

# Setting Priorities For Environment Management An Application To The Mining Sector In Bolivia

**Setting Priorities For Environment Management An Application To The Mining Sector In Bolivia** Book Review:  
Unveiling the Magic of Language

In a digital era where connections and knowledge reign supreme, the enchanting power of language has been apparent than ever. Its capability to stir emotions, provoke thought, and instigate transformation is truly remarkable. This extraordinary book, aptly titled "**Setting Priorities For Environment Management An Application To The Mining Sector In Bolivia**," compiled by a very acclaimed author, immerses readers in a captivating exploration of the significance of language and its profound affect on our existence. Throughout this critique, we shall delve into the book's central themes, evaluate its unique writing style, and assess its overall influence on its readership.

Regional and International Trade Policy Csaba Csáki  
1999-01-01 With appropriate preparation and policies, the enlargement of the European Union (EU) will result in a broader and higher-level

integration of European agriculture, create an environment more conducive to further liberalization of global agricultural trade, and lead to further opening of European markets. As part of the World Bank's Strategic Compact

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Initiative, the Bank has coordinated activities to help the ten EU accession countries achieve EU membership. These activities include the preparation of studies to facilitate implementation of necessary reforms and sponsoring seminars and workshops to disseminate and analyze the results. This volume presents the major papers and summaries of one of the Workshop deliberations. This volume includes the following topics:

- lessons learned from other regional agricultural trade agreements
- the evolution of the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP)
- an analysis of the economic impact of trade flows
- the harmonization of agricultural policies within trade agreements
- the implications of the external trade environment for the accession countries
- the role of sanitary and phytosanitary trade rule in EU accession
- quantifying the incentive and farm income effects of agricultural support policies in transition economies
- major challenges to

agricultural input regulation and trade during transition and EU accession • concluding comments by the World Bank.

*Food and Agriculture in the Czech Republic* Csaba Csáki 1999-01-01 "Becoming a member of the European Union is one of the most important objectives of the Czech Republic for the coming years, both for the government, and for the Czech society as a whole." With the exception of a few traditional Czech products, the Czech Republic is not a major exporter of agricultural goods due to its land-locked position and relatively poor product differentiation. Since the "velvet revolution" in 1989, agricultural production has declined. To conform to European Union standards for accession, the Czech Republic needs to make some adjustments. This report reviews the current state of Czech agriculture and agro-industry in the context of EU accession. It analyzes institutional reforms and their actual impacts and proposes a series of adjustments to

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complete the reforms in the agricultural sector. This report is intended for agricultural scientists, public officials, agricultural and agro-industrial leaders, and researchers interested in the transformation of agriculture in the transition economies and in issues pertaining to accession of Central and East European candidate countries to the European Union.

Albania Gloria La Cava  
2000-01-01 During Albania's transition from a centralized economy to one anchored in a body of Western laws, deep social unrest, widespread poverty, uncontrolled migration, and the reemergence of clan-based loyalties have led to an increase in the most vulnerable population groups. These groups are more likely to be marginalized by the economic cycle, thus making it more difficult to ensure a successful transition. One purpose of the study is to identify key emerging social issues and problems in Albania and determine their causes.

~~However, the main purpose of~~  
this report is to propose a short- to medium-term action strategy to guide and connect social policy and assistance initiatives targeted to the vulnerable groups in areas where they are most numerous, through a bottom-up approach.

### **Soil Fertility Management in Sub-Saharan Africa** W.

Graeme Donovan 1998-01-01  
World Bank Technical Paper No. 408. This report is a critical review of the technical, economic, and institutional constraints on improving soil fertility in Sub-Saharan Africa, and the actions recommended to address them. Action plans prepared for Ghana, Kenya, Malawi, and Mali examine the demand for and supply of mineral fertilizers, the exploitation of local mineral resources, the prevention of soil erosion and increasing soil-water retention, and soil fertility management using organic technologies and management practices.

