

DEVELOPING CAPACITY IN PARTNERS - Development Committee Paper

Stan Crees and Mat Wilson have prepared the following list of potential resources that might prove helpful to the partners-in-development of OA and BMS in strengthening their own capacity. The list is being sent to all such partners, BMS Regional Secretaries and key BMS development personnel and will be made available as a webpage on BMS and OA sites.

1 Web Sites

1.1 www.talcuk.org is the website of Teaching Aids at Low Cost. TALC is a unique charity whose main objective is to promote the health of children and advance medical knowledge and teaching by providing and developing educational material. Their online store stocks a wide range of healthcare books and accessories including charts, downloads, CD-ROMs, videos and DVDs.

1.2 www.tilz.info : Tearfund's development site. Topics covered on the many thousands of pages on this site include Advocacy, Capacity Development, Child Development, Church and Development, Conflict, Disaster Management, Disaster Risk Reduction, Economic, Education, Gender, HIV and AIDS, Human Rights, Impact Assessment, Poverty and Injustice, Water and Sanitation.

One key source of information within this website is the series of publications called ROOTS which stands for Resourcing Organisations with Opportunities for Transformation and Sharing. ROOTS publications aim to help Christian development organisations in their work. They provide detailed information on relevant topic and are designed to help staff study and use them together. The books contain many case studies of Tearfund partner organisations to learn from the experiences of organisations around the world. Reflection questions are used throughout the books to help readers relate the information to their own situation. The books contain Bible studies to help Christian organisations carry out their work according to biblical values. ROOTS guides are available in English, French, Spanish and Portuguese on this website and hard copies can be ordered.

Another useful set of guides within this web site are the PILLARS Guides which provide practical, discussion-based learning on community development. The Guides are designed for use in small community groups. A trained leader is not required; just one literate person. The Guides aim to increase the knowledge, skills and confidence of group members by drawing out and building on existing knowledge and experience, and empowering members to take charge of their own development. There are between 20 and 24 topics in the Guides.

1.3 www.ileia.org ILEIA, the Centre for Information on Low External Input and Sustainable Agriculture promotes exchange of information for small scale farmers in the South through identifying promising technologies involving no or only marginal external inputs, but building on local knowledge and traditional technologies and the involvement of the farmers themselves in development. Information about these technologies is exchanged mainly through the LEISA Magazine.

- 1.4 www.echotech.org ECHO is a non-profit organization in the USA whose vision is to bring glory to God by using science and technology to help the poor. Their goal is to provide easy access to ECHO documents and other information for those who are working in agricultural development. If you have a specific technical question related to your work in agriculture and appropriate technology, they will try to find an answer for you. Contact echo@echonet.org
- 1.5 www.anancy.net Anancy, the CTA (Technical Centre for Agricultural and Rural Cooperation) Virtual Resource Centre is a web portal providing numerous information resource materials on agricultural and rural development. It compiles the Centre technical publications, proceedings, policy briefs or rural radio materials.
- 1.6 www.oxfam.org Oxfam International is a confederation of 13 organizations working together with over 3,000 partners to find lasting solutions to poverty and injustice.
- 1.7 www.practicalaction.org Practical Action (new name for Intermediate Technology Action Group) aims to demonstrate and advocate the sustainable use of technology to reduce poverty in developing countries.
- 1.8 www.awid.org Association for Women's Rights in Development (AWID) is an international membership organization connecting, informing and mobilizing people and organizations committed to achieving gender equality, sustainable development and women's human rights. Their goal is to cause policy, institutional and individual change that will improve the lives of women and girls everywhere.
- 1.9 www.ashdenawards.org Ashden Awards for Sustainable Energy. Awards made for Solar Energy in India (SELCO), Bio-energy in China and India, Water Mills in Nepal, and others.
- 1.10 www.ich.ucl.ac.uk/about_ich The Institute of Child Health aims to improve the health and wellbeing of children, through research, education and public engagement.
- 1.11 www.ids.ac.uk The Institute of Development Studies is a global organisation for research, teaching and communications on international development.
- 1.12 www.livelihoods.org Livelihoods Connect; resources gathered into this training matrix have been submitted by a variety of development agencies and all have some contribution to make to training for people-centred development with a livelihoods perspective.

2 Publications

2.1 **Footsteps** is a quarterly paper produced by Tearfund that aims to share information, ideas, contacts and experience in a Christian context at grassroots level. It encourages the practical outworking of integral mission in all aspects of local development work. Each issue concentrates on a different topic. Recent issues have included literacy, theatre in development, financial management, pollution, facilitation skills, water and the impact of HIV on children. Over 70 issues have now been produced. The website www.tilz.info contains back copies of all issues, which you can search by topic. It is produced in seven languages: English, French, Spanish, Portuguese, Chinese, Bangla and Hindi. If you would like to be added to the Footsteps mailing list, e-mail footsteps@tearfund.org or write to Footsteps mailing list, Resources Development, 100 Church Road, Teddington, TW11 8QE, UK, with your postal address and brief details of your work and your preferred language version.

2.2 **LEISA Magazine** documents practical field experiences with Low-External Input and Sustainable Agriculture. It offers an opportunity for those working in agricultural development, particularly in diverse, risk prone and resource-poor regions, to publish their experiences and to read about the experiences of others. The global edition of LEISA Magazine is published four times a year on a thematic basis. It is circulated to 173 countries around the world and is provided free to individuals and organisations in the South. See above under web sites.

