



Issue 39 Feb-Mar,  
2006

### EDIAIS Products and Services

The Enterprise Development Impact Assessment Information Service (EDIAIS) was established in 2001 on behalf of DFID by Women In Sustainable Enterprise (WISE) Development Ltd and the Institute for Development Policy and Management (IDPM, University of Manchester): it was jointly managed by WISE and IDPM until December 2004. From January 2005, EDIAIS has been managed solely by WISE on behalf of DFID.

The EDIAIS website at <http://www.enterprise-impact.org.uk/> includes:

- **Application Guidance Notes** for undertaking impact assessments in a range of enterprise development environments
- **A Toolbox** with key items for undertaking impact assessments, such as stakeholder analysis, design of surveys etc
- **Case Studies** of projects and programmes demonstrating methods and approaches to impact assessment
- **Conference papers** from the EDIAIS conference on New Directions in Impact Assessment
- **EDIAIS bibliographic database**
- An extensive list of **links** to related websites

EDIAIS services include:

- Our **enquiry service** welcomes your questions and comments: [info@enterprise-impact.org.uk](mailto:info@enterprise-impact.org.uk)
- Our **E-mail discussion list** can be joined by e-mailing <mailto:info@enterprise-impact.org.uk>
- **CD** containing everything on web site as of March 2004 (available on request)
- **Newsletter** (Enterprise Impact News (EIN) – monthly until Jan 2005, subsequently twice annually

## ARE YOU MISSING ANYTHING?

EDIAIS has featured some interesting new studies and debates over the past few months. This Newsletter is a round up of those new papers and topics, so you can go back and check you haven't missed any.

First, some of the new documents we have found or are uploaded onto the site:

**“Principles and Practice of Investment Climate Reform”** .... papers presented to DFID's recent in-house training course. Topics included “Managing investment climate reforms”, “Stakeholder management and communication techniques,” “Regulatory reform and

best practice insights from UK and other countries”, “Overview of the Integrated Impact Assessment (IIAA) Methodology for enabling environment programmes” and “Results measurement for technical assistance and advisory services in IFC.”

**“How to ..... Notes”** [DIFD Private Sector Briefing Notes](#).

This is a series of short notes produced by DFID aimed at giving practical guidance to advisers and practitioners working in the field of private sector development. Topics include: How to ... Harness the Private Sector for Pro-Poor Growth, . Promote



EDIAIS is sponsored by DFID and managed by Women In Sustainable Enterprise Development Ltd (WISE)

Website: [www.enterprise-impact.org.uk](http://www.enterprise-impact.org.uk)

e-mail: [info@enterprise-impact.org.uk](mailto:info@enterprise-impact.org.uk)

Financial Sector for Poverty Reduction...Promote Good Corporate Governance. All provide a succinct introduction to the key issues involved in these programmatic areas for the new comer to PSD work, and a good memory jogger for the more experienced.

**“Pro-poor Growth in the 1990's - Lessons and Insights from 14 countries” (June 2005)**

This is a useful review of impacts and learning from a number of enabling environment policy reform programmes. You can find it at:

<http://www.enterprise-impact.org.uk/BEEenvironments/OtherAgenciesdocs/Pro-PoorGrowthinthe1990s.shtml>

**Livelihood Through Micro-enterprise Services? Assessing Supply and Demand Constraints for Microfinance in Ethiopia" (G Gobezie Nov 2005)**

This paper provides information and advice for those trying to alleviate poverty through micro-finance programmes. This paper was presented at the 3rd International Conference on the Ethiopian Economy, organized by the Ethiopian Economic Association (EEA). It can be found in the EDIAIS Case Studies section at: [Case Studies - EEA](#)



**Learning and Decent Work for All: New directions in training and education for pro-poor growth (L Mayoux, Jan 2006)**

This draft discussion paper argues that the recent small-scale innovations in training and skills development deserve much greater consideration and funding in any serious and coherent strategy for pro-poor growth.

