

persistent conflicts for successful integration. A debate on this has thus been set in motion in Chapter Four of this volume.

The volume would make interesting reading for policy-makers in the region and probably could be useful as a reference book for undergraduate students.

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Women and Food Security: The Experience of the SADCC Countries
Edited by Marilyn Carr with an Introduction by Anna Makimba. London, Intermediate Technology Publications, 1991, 210pp., ISBN 85339-109-3, \$19.50.

This book comprises papers presented at a meeting of Southern African Development Co-ordination Conference (SADCC) authorities on women's affairs in Arusha (Tanzania) in 1988. The papers are published anonymously.

The articles contained cover nine countries: Angola, Botswana, Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, Tanzania, Swaziland, Zambia and Zimbabwe. The articles provide background information on women's income-generating activities focussing specifically on land use and the kinds of technologies which may be available for use by women in all the nine countries.

The articles underscore the major role which women in the SADCC region play in the production, processing and marketing of food, but at the same time note that women have been

... constrained from contributing fully to the development of this sector by the lack of availability of efficient technologies relating to their tasks, as well as lack of access to those technologies which do exist (Makimba, p. vi).

The main concern of this book, therefore, is to discuss and to make recommendations as to what should be done in order to minimize the constraints which face women in their efforts to contribute to the production and processing of food in their respective countries.

An article giving background information on Malawi ends with two important points: that more baseline information to monitor the efficiency of technologies should be consistently gathered; and, secondly, that improved equipment which increases ground cover and reduces the need for several weeding should be introduced.

The issue of technology is referred to in all the other articles in different ways. The article on Botswana, for instance, argues strongly that 'unless technology is a tool of liberation, and is designed to qualitatively improve the life of the majority, it is of little use in developing Botswana' (p. 69).

But the introduction of any technology should go together with other factors, namely money, training and the availability of raw materials. In this regard, the articles in the book call for the introduction of special courses in the fields of processing, preservation, and storage of agricultural produce in local institutions of learning. Besides, the articles recommend that women in para-professions associated with the identified technologies should be trained in the various technical skills so that they are able to acquire, learn, and understand the engineering and related details embodied in the technologies.

Women and Food Security contains information about the nine countries as well as suggestions for further study which local academics and policy makers should seriously examine because, as the article on Zimbabwe notes:

Some of the technologies developed at public research centres have been designed by scientists who have little or no understanding of the communal women who should benefit from the introduction of the technology. There is a general failure to address women's real priorities, failure to include input from women with a choice of alternatives, and failure to establish any viable communication networks at the local level to assess community-level impact (p. 81-82).

The book, however, contains one major weakness. Although the writers of the articles correctly pay attention to the roles and needs of women in developmental processes, they fail to relate these roles and needs to those of men. If developmental innovation is to be successful, planners need to attend to both men and women.

The editing and printing is good, but the book contains no index and only four of the articles refer to other sources. Nevertheless, *Women and Food Security* provides a welcome addition to the existing literature on women, food security and technology.

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Zimbabwe — (World Bibliographic Series: Volume 4) Revised and expanded edition Compiled By Deborah Potts. Oxford, Clio Press, 1993, xxxi, 368 pp., ISBN 1-85109-195-5, £56.50.

Each volume in the *World Bibliographic Series* consists of annotated entries on works dealing with many aspects of the country concerned. The intended objective is to reflect each country's culture and 'its place in the world, the qualities and background that make it unique'. *Volume 4* is on Zimbabwe. The Bibliography's publication is timely, i.e., 13 years after Independence, when Zimbabwe is fully immersed in an Economic Structural Adjustment Programme and when major changes are taking place in Southern Africa.

The volume is divided into 36 chapters covering broad subject areas. There is a special listing of periodicals, encyclopaedias and directories,