### **Structural Change in the Farming Sectors in Central and Eastern Europe** Csaba

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Csáki 2000-01-01 Farm structures in Central and Eastern Europe (CEE) today cover a whole spectrum of forms, which include small subsistence-oriented household plots, medium-sized commercial family farms, and large corporations. The agricultural sector in CEE definitely has not embraced the family farm as the dominant farming structure, thus confounding the original expectations of Western experts. On the other hand, agriculture did not collapse because of fragmentation and privatization, as predicted by conservative doomsayers. To address the concerns of the farming sector in CEE with relation to EU accession, a workshop was held in Warsaw, Poland in June 1999. This volume represents a selection of papers presented at this workshop. It examines the reforms and policy changes necessary in the food and agriculture sectors of the ten countries that have started the accession process for eventual membership in the European

Union (Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Romania, Slovakia, and Slovenia). The papers are organized around the following three topics: □ Evolving farm structures and competitiveness in agriculture; □ Land laws and legal institutions for development of land markets and farm restructuring; and □ Development of farm services for improved competitiveness. This volume will be of interest to agricultural policy makers and government officials in the candidate countries, EU officials, World Bank and FAO staff, development scholars, and all others interested in the process of agricultural reform in CEE.

*Setting Priorities for Environmental Management*  
Wendy S. Ayres 1998 Mining and industrial activities, if poorly managed, can damage the environment and leave behind contaminated soils, polluted groundwater, and waste material. The two papers in this volume illustrate the methodologies developed for

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selecting priority sites for remediating environmental problems due to mining. It also describes the high priority investments that would provide the greatest benefits for the available resources. The methodologies have broad application and could be used to identify priority remediation investments in other sectors where past activities have led to environmental problems.

*Agriculture Sector Programs*  
Nwanze Okidegbe 1998-01-01

This sourcebook provides practical guidance to policymakers and program planners in countries and to development agencies on how to carry out or support an agricultural sector program—from initial discussions, to developing the program concept, to securing broad stakeholder involvement, to implementation. It explains the reasons why countries may wish to undertake a sector or subsector program and describes the conditions which can help ensure the program's success; provides details on how to formulate a sector

strategy and bring about institutional reforms; focuses on core public sector activities based on a detailed expenditure review; and suggests ways of encouraging donors to work together under the leadership of the partner country government.

### Legal Impediments to Effective Rural Land Relations in

### Eastern Europe and Central

### Asia Roy L. Prosterman

1999-01-01 "Excessive concentration of land ownership, as is feared by many transition governments, has not been a feature of land markets where they have been allowed to function relatively freely and where land has been allocated in kind to households and individuals."The World Bank has long been active in the Europe and Central Asia region in monitoring and evaluating land reform developments and supporting the development of land markets. Bank efforts to date have made a significant impact in our client countries, and studies produced by the Bank have been used as impartial

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references on this subject by both international organizations and the countries themselves. This report was developed as a result of these efforts. It focuses on: □ The principal issues faced by the transition economies of Eastern Europe and the Former Soviet Union □ The potential approaches for resolving specific problem issues.

### **Economic Research on the Determinants of**

**Immigration** George J. Borjas 1999-01-01 This publication summarizes some of the key research findings from current literature and applies the lessons from it to the potential migration problem faced by countries in the EU. Its main objective is to present a review of existing economic theory and empirical evidence to evaluate the likelihood of migration flows from acceding or neighboring countries toward the current EU member states. This publication is a Technical Paper sponsored by the Poverty Reduction and Economic Management Network of the World Bank's

Europe and Central Asia Division. It is part of a comprehensive series regarding the many important factors that influence European Union (EU) accession in the Central and East European countries (CEEC). The topics in the series cover both the social and economic aspects of accession across a broad range of sectors. The series also provides background information for specific acceding countries. These publications will be of interest to EU member and candidate countries, their ministries, and any one studying the accession issue.