- Part 1 provides an overview of current debates and evidence in relation to training and skills development for pro-poor growth, and proposes a framework for examining training needs.
- Part 2 discusses in detail the poverty impacts and broader implications of the experience of eight innovative training and skills development programmes for which sufficient information was available to the author at the time of writing (see summary).
- Part 3 summarises the main conclusions in relation to potential ways forward to improve the content, targeting, and institutional framework for training and skills development for poor and very poor women and men.

This paper can be found in the EDIAIS Application Guidance Notes at [Application Guidance Notes](#)



**IMPORTANT NEW LINKS**

**USAID MICROLINKS**

Under USAID's Accelerated Microenterprise Advancement Project (AMAP), work is being done to develop and test impact assessment methodologies appropriate for the new generation of private sector development (PSD) projects being promoted by USAID and other donors to improve competitiveness, accelerate economic growth, and reduce poverty.

Some of the issues being addressed in the AMAP work are:

- Understanding the causal chains that lead from donor interventions through project outputs and outcomes to the desired impacts (usually at the sector, enterprise, and household levels)
- Defining and measuring valid counterfactuals
- Measuring impacts on sectors and markets (for products and business services)
- Accounting for the spillover of benefits from

- project participants to others
- Managing the political economy of impact assessment (deterioration of “the culture of evaluation” and the reluctance of many program managers to have their projects evaluated).
- Managing the cost of impact assessment (when to do full-scale assessment; the value of lower-cost methods)

AMAP’s goal is to produce both substantive conclusions about the new generation of PSD projects (what works and where) and methodological conclusions about the best ways to measure the various types of impact sought. View: [http://www.microlinks.org/ev\\_en.php?ID=1222\\_201&ID2=DO\\_TOPIC](http://www.microlinks.org/ev_en.php?ID=1222_201&ID2=DO_TOPIC)

### International Conference on Reforming the Business Environment, Cairo

In December 2005, some 300 people representing 29 donor agencies from field and headquarter structures, as well as representatives of developing country governments and the private sector, arrived in Cairo to discuss ways to

reform the business environment at the Committee of Donor Agencies for Small Enterprise Development International Conference.

The conference considered three stages in the lifecycle of reform programmes: (a) assessing the business environment and designing reforms; (b) the tools, techniques and frameworks that can be used to successfully implement reform programmes; and (c) ways to measure the impact of reforms and to monitor programmes. More than 65 presenters and panellists participated in the programme and 56 papers were presented. These papers described business environment reform experiences from all regions of the world; some focused on reform programmes at the local level conducted with local government authorities and local business membership organizations. Others examined the link between business environments, the informal economy, value chains and gender. Reform programmes – dealing with taxation, regulatory best practice, contract law, land administration and labour law – at both national and local levels were discussed.

View <http://www.sedonors.org/about/story.asp?newsid=98>

for the Conference Communique and to access all the papers that were presented to the Conference.

### OTHER LINKS AND USEFUL RESOURCES:

For information on Outcome Mapping visit [http://www.idrc.ca/en/ev-26586-201-1-DO\\_TOPIC.html](http://www.idrc.ca/en/ev-26586-201-1-DO_TOPIC.html). OM characterizes and assesses the contributions development programs make to the achievement of outcomes. Something to make you chuckle: the site includes a song about the jargon of impact assessment work! Hit [http://www.idrc.ca/en/ev-62239-201-1-DO\\_TOPIC.html](http://www.idrc.ca/en/ev-62239-201-1-DO_TOPIC.html) for a bit of light relief.

PALSnet <http://www.palsnetwork.info> has videos, animation and details of Participatory Action Learning System methodologies. (This uses Flash 8 and if you do not have the free viewer on your machine you should be prompted to download it.)

