

Making Citizenship and Rights Matter
Newsletter #3 March 2004

The Development Research Centre on Citizenship, Participation and Accountability, or Citizenship DRC, is an international research partnership exploring new forms of citizenship that will help make rights real for poor people. It involves a network of researchers and practitioners working with research institutions and civil society organisations located in 7 different countries - Bangladesh, Brazil, India, Mexico, Nigeria, South Africa and the UK. The Citizenship DRC is coordinated from the Participation Group at the Institute of Development studies at IDS.

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For more information on any of these issues visit www.drc-citizenship.org

1. RECENT DRC ACTIVITIES

World Social Forum, Mumbai, India, January 2004

Citizenship DRC, in collaboration with PRIA, Citizenship DRC's Indian partner, and BRIDGE, organised a workshop and informational stall at the World Social Forum (WSF), Mumbai. In the workshop, the Citizenship DRC presented several 'stories' of citizenship being claimed and invited participants to share their own experiences. Further discussions dealt with how citizenship could be claimed through participation, and how a gendered citizenship can be implemented to address inequalities. At the informational stall, in addition to distributing a range of Citizenship DRC publications, sheets of fabric were hung for people to write their own impressions of citizenship with many interesting contributions. A trip report and photos are available at: www.drc-citizenship.org.

Participation.net launched at the WSF

Participation.net is a collaborative initiative between Citizenship DRC, LogoLink, the Participation Resource Centre and Eldis, which aims at being a global, online space for sharing ideas about the participation of people in development, citizenship, governance and rights. It offers policy-makers, donors, researchers and development practitioners diverse fora for accessing and sharing cutting edge knowledge, information and practices. Services include: thematic guides, a large searchable database, an events database, interactive links to related resources and a unique access to online learning and curriculum materials.www.pnet.ids.ac.uk

Citizenship DRC launches 2004 Internship Programme

The Internship programme is an award scheme to support IDS students who wish to undertake research, networking/capacity-building or advocacy/dissemination work around the DRC's core themes in collaboration with DRC partners. Interns generate research findings

reports and contribute to the development of links between IDS and DRC partner institutions. The Citizenship DRC organised a seminar presentation for students interested in the Citizenship DRC Internship Programme on March 2nd. It included a presentation by 2003 interns to the DRC's Nigerian and South African partners. This year's interns, once selected, will work with DRC's partners during IDS's summer 2004 term. A new section on the Internship Programme is available at: www.drc-citizenship.org

2. UPCOMING EVENTS

Citizenship DRC meetings in Brazil - March 2004

In the last weeks of March, Citizenship DRC, in collaboration with CEBRAP, the Citizenship DRC's Brazilian partner, will hold several research workshops, a steering committee meeting and other events in Brazil. Events include a field visit to health councils in Sapopemba, São Paulo on March 25th, a seminar at CEBRAP on Deliberative Democracy on March 26th.

The Citizen and Science Research Programme, the Spaces for Change Research Programme, and a portion of the Rights and Accountabilities Research programme will hold workshops to discuss current research findings, deepen discussion of emerging cross-cutting themes, and plan joint writing tasks and other outputs.

In addition, the Steering Committee, made up of country team leaders as well as country convenors, will meet to revisit the existing time line and work plan, agree any necessary adjustments to the current schedule of meetings and events and further discuss how on-going research can be linked into wider plans for dissemination and policy influence. Linked to this, a one-day workshop will take place to evaluate experiences of partnership, capacity building and policy influence within the DRC as part of the process of the Mid-Term Review for DFID.

3. NEWSLETTER FEATURE

The Citizenship DRC's Citizens and Science Research Programme held an e-discussion on the week of 19 January 2004 to plan their research for the next phase. The Citizens and Science Research Programme engages with the challenges to citizenship that rapid changes in science and technology pose. This programme focuses on how citizens mobilise to claim rights around knowledge and expertise in relationship to science and the environment. A set of comparative empirical studies in Brazil, South Africa and the UK (with complementary but separately funded work from India and West Africa) builds on earlier work, but shares a new focus on the way science has been used in civil society activism and mobilisation. The e-discussion involved a debate on different theoretical approaches that could be useful for their case studies and a quest to find emerging comparative perspectives and issues. It worked as effective tool for planning the next phase of work and finding common themes as well as divergences and points for further discussion. The insights that emerged from this discussion will be further developed in the upcoming workshop in Brazil.