Ready for Europe Barbara Nunberg 2000-01-01 As the ongoing political and economic transition in the Central and Eastern Europe countries (CEE) moves into the next century, the most advanced countries in the region are preparing to deal with their prospective entry into the European Union. More a process than an event, joining the EU is likely to place heightened demands on public

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administrations throughout the region. To assist these countries with their efforts, the Bank conducted a study of the regions. The results of that study are included in this volume. 'Ready for Europe' specifies and clarifies the administrative requirements of accession. The author uses in-depth case studies for three pre-accession countries, Estonia, Hungary, and the Czech Republic to make these specifications. The book defines the performance level countries will need to attain for a range of administrative tasks so the countries may reach a minimal threshold for EU membership. It applies selected standards to determine each country's readiness for accession and for the longer-term transition agenda. The author focuses on these three critical areas of administrative performance in the context of EU accession: □ How advanced is the development of a politically neutral, professional human resource cadre in the civil service? □ Do countries have

the necessary institutional infrastructure at the government's core (that is, cabinet level) to formulate and coordinate policymaking in an efficient and democratic manner? □ How well are the dedicated institutional structures and processes established to shepherd countries through the accession process working?

### Evaporative Air-conditioning

Gert Jan Bom 1999 "Under the right conditions and applications, evaporative air-conditioning (EAC) technologies can provide excellent cooling and ventilation with minimal energy consumption." Evaporative air-conditioning technologies are being used increasingly in residential and commercial applications worldwide. EAC technologies, which rely on water as a coolant rather than on chemical refrigerants, are economical to produce and use and have important environmental benefits. This paper introduces the technical aspects of EAC, reviews EAC's

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scope of application, and surveys the specific climatic conditions under which EAC can be used most effectively in industrialized and developing countries.

Dismantling Russia's Nonpayments System Brian Pinto 2000-01-01 One question preoccupies many scholars and practitioners: How can economic growth in the Russian Federation be reinvigorated? This report contributes to the current debate. Nonpayments in Russia evolved into a complex, inter-linked system over the latter half of the 1990s, becoming one of the most critical issues facing policymakers. This paper analyzes this system, including its origins, its evolution, the factors that now perpetuate it, and its costs, and identifies a minimum set of economic reforms needed to dismantle it. The paper also proposes answers to key questions about nonpayments, including: • How has its course been influenced by government policy at the federal and subnational levels? • What are

the links with macroeconomic policy? • What is the role of the energy sector, and how has the system affected the way businesses operate? • What are the implications for economic growth? • How indeed, as part of Russia's transition to a monetized, market economy, did the nonpayments system come to exert a stranglehold on virtually every aspect of the economy? This report will be of interest to policymakers and economists interested in transition economies.

### **Poverty and Policy in Latin America and the Caribbean**

Quentin Wodon 2000 Although the progress toward poverty reduction remains sluggish, other dimensions of social welfare in the Latin American and Caribbean (LAC) region show signs of improvement. Adult literacy and school enrollment rates, life expectancy at birth, and the amount of access to safe water are increasing. Nutrition indicators are also improving. However, other factors demonstrate that many problems persist, especially the

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inequality between rich and poor. This report analyzes the evolution of poverty and inequality in the LAC region from 1986 to 1996 with projections to 1998. It reviews the policies which have been advocated or implemented to reduce poverty. The report combines the results of new empirical work using household surveys from 12 countries, short theoretical developments, and a review of the literature on issues related to poverty, inequality, and social policy in LAC. Some of the theoretical developments introduce new research techniques. Chapters three to six follow the framework proposed in the forthcoming 'World Development Report 2000-2001'. The framework identifies three essential elements for poverty reduction. Those elements include opportunities for the poor and investments in the human capital of the poor, security through social safety nets, and empowerment.

**Kazakhstan** John Gray  
2000-01-01 "The success

achieved in stimulating real change in farm ownership, control, and management in some areas, combined with the extremity of the difficulties faced by farms in less-favored areas, point to the need for an active process of policy reformulation to address the problems which are now emerging from the restructuring process." Agriculture in Kazakhstan is in crisis the majority of farms are insolvent and production has fallen to the lowest level in 30 years. Initial restructuring efforts yielded disappointing results and mostly failed to lead to new patterns of ownership or management. However, since 1998 the government has pursued a more aggressive approach to farm restructuring based on increased reliance on farm bankruptcy. This report reviews the experience of the farm restructuring policies and programs pursued in 1998 and 1999 and draws conclusions for the continuing development of agricultural sector policies. This review forms one of a group of simultaneous

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agricultural sector studies undertaken by the World Bank at the request of the Government of Kazakhstan. Kazakhstan: A Review of Farm Restructuring reviews the progress to date in the implementation of the government's reform measures which were begun in late 1998. The report is based on a field mission undertaken in April-May 1999, which concentrated primarily on the Northern oblasts and information provided by the staff of the Headquarters of the Ministry of Agriculture in Astana.

