013
ISBN 9789251076415
140 pp., 180 x 255mm
USD 42.00, Paperback
also in **e-book** format

- **Rights available in all languages except:** English, Chinese, French (forthcoming)



Global food losses and food waste

The two studies in this volume (one for high/medium-income countries and one for low income countries) aim to raise awareness about global food losses and waste, and the impact of these on poverty and hunger in the world, as well as on climate change and the use of natural resources. They were carried out by The Swedish Institute for Food and Biotechnology (SIK) on request from FAO to serve as a basis for the international congress *Save Food!*, coorganized by Interpack2011 and FAO in May 2011, in Düsseldorf, Germany.

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36 pp., 210 x 297 mm
Not for sale, Paperback

- **Rights available in all languages except:** English, French, Spanish, Japanese, Arabic (forthcoming)



Conservation agriculture and sustainable crop intensification

A Zimbabwe case study

Conservation agriculture (CA) addresses the problem of low and erratic rainfall through the use of practices that reduce water losses and increase infiltration, and improve low soil nutrient status by increasing soil carbon and nitrogen through the use of organic soil cover and legumes in rotations and interactions. This publication describes the experiences of introducing and promoting CA as a practice for sustainable crop production intensification in farming communities across Zimbabwe. The case study is aimed at policy makers, scientists and environmentalists and should inform decision-making relating to sustainable crop intensification.

By: Sepo Marongwe, L.,
Nyagumbo, I., Kwazira, K.,
Kassam, A., Friedrich, T.
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