The Global Development Network (GDN) ([www.gdnet.org](http://www.gdnet.org)) is a world wide network of research and policy institutes working together to address the



EDIAIS is sponsored by DFID and managed by Women In Sustainable Enterprise Development Ltd (WISE)

Website: [www.enterprise-impact.org.uk](http://www.enterprise-impact.org.uk)

e-mail: [info@enterprise-impact.org.uk](mailto:info@enterprise-impact.org.uk)

issues of national and regional development.

Directory of Development Organisation's site has recently been updated at <http://www.devidir.org/>. DDO is a comprehensive listing of nearly 50,000 development organizations dedicated to good governance, sustainable development and poverty reduction.

Commonwealth Business Council has recently produced its updated "Business Environment Survey 2005: Private Sector Views" - excellent country by country analysis. View it at: <http://www.cbclink.org/cbclink/documents/BES.pdf>



Young boy selling coffee in Dili, East Timor

© Shirley Giggey



EDIAIS is sponsored by DFID and managed by Women In Sustainable Enterprise Development Ltd (WISE)

Website: [www.enterprise-impact.org.uk](http://www.enterprise-impact.org.uk)

e-mail: [info@enterprise-impact.org.uk](mailto:info@enterprise-impact.org.uk)

## NEWS ON ASSESSING GENDER FOCUSED PROGRAMMES & POLICIES

WISE Development which manages the EDIAIS site on behalf of DFID has a special interest in gender equality and women's empowerment issues, in particular assessment of related policies and programmes. Here are some of the GE/WE papers that have come into the EDIAIS site recently:

### **“CARE’s Strategic Impact Inquiry on Women’s Empowerment” (S Mosedale, Oct 2005)**

This report presents the findings from the first year of CARE’s Strategic Impact Inquiry (SII) into Women’s Empowerment, an inquiry which is expected to continue for at least another two years and is coordinated by CARE’s Impact Measurement and Learning Team (IMLT). This SII is an important departure for CARE in two ways. It is the first attempt to uncover what the organisation is achieving (and failing to achieve) in tackling not poverty itself but what it has identified as one of poverty’s underlying causes – the subordination of women. It is also a pioneering attempt to discover what impact CARE is having on a global scale. As an innovative and experimental

strategy, this SII is also expected to advance organisational learning about carrying out strategic level impact assessment which will benefit future such investigations.

Find this paper in the EDIAIS Case Studies section: [CARE - Strategic Impact Inquiry](#)

### **“An Introduction to Gender Audit Methodology: its design and implementation in DFID Malawi” (C Moser, May 2005)**

In this paper Caroline Moser outlines the main components of a recently developed gender audit methodology. The paper provides a background for those seeking to undertake gender audits, as well as showing how gender audits can be used within the broader development field to assess progress towards meeting the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

Find this paper in the EDIAIS Application Guidance Notes: [Gender Audit Methodology](#)

And a paper we would recommend on the new GenFinance site is:

### **Women’s Empowerment through sustainable micro-finance: rethinking best practice (L Mayoux, Sept 2005)**

This paper argues that there is a need for a serious rethink of many currently accepted ‘tenets of Best Practice’ in the light of existing evidence of gender impact. There is evidence of significant potential for micro-finance to enable women to challenge and change gender inequalities at all levels if there is a strategic gender focus. There have also been many important recent innovations in products and services to enable women to better benefit. Nevertheless benefits cannot be assumed and even financially sustainable micro-finance if it is gender blind may seriously disempower women and increase inequality. There is a need therefore to make gender ‘Best Practice’ integral to micro-finance design rather than a marginal and marginalised add-on to financial sustainability or poverty reduction. Find this paper at: [http://www.genfinance.info/Documents/Mayoux\\_Backgroundpaper\\_Sept05.doc](http://www.genfinance.info/Documents/Mayoux_Backgroundpaper_Sept05.doc)



EDIAIS is sponsored by DFID and managed by  
Women In Sustainable Enterprise Development Ltd (WISE)

Website: [www.enterprise-impact.org.uk](http://www.enterprise-impact.org.uk)

e-mail: [info@enterprise-impact.org.uk](mailto:info@enterprise-impact.org.uk)

## NEW DISCUSSION GROUPS:

### Theory-Based Evaluation:

In the same way as the 'theory of change' approach to evaluation has tackled the complexity of integrated and comprehensive programmes at the community level, it is suggested that a theory-oriented approach based on the practice of realistic cumulation be developed for dealing with the vertical complexity of multi-level governance.