*Poland* Gordon Hughes 1999 "The prospect of joining the European Union defines much of Poland's current policy agenda. The political and economic consensus in favor of joining the EU as quickly as possible is very strong, and indeed, most of the adjustments required are likely to be in Poland's immediate interest. However, the changes required to comply with EU directives in the environment sector involve sustained high levels of investment and

significant uncertainty about the timing and nature of the associated benefits."The European Commission's Opinion on Poland's application for EU membership acknowledges the severity of the environmental problems in Poland and comments on the challenges the country will have to face, especially in the areas of wastewater treatment and air pollution. The Opinion concludes that while full transposition of the environmental acquis in Poland could be expected in the medium term, effective compliance with a number of pieces of legislation would require sustained high levels of investment and considerable administrative effort. Full compliance in areas such as drinking water and certain aspects of waste management could be achieved only in the long term and will necessitate increased levels of public and private investment. This paper aims to address some of the issues involved in planning compliance with EU environmental directives. The

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paper has three principal objectives: □ Highlight major issues that Poland is likely to face in implementing the requirements; □ Estimate the total costs of compliance for the public sector in certain key sectors, and outline possible options for reducing those costs; and □ Assess where the burden of those costs is likely to fall, and the options for financing the investments.

EU Investment Grants Review  
Iain Begg 1999-01-01 This study is the first of a three-stage research program that aims to investigate institutional arrangements for local and regional capital investment in selected CEECs and assess whether these arrangements provide appropriate signals to economic agents with regard to EU accession. This publication is a Technical Paper sponsored by the Poverty Reduction and Economic Management Network of the World Bank's Europe and Central Asia Division. It is part of a comprehensive series regarding the many important factors that influence European

Union (EU) accession in the Central and East European countries (CEEC). The topics in the series cover both the social and economic aspects of accession across a broad range of sectors. The series also provides background information for specific acceding countries. These publications will be of interest to EU member and candidate countries, their ministries, and any one studying the accession issue.

### **Assessment of Corporate Sector Value and**

**Vulnerability** Dale F. Gray  
1999-01-01 "Once equity has fallen below a certain threshold for a significant period of time, it triggers a suspension of debt payments and distorts incentives for equity holds and managers. But what is a significant period of time? You or I could pay a \$10 million annual mortgage payment for a day or two but not two or three months. Similarly, owners and managers can withstand short periods of illiquidity or negative equity but not longer ones. At some point in time, the

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inability to meet obligations and perception of continued difficulties creates a system-wide breakdown in debt payments." The relationship between the corporate sector and a country's macroeconomy is receiving increased attention from policymakers and investors, especially those affected by the Asian crisis. Recent crises have pointed out the importance of improving our understanding of the links between the corporate sector, the financial sector, and the macroeconomy in a world of volatile capital flows. Assessing the vulnerability of the corporate sector and its links to financial and exchange rate crisis is important for both improved surveillance and in the design of policies in crisis countries. However, the analytical and operational tools available to policymakers and investors to analyze this problem have been limited. This Technical Paper was prepared as part of an initiative to develop new frameworks which can integrate state-of-the art corporate finance

principles, macroeconomic, and financial sector analysis. An innovative yet practical framework is provided which has numerous applications for assessing corporate sector vulnerability, design of corporate restructuring strategies, as well as financial sector and macroeconomic policies. It will be of interest to bankers, economic policymakers, corporate finance specialists, and macroeconomists.

### **Identification of Joint Management Structures for Shared Aquifers**

Eran Feitelson 1998-01-01

Overcoming the scarcity and temporal variance of water availability in semi-arid regions, or the excess of water in temperate regions, often requires cooperation. This paper describes the approach taken by an Israeli-Palestinian team to identify joint management structures for the aquifers shared by these two parties, and some of the lessons learned from the experience of this team.