4. NEW AND UPCOMING DRC DOCUMENTS AND PUBLICATIONS

Book: 'Escuela rural y organización comunitaria: instituciones locales para el desarrollo y el manejo ambiental' by Luisa Pare and Elena Lazos Chavero, Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México and Plaza Valdés, 2003

Article: 'New forms of citizenship: democracy, family and community in Rio de Janeiro Brazil' by Joanna Wheeler, Gender and Development, Vo. 11, No 3, Caroline Sweetman (ed.), Oxford: Oxfam Publishing.

Available online: http://www.siyanda.org/docs/wheeler_citizendem.pdf

Report: 'Rights and power workshop', by Alexandra Hughes and Joanna Wheeler with Rosalynd Eyben and Patta Scott-Villiers, Citizenship DRC, IDS, February 2003. Available online: www.drc-citizenship.org

Bulletin: 'New Democratic Spaces? The politics and dynamics of institutionalised participation' Andrea Cornwall and Vera Schattan (eds), IDS Bulletin, forthcoming March 2004. Articles will explore the dynamics and effectiveness of participatory spaces in policy processes and will be available from the IDS bookshop:

<http://www.ids.ac.uk/ids/bookshop/index.html>

Correction from last newsletter

Edited volume: 'Geographies of citizenship in Nigeria' by Abah, Oga Steve (ed.), 2003, Tamaza Publishing Company Limited, Wusasa-Zaria, Nigeria (NOT Ahmadu Bello University)

5. RESOURCES AND LINKS

New Gender and Citizenship Resources

- 'Gender, Development, and Citizenship', edited by Caroline Sweetman, Oxfam GB, December 2003. Gender, Development, and Citizenship is part of the Focus on Gender Series, and is the book version of the December 2003 journal 'Gender and Development'. It is available for £9.95/US \$16.50. To order this book visit: <http://www.oxfam.org.uk/publications>
- 'Gender and Citizenship': A 'Cutting Edge Pack' from BRIDGE in collaboration with Citizenship DRC, January 2004. Available online in English and Spanish: http://www.ids.ac.uk/bridge/reports_gend_CEP.html
- 'Gender, Citizenship, and Governance': A global source book, edited by Minke Valk, Sarah Cummings, and Henk van Dam, March 2004. This book is available for £ 15.95/US\$ 23.95. To order this book visit: Website: <http://www.oxfam.org.uk/publications>

Additional Electronic Newsletters

LogoLink newsletter: This newsletter features brief updates on activities within the LogoLink learning network and other related initiatives on citizen participation in local governance, including useful links, resources and events. It is available in English and Spanish. To subscribe you can visit their website:

<http://www.ids.ac.uk/logolink/newsletter/index.htm>

Mzizi - Newsletter of the Participation Group at IDS: Each issue of the newsletter focuses on one aspect of the Group's current work giving contacts and resources. It also includes news and a list of upcoming

events from our node of the worldwide network of participation people. To subscribe to Mzizi send an email to lyris@lyris.ids.ac.uk with the following first line: subscribe participation Your Name. Visit their website for past issues:

<http://www.ids.ac.uk/ids/particip/information/newsletter.html#sub>

6. TO RECEIVE OR STOP RECEIVING THIS NEWSLETTER

NOTE: If you are not on our mailing list but would like to receive this Newsletter, send an e-mail to drcinfo@ids.ac.uk with 'subscribe' in the subject line. If you want to stop receiving this newsletter at any time, please send an email message to drcinfo@ids.ac.uk with 'unsubscribe' in the subject line and we will remove your name promptly. Do feel free to pass this Newsletter on to others if you find it interesting.