2.3 **Enterprise Development & Microfinance (EDM)** provides a forum for those involved in designing and running enterprise development and microfinance programmes in developing countries. Essential reading for managers of projects, providers of technical assistance, consultants to projects, policymakers and staff of donor agencies. 4 issues per year. <http://practicalaction.org>

2.4 **Waterlines** is an international journal of water, sanitation and waste. Published since 1982, it is a refereed journal providing a forum for those involved in extending water supply, sanitation, hygiene and waste management to all in developing countries. It aims to bridge the gap between research and practice: it encourages papers written by researchers for the benefit of practice and those written by practitioners to inform research and policy. It highlights information sources and promotes debate. 2 to 4 issues per year. <http://practicalaction.org>

2.5 **Participatory Learning and Action** is aimed at newcomers and experienced practitioners alike. It is a journal on participatory learning and action approaches and methods, reaching over 20,000 readers in 121 countries. Provides up-to-date information on the use of participatory methods in varied fields of development, allowing practitioners world over to share their field experiences, methodological innovations and other learning, providing the space for organisations in the South to continuously share and learn from each other's experiences in using participatory methodologies in the field. Since 1988, it has provided a forum for those engaged in participatory work - community workers, activists and researchers to share their experiences, conceptual reflections and methodological innovations with others, providing a genuine voice from the field. All the material is copyright free and photocopying of articles for sharing and training is encouraged, provided the source is acknowledged. Published 2 to 3 times per year. Resources Centre for Participatory Learning and Action www.rcpla.org

3 Books

“Walking with the poor - Principles and Practices of Transformational Development” by Bryant L Myers. *Explores what it means to do Christian work rather than just development work; contains impressive theology and presents a good foundation and framework for development. Written from a Western perspective, it may not be easily culturally transferable.*

“Justice, Mercy and Humility” by Tim Chester; *papers of the Micah Network International Consultation on Integral Mission and the Poor.*

“Awakening to a World of Need” - the recovery of evangelical social concern - by Tim Chester (1993). *Shows how varied evangelical social concern is and how much room remains for its further development.*

“Good News to the Poor” - sharing the gospel through social involvement - by Tim Chester (2004). *Uses the bible to study commitment to gospel proclamation and an active concern for the poor.*

“Jamkhed: A Comprehensive Rural Health Project” by founders Drs Mabelle and Rajanikant Arole.

“Rich Christians in an Age of Hunger” by Ronald J Sider (Hodder & Stoughton 1997). *Insights into what can be done about the imbalances of poverty and wealth in our world. Strongly bible based.*

“People in Rural Development” by Peter Batchelor (RURCON 1993). *People matter more than things and small is beautiful – these two principles underpin the author’s case for a distinctively Christian approach to the issues at the heart of rural development.*

“Women’s Rights” by Geraldine Terry (Oxfam 2007) *One of a series, Small Guides to Big Issues, others cover Climate Change, Cities, and Fair Trade.*

Other recommended books

Bradshaw, B: Bridging the Gap: Evangelism, Development and Shalom, (Monrovia: MARC, 1993)

Chester T (Contributions from Rene Padilla, Tom Sine and Elaine Storkley) Justice, Mercy and Humility: Integral Mission and the poor, Milton Keynes, Paternoster Press, 2005

Haugen, G. Good News about Injustice, (Leicester, IVP, 1999)

Hughes, D., God of the Poor: A biblical vision of God’s present rule, (Carlisle: OM Publishing, 1998)

Nicholls, B., and Beulah Wood, eds., Sharing the good news with the poor: A reader for concerned Christians, (Carlisle: Paternoster, 1996)

Perkins, John M., Beyond Charity: The Call to Christian Community Development, (Grand Rapids: Baker, 1993)

Sider, R.J., *Good News and Good Works: A theology of the whole gospel* (Grand Rapids: Baker Books, 1999)

Further useful titles can be found on www.macmillan-africa.com and www.talcuk.org web sites. They include the “Where there is no doctor” series and other classics such as “Urban Health and Development” and “Setting Up Community Health Programmes”.

4 Training Courses

4.1 JAMKHED offers short courses of 10 to 14 days, designed for groups of up to 20 trainees from an organization working in community-based health care and development activities. They work with faith-based, secular, non-governmental, and government organizations to create courses aimed at the practical application of the principles of community-based primary health care in a developing country. Trainees can include grassroots workers, field workers, administrators, and medical and allied health professionals. Trainees take part in field visits, discussion sessions with village health workers and community members, and classroom sessions aimed at practical application of concepts. Topics addressed include the principles of community-based health and development and understanding primary health care and its implementation. The course also includes sessions on leadership and personal development. See www.jamkhed.org

4.2 RURCON MENTORING AND COACHING: RURCON (Wholistic Development through Christian Churches in Africa) has experience in over 36 African countries. They provide on-going mentoring and coaching services. Their facilitators help participants master and apply new skills through active involvement and a commitment to action. Also participatory training on current global and African development issues, theology of development, principles of community development, appropriate technologies (for farming, food, water, health and small businesses), management skills for local organisation building, women in development, evangelism and discipleship, peace and justice. See www.rurcononline.org

4.3 See also ROOTS and PILLARS references above for informal course materials

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