### **The East Asian Miracle and**

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**Information Technology**  
Nagy Hanna 1999 World Bank Discussion Paper No. 326. Draws on the successful experiences of five East Asian economies--Japan, the Republic of Korea, Singapore, Taiwan (China), and Hong Kong--to show how they have exploited the opportunities made possible by the information technology revolution and built sustainable competitive advantages in many high-value-added industries and services. The study examines the role of government in unleashing private-sector response, promoting the information technology industry, diffusing technology, and focusing resources on strategic elements of the national information infrastructure. It also explores the role of the private sector in influencing the development and use of the new technologies.

Comprehensive River Basin Development Barbara A. Miller 1998-01-01 The Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) in the United States represents one of the few successful examples of

development. Established to guide the development of the resources within the Tennessee River Basin, TVA operates a wide variety of water, power, economic development, and environmental programs within the region. This report presents an overview of TVA's growth and development, its institutions, and its operational programs.

## **Welfare and the Labor Market in Poland**

Jan J. Rutkowski 1998-01-01 This report assesses the changes in social welfare and policy that have taken place in Poland during the economic transition. It tests the main hypotheses concerning changes in the role of the welfare state, workings of the labor market, the distributional consequences of transition, and more generally about the winners and losers in transition. Chapter one examines trends in social expenditure during economic transition. Chapter two focuses on changes in the labor market, including emerging risks and opportunities.

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Chapter three explores

distributional consequences of transition.

#### **Economic Reform and Environmental Performance in Transition Economies**

Gordon Hughes 1999-01-01

..".transition has proved to be a much longer and more difficult process than most had anticipated, and progress has varied. By 1998 only one country, Poland (which embarked on economic reform before the rest of the region), had reestablished sustained economic growth and surpassed the pretransition level of real gross domestic product (GDP)." - From 'Economic Reform and Environmental Performance in Transition Economies' Most global economy and environmental watchers expect the transition to a market economy to yield environmental benefits. The changing incentives that a market economy introduces should foster more efficient production, better use of resources, and increased community input. The

advanced reformers of the

Central and Eastern European (CEE) countries proved this to be the case. They improved energy efficiency and reduced emissions intensity of pollutants. The slower-reforming countries of the Newly Independent States (NIS) also experienced lower pollution. However, that downturn coincided with the economic decline, which shut down many major polluters.

This report reviews progress in environmental trends since transition began. It looks at air and water pollution and health indicators in the trends and in light of the environmental issues identified in the Environmental Action Programme for Central and Eastern Europe. It continues and builds on the World Bank's work in analyzing the environmental effects of transition, restructuring, and privatization with a view to identifying priority areas for investment and policy initiatives. The report will interest environmental policy makers and practitioners.

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Foreign Investment and

market access for Polish

Restructuring Michelle Riboud

2000 Although the official rhetoric in most transition economies has been in favor of foreign direct investment (FDI), few countries have succeeded in attracting sizable inflows. Hungary stands out among those countries that have done so effectively.

Several factors helped Hungary to get ahead of other transition economies in terms of attracting FDI. This volume analyzes Hungary's achievement, the scope and depth of FDI and the effect of FDI on Hungary's economy and foreign trade. This report will interest European Union member and candidate countries, foreign ministries, think tanks, and libraries.

The Role of Foreign Direct Investment and Trade Policies in Poland's Accession to the European Union 1999-01-01

This study examines the role of Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) and trade policies with regard to Poland's accession to the EU. It also discusses developments in foreign trade,

products, and foreign trade institutions and policies. It outlines the premises of a strategy that would assist Poland in its aim for accession. This publication is a Technical Paper sponsored by the Poverty Reduction and Economic Management Network of the World Bank's Europe and Central Asia Division. It is part of a comprehensive series regarding the many important factors that influence European Union (EU) accession in the Central and East European countries (CEEC). The topics in the series cover both the social and economic aspects of accession across a broad range of sectors. The series also provides background information for specific acceding countries. These publications will be of interest to EU member and candidate countries, their ministries, and any one studying the accession issue.

