

objectives. The inclusion, in the Introduction, of summaries of all seven case studies is most useful. This will make life easier for readers who are not really interested in the minute details of each project but do want a broad overview.

To enhance clarity, annexes have been included. However, with some of these annexes only those readers who are literate in statistics will find them useful. Useful references are also included at the end of each case study. Notwithstanding the flaws mentioned, the publication is a useful practical contribution to the area of development studies.

Reviewed by R Mupedziswa, School of Social Work, Harare.

Agricultural Extension in Africa, Nigel Roberts (ed), World Bank, Washington DC, 1989 (114 pp, US\$11,95).

This monograph has been compiled from papers presented at two workshops on agricultural extension in Africa. The first was held at Eldoret, Kenya, in June 1984. It is focused on Extension and Research. The second seminar, on Agricultural Extension and its link with Research in Rural Development, was held at Yamoussokro, Cote d'Ivoire, in February 1985. The articles in this volume deal with the practical applications of the different methods of agricultural extension in Africa.

The book is another addition to the debate on the extension strategies that are most appropriate for the diverse conditions of African agriculture, and discusses the relative merits of the various extension methodologies of the developing world. The editor's defence of the training and visit system is very informative. Other issues discussed include the cost-effectiveness of extension; the weaknesses of African systems in generating technology; the tendency of government services to respond more to bureaucratic imperatives than to farmers' needs; the difficulties in forging more productive partnerships between researchers, extensionists, and farmers; the limited participation of farmers in the management of extension; the ineffectiveness of public services; and the fragility of institutions and infrastructure in most of SubSaharan Africa.

Teachers, lecturers and students of agriculture, extension practitioners, policy makers in rural development, and aid administrators who want to invest in rural development and extension, will find this book interesting and informative. It is a good guide to the more effective extension approaches in Africa, where one approach can not be taken as the answer.

Chapter 1, an appraisal of the extension methodologies most commonly found in Africa, lays the foundation for the papers that follow. The strengths and weaknesses of the four major approaches to extension: the commodity-based approach, the training and visit system, and farmer participatory extension, are each illustrated with specific case studies. This makes the monograph down-to-earth and very different from other records of technical workshops. Instead of just describing the diversity of the approaches to extension in Africa, the papers in this book give the perspective or conditions in which these approaches operate. The examples enable people, who may be using different names for the same approach elsewhere in Africa, to understand and identify with the strategies being discussed.

Commodity-based extension is dealt with in Chapters 2 and 3, using the examples of the cash crops cotton and tobacco. In both cases the approach is top-down and the extensionists provide all the necessary resources. The next set of chapters are an exposition of the training and visit system. In Chapter 4, the editor argues in support of this system, but both sides of the case are well-presented. In Chapter 5, Gentil raises a number of questions on the T and V system, and a case study is provided.

Chapters 7 and 8 discuss, elaborately, farmer participatory extension methodologies, and Belloncle proposes group instruction. Chapter 9 is a case study of a Village Producers Association in Mali. The theory behind farming system research and on farm research is given in Chapter 10. Chapter 11 is a case study of farming systems research in Senegal. Morris discusses the merits and demerits of T and V and the farming system research methodologies under East African conditions in Chapter 12. He concludes that the two systems are complementary and are useful in the generation and dissemination of technology. In Chapter 13 the economic return on public investment in extension reforms is considered, and the management of field personnel is discussed. The final chapter, Chapter 14, is a review of issues in extension that require continuous attention.

Although each chapter is clearly separated by section breaks and simple language is used, the presentation is marred by a lack of illustrations and other visual aids. Diagrams, pictures and other aids break the monotony of reading print continuously, help reduce the number of words used and enhance comprehension. However, overall, readers, especially academics, will find the book informative, educative and interesting.

Reviewed by Livai Chenjerai Matarirano, Agritex, Harare.

The End of the Third World: New Industrialising Countries and the Decline of an Ideology, Nigel Harris, Penguin, London, 1987 (pp231, £3.95).

In recent months there has been much talk about Zimbabwe trying to join the ranks of the Newly Industrialising Countries (NICs). For those interested in pursuing such a course in this country, Nigel Harris' *The End of the Third World* should be required reading.

The NICs are a group of Third World countries which have transformed their economies over the last two decades. Starting out as mainly primary producers they have moved to the production and export of a wide range of goods. There is little argument amongst economists that such transformations have taken place in the six countries studied by Harris: South Korea, Taiwan, Hong Kong, Singapore, Brazil and Mexico. Indeed the rate of increase in production in these nations has been prolific. South Korea, for instance, advanced from a minuscule builder of ships (20 000 tons per year in the 1960's) to a 23% share of the world market by 1983 (4 million tons). Taiwan, which like South Korea oriented its economy toward exports, organised a sophisticated electronics industry which by 1982 made the Taiwanese the leading Third World electronics manufacturer. The city-states of Hong Kong and Singapore, as well as the two Latin American giants Brazil and Mexico, underwent similar changes to become large-scale exporters of goods ranging from textiles and office machinery to weapons' systems.