Find out more, or join the debate at [http://groups.yahoo.com/group/Theory-Based\\_Evaluation/](http://groups.yahoo.com/group/Theory-Based_Evaluation/)

### Best practice in micro finance for women's empowerment:

Join in the debate at <http://finance.groups.yahoo.com/group/genfinance/> This group is discussing gender dimensions of microfinance, in particular how micro-finance can be made more empowering for women and contribute to pro-poor development and civil society strengthening. This discussion group is part of a new site at [www.genfinance.info](http://www.genfinance.info) This site brings together resources which can inform such a rethink and innovations in micro finance. It has a particular focus on gender issues in

some Muslim countries based on discussions in Pakistan, Sudan and Bangladesh. The site is intended as ongoing resource which will grow over time to enable gender experts and micro-finance specialists to work together to develop realisable ways forward.

---

### **OTHER NEW RESOURCES:**

Save the Children Fund UK have produced a useful summary of their experiences of monitoring and impact assessment across all the countries in which they work. It presents a framework for monitoring in the context of rights based approaches, and can be found at: [http://www.savethechildren.org.uk/scuk\\_cache/scuk\\_cache/cmsattach/1509\\_GIMGuidelinesFinal.pdf](http://www.savethechildren.org.uk/scuk_cache/scuk_cache/cmsattach/1509_GIMGuidelinesFinal.pdf)

Here is an opportunity to take an on-line course that is FREE on **action research**. It is sponsored by Southern Cross University and it runs from mid-February for fourteen sessions. The website is: <http://www.scu.edu.au/schools/qcm/ar/areol/areolind.html> Warning: it does require you making a few commitments, such as joining a learning group, reading the materials, and

taking part in discussions on line. But it looks to be a good introduction to the topic with scope for participants to develop a practical learning project in the workplace.

### **CALL FOR YOUR REPORTS AND RESOURCES**

EDIAIS aims to provide information and expertise in enterprise development impact assessment to the development community. It was established in 2000 jointly by WISE Development and Manchester University's Institute for Development of Policy and Management (IDPM), with funding from DFID. Although the substantive research funding for EDIAIS ceased in Dec 2004, WISE Development agreed with DFID to maintain the site on a minimal cost basis so that the site didn't become moribund. As we are now unable to commission special research papers, we now depend on receiving voluntary contributions to update EDIAIS' bank of research papers and case studies.

We would therefore be pleased to hear from you if you are involved in impact studies of programmes or in development of evaluation



EDIAIS is sponsored by DFID and managed by  
Women In Sustainable Enterprise Development Ltd (WISE)

Website: [www.enterprise-impact.org.uk](http://www.enterprise-impact.org.uk)

e-mail: [info@enterprise-impact.org.uk](mailto:info@enterprise-impact.org.uk)

and assessment methodologies and tools.

And please send us details of how we can link to your research papers and websites:

<mailto:info@enterprise-impact.org.uk>

***All back issues of Enterprise Impact News can be downloaded from the EDIAIS web***

**site at:**

<http://www.enterprise-impact.org.uk/newsletter/index.shtml>



**EDIAIS is sponsored by DFID and managed by Women In Sustainable Enterprise Development Ltd (WISE)**

Website: [www.enterprise-impact.org.uk](http://www.enterprise-impact.org.uk)

e-mail: [info@enterprise-impact.org.uk](mailto:info@enterprise-impact.org.uk)