**Financial Integration, Vulnerabilities to Crisis, and EU Accession in Five Central**

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Mustapha K. Nabli 1999-01-01  
'A major source of vulnerability in the CE5 is their nascent financial systems and their ability to handle large and increasing volume of capital. As the experience of East Asia demonstrates, a high priority should be given to improving the quality and performance of the banking system.'- From 'Financial Integration, Vulnerabilities to Crisis, and EU Accession in Five Central European Countries' The objective of this study is to help assess the possible vulnerabilities in a number of Central European countries as they proceed with global financial integration and EU accession. The report focuses on those countries slated to be the first in the region to join the EU, the Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Poland, Slovenia (CE5). The study: □ Discusses the context and presents a short description of the CE5 countries' experience in attracting capital flows □ Analyzes the manifestations of vulnerability to financial crises

capital flows to the CE5 □ Interprets the results and draws implications in view of the initial conditions of the various countries □ Compares the EU accession of the CE5 to the Southern Mediterranean countries' accession to the EC in the 1980s □ Draws conclusions and makes recommendations

Food Safety Issues in the Developing World Laurian Unnevehr 2000-01-01 Food safety is receiving more attention worldwide with the rising incidence of foodborne disease, concern over new potential hazards, and growth in agricultural trade. Investments to improve food safety in developing countries can reduce the burden of disease and remove the barriers to fresh food product exports, providing another source of income for the rural sector. International disputes over sanitary and phytosanitary (SPS) measures influence the ability of developing countries to compete in export markets. These countries need to

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evaluate their interest in the SPS agreement under the World Trade Organisation (WTO); participate more fully in international agencies responsible for harmonisation; develop the capacity to assess equivalence for process standards, which are increasingly used for fresh food products; and resist the imposition of inappropriate standards.

#### Overcoming Obstacles to Liberalization of the Telecom Sector in Estonia, Poland, the Czech Republic, Slovenia, and Hungary

Robert Bruce  
1999-01-01 This study emerges from discussions with representatives of the World Bank and high-level representatives of government and the telecommunications services industry in Hungary, Estonia, Poland, the Czech Republic, Slovenia, and Hungary. It considers the problems inherent with the liberalization of the telecom sector. This publication is a Technical Paper sponsored by the Poverty Reduction and Economic Management

Network of the World Bank's Europe and Central Asia Division. It is part of a comprehensive series regarding the many important factors that influence European Union (EU) accession in the Central and East European countries (CEEC). The topics in the series cover both the social and economic aspects of accession across a broad range of sectors. The series also provides background information for specific acceding countries. These publications will be of interest to EU member and candidate countries, their ministries, and any one studying the accession issue.

*Latin American Insolvency Systems* Malcolm Rowat 1999  
"Modern society has eliminated the inhumane debtors' prisons for handling the insolvent debtor and in their stead have enacted benign modern laws in the area of bankruptcy. Unscrupulous merchants now use these benign laws for fraudulent purposes." Based on case studies in Argentina, Brazil, Mexico, and Venezuela,

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this is the first publication to provide recommendations about the important legal and institutional issues that are involved in bankruptcy reform in a critical region of the global economy. The authors note that effective bankruptcy policy balances several requirements for the conduct of a stable, successful economy. For example, it might be in the greatest interests to all parties if a company is given an opportunity to restructure and make use of the scarce resources remaining in its possession. On the other hand, inefficient firms, especially those that have long survived only on state subsidies, may need to fail in order to free space in the market for more efficient, better-managed companies. Finally, there are the needs to enforce loan contracts and provide an equitable system of debt collection.

### **An Environmental Study of Artisanal, Small, and Medium Mining in Bolivia, Chile, and Peru**

Gary McMahon 1999-01-01 "Mining

exploration investment in the Latin American and Caribbean region has increased 130 percent in the last five years, a figure which increases to 500 percent, if Chile is excluded." Governments have revamped mining legislation to enable private investment while becoming more sensitive to environmental factors. In light of this legislation, this report examines the environmental effects of artisanal, small, and medium mines in three Latin American Countries: Bolivia, Chile, and Peru. Four of the most important elements to be considered are: □ The age of the mine □ Management of tailings □ The heterogeneity of the artisanal and small mine sectors □ The increasing need to take cultural considerations into account in the decision making process. The paper contains results of the studies on the various mining sectors, strategy and policy recommendations, and country study summaries.

### **Agricultural Support Policies in Transition**

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**Economies** Alberto Valdes

Power and Natural Gas

2000-01-01 Studies of Russia, Romania, Poland, Bulgaria, and Turkey.

*Privatization of the Power and Natural Gas Industries in Hungary and Kazakhstan*

1999-01-01 Hungary and Kazakhstan have privatized a large portion of their electric power and natural gas industries, but have followed different strategies. In contrast, the other former socialist countries in Central and Eastern Europe have privatized almost none. Has the privatization in these two countries been a success? What lessons can other countries learn from their experience? These countries began their reforms from different starting points. The Hungarian power and gas sectors had a long history of being relatively well managed. In contrast, Kazakhstan inherited pieces of the old systems that were designed to serve the needs of the Soviet Union and had to develop new organizations to manage the system. 'Privatization of the

Industries in Hungary and Kazakhstan' analyzes how each country dealt with the key issues involved in the restructuring and privatization of the power and gas sectors. These issues include: industry structure, wholesale market, labor and management relations, regulatory framework, privatization objectives, and privatization methods.

**Groundwater** Salman M. A.

Salman 1999-01-01 "Water is becoming an increasingly scarce resource for most of the world's citizens. The current trends indicate that the overall situation is likely to deteriorate further, at least for the next decade, unless the water profession eschews "business as usual" practices, which can only allow incremental changes to occur." Groundwater is the least understood and least appreciated, yet the most important, natural resource available to mankind. Groundwater represents about 97% of the existing fresh water resources, excluding the

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resources locked in polar ice.

More than one and a half billion people in the urban parts of the world today depend on groundwater. Groundwater supply is more reliable than the seasonal, and sometimes erratic, surface water and provides the main line of defense against drought. Moreover, the quality of groundwater is, by and large, superior to surface water and cheaper to develop. However, when available, data on groundwater is very scanty. As a result, the World Bank is now paying increasing attention to this valuable resource, through both operations and sector work. This publication represents the proceeding of the seminar "Groundwater: Legal and Policy Perspectives" that was organized by the Legal Vice Presidency of the World Bank. It explains some basic technical aspects of groundwater, surveys the regulatory framework for it, and discusses the World Bank experience and international law regarding this precious resource. It is a timely

publication and should also

assist in a better understanding and appreciation of this valuable source. It will be of interest to Bank staff, borrowing country officials, international agencies and research organizations working on groundwater.

**Hungary** 1999-01-01

Published by Oxford University Press for the World Bank.

Some people may believe that crises are an inevitable feature of the capitalist system. Others hold that exchange-rate crises will vanish as more and more countries adopt floating exchange rates... But, some of us believe that crises can be avoided or at least limited by good economic management, and that having a reasonable idea of where the equilibrium exchange rate lies is an essential requirement for good macro management... --John Williamson, Chief Economist, South Asia Region, World Bank Exchange Rate Misalignment provides a comprehensive treatment of the conceptual and empirical issues concerning measuring

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exchange rate misalignment in the public and private sector.

developing countries. The report hopes to provide policymakers and their advisors with a compendium of practical techniques for estimating equilibrium real exchange rates. The book analyzes, in detail, four methodologies for the empirical estimation of the long-run equilibrium real exchange rate. The findings of the report include: \* An assessment of alternative empirical measures of the internal and external real exchange rates. \* An up-to-date survey of the literature on estimating equilibrium exchange rates in both industrial and developing countries. \* A detailed presentation of currently available methodologies for empirically estimating the equilibrium exchange rate in developing countries. The analytical depth and practical techniques provided in Exchange Rate Misalignment make this book an invaluable resource for policymakers and foreign exchange specialists in

*Environmental Management and Institutions in OECD*

*Countries* Magda Lovei 1998

As environmental protection is attracting increasing political attention and public support, many developing countries are designing and putting into practice environmental institutions. This study analyzes the experience of several OECD countries in order to identify factors that influence the role and success of environmental management; possible causes of the discrepancy between national environmental objectives and actual performance; and implications of lessons learned and recommendations for countries that are in the process of establishing or redesigning their environmental management systems.

**Planning the Management, Operation, and Maintenance of Irrigation and Drainage Systems** 1998

This paper provides the basis for the preparation of manuals necessary for managers and

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staffs to perform needed activities at the proper time. The guide provides a comprehensive list of issues that should be addressed in operation and maintenance manuals for irrigation and drainage systems, and a listing of published materials and working papers which will assist in the formulation of plans for operation and maintenance. The paper serves as a valuable tool to help improve the performance of irrigation and drainage systems and to assist managers in developing and improving effective organizations to serve water consumers better.

#### *Successful Conversion to*

#### *Unleaded Gasoline in Thailand*

Philip Sayeg 1998-01-01 The Government of Thailand within a five-year period (1991-95) introduced a series of initiatives that resulted in the elimination of leaded gasoline and reduction of ambient lead by a factor of 10. This report describes the strategies the government employed: educating about the dangers of airborne lead; setting a lower

at-pump price for unleaded gasoline; helping the oil companies establish a system to distribute unleaded gasoline throughout the country; conducting monitoring and follow-up studies; and adjusting environmental regulations as necessary to support these policies.

#### **Subnational Budgeting in**

#### **Russia** Lev M. Freinkman

1999-01-01 "Not only are Russia's regions economically diverse, but the policies that regional governments have adopted to deal with the strains of economic transition also vary widely. Some regions have generally embraced market reforms, while others have sought to preserve enclaves of socialism, with price restrictions, large subsidies, and barriers to trade." Reforms of Russia's budgetary system at the subnational level are vital to preserve macroeconomic stability, improve the efficiency and accountability of government, and enhance incentives for local and regional governments to vigorously support economic

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growth. Previous analytical and reform efforts have focused on possible changes at the federal level and in the system of center-region relations. An opportunity now exists to make progress by providing reform advice and conditional aid to policymakers at the regional and subregional level. This report focuses on opportunities for reform at the subnational level. It reviews recent trends in fiscal adjustment, budgeting, and government debt at the regional and local levels in Russia. It analyzes major problems and suggests a number of measures and performance indicators that could form part of a reform strategy initiated by the Government of Russia.

#### A Guide to the World Bank

2003 The World Bank Group works in more than 100 developing economies and is one of the world's largest sources of development assistance. In 2002, the institution provided US \$19.5 billion in loans to its client countries. This guide reviews the organisation's history,

objectives and operations, and looks at the five institutions that make up the World Bank Group: the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD), the International Development Association (IDA), the International Finance Corporation (IFC), the Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency (MIGA), and the International Centre for Settlement of Investment Disputes (ICSID).

#### **From Transition to**

#### **Accession** Esen Ulgenerk

2000-01-01 Bulgaria is recovering from a severe economic and financial crisis after more than half a decade of macroeconomic mismanagement. As a candidate country for accession to the EU, Bulgaria will need to establish stable, well-regulated and competitive financial markets and institutions. This paper reviews developments in the financial markets.

#### Management of Water

#### Resources Musa Asad

1999-01-01 "Although

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procedures for pricing "retail" allocate water efficiently. This distribution have been established for a long time, methods for pricing bulk or "wholesale" water supplies are still evolving." How to finance the infrastructure and service of bulk water supply, and how to use pricing to achieve efficient allocation and use of water as a resource are the central issues that emerge from discussions about bulk water pricing. Efficiency will lead to allocating water resources better, reducing water losses caused by poor maintenance of the supply systems, and increased monitoring of water quality. At first glance, Brazil may not appear to be a relevant country from which to draw lessons in distributing scarce water resources, since it contains 12 percent of the world's fresh water supply. However, with its vast territory and issues of regional drought and population explosion, Brazil provides a unique environment in which to demonstrate how adequate pricing of bulk water on a regional level can help

paper offers a framework for bulk water pricing reform and examines the lessons from recent analytical work and practice in Brazil, as well as relevant international experience. It then offers recommendations for the development of both water pricing and allocation policies to facilitate continued implementation of bulk water pricing in Brazil.

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