

The Development Research Centre on Citizenship, Participation and Accountability, or Citizenship DRC, is an international research partnership exploring new forms of citizenship. 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 items visit [www.drc-citizenship.org](http://www.drc-citizenship.org)

#### 1. RECENT DRC ACTIVITIES

European Social Forum, London, October 2005

The DRC Coordination Team participated in the European Social Forum and engaged in discussions on North-South relations, rights, accountability, transnational citizenship, amongst others.

Central Advisory Review Group (CARG) Meeting, October 2004

The Central Advisory Review Group is a committee formed by experts in the development field from around the world as well as donor representatives. This committee evaluates annually the work done by the Citizenship DRC and provides recommendations on how the Citizenship DRC can improve its practice and organization in all areas of its work. The CARG held its annual review of the work of the Citizenship DRC at the end of October 2004. The Citizenship DRC annual report 2003-2004 is available on our website: [www.drc-citizenship.org](http://www.drc-citizenship.org)

Development Studies Association (DSA) Conference, November 2004

The Citizenship DRC organized an informational stall at the DSA Conference that was held in November in London. Over 450 people attended the conference included policy makers, researchers, practitioners, NGO campaign people, consultants, students and journalists.

#### 2. UPCOMING EVENTS

'Realising Rights and Claiming Accountabilities' research programme write-shop, Nigeria, February 2005

The 'Realising Rights and Claiming Accountabilities' research programme will be holding a write-shop in Nigeria in February 2005. The purpose of this write-shop is to develop drafts for the forthcoming Zed Books volume 'Rights and Resources: the politics of accountability', edited by Peter Newell and Joanna Wheeler. The meeting will also include a field visit to the work currently being carried out by TFDC, the Citizenship DRC Nigerian partner.

Rights-Based Approaches to Development Conference, Manchester, February 2005

Researchers from the Citizenship DRC will be presenting papers on a panel on rights-based approaches to development in 'The Winners and Losers from Rights-Based Approaches to Development. What can be gained and what might be lost through adopting a rights-based

approach to pro-poor development?, a conference hosted by the Institute for Development Policy and Management, University of Manchester, to be held at the University of Manchester, UK, on 21-22 February 2005. The papers are based on work done in conjunction with the Participation Group at IDS for the IDS Bulletin 'Developing Rights?'

### 3. NEWSLETTER FEATURE - Tribal rights and Accountabilities in India

The Citizenship DRC's Indian partner, PRIA, is undertaking research on the relationship between tribal rights, resources, and accountabilities in the tribal states of Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh and Orissa. These tribal lands are rich in mineral resources such as diamonds, iron, and uranium. The extraction of these resources has become a major source of conflict between government, industries, mining companies and tribal communities. Despite a historic and formal right to land, the process of rapid industrialisation is linked to demands by tribal communities for new kinds of rights including the right to land, to water, to a healthy environment, and to livelihoods. Within this context, there are significant barriers to building accountability between tribal groups and the institutions that affect their lives. Currently, the research is focusing on exploring institutions, actors and processes of industrialisation that alienate the tribal communities from their land. The research is also identifying possibilities for influencing and strengthening accountability relationships between tribal groups, and the state, and corporate actors. The preliminary findings show that some key barriers to increasing accountability in this context include:

- overlapping institutions such as traditional tribal governance structures and newly-formed state governance structures
- the intersection of formal and informal legal structures
- alliances between corporations and the state for rapid industrialisation, and
- the strategies used by corporations to avoid accountability and weaken social organisation, such as offering individual compensation packages to weaken collective claims

The on-going research will focus on how and when social mobilisation can make a difference and improve accountability relationships between tribal groups and state and corporate actors.

For more information on this project, please visit our website: [www.drc-citizenship.org](http://www.drc-citizenship.org), or send an email to [drcinfo@ids.ac.uk](mailto:drcinfo@ids.ac.uk).

### 4. NEW AND UPCOMING DOCUMENTS AND PUBLICATIONS

Book: Participação e Deliberação. Teoria Democrática e Experiências Institucionais no Brasil Contemporâneo, by Vera Schattan P. Coelho e Marcos Nobre (orgs.), Brazil: Editora 34, 2004

Cutting edge pack: 'Citizenship and Gender', by Shamim Meer and Charlie Sever, Citizenship DRC in partnership with BRIDGE, available in English and Spanish, is now available in French, and can be accessed online: <http://www.bridge.ids.ac.uk/non-english.htm#français>

IDS Bulletin: 'Developing Rights?', edited by Jethro Pettit and Joanna Wheeler, Volume 36, No.1, January 2005, available from the IDS Bookshop at: <http://www.ntd.co.uk/idsbookshop/details.asp?id=853>

IDS Working Paper 234: 'What is the Rights-Based Approach all about? Perspectives from International Development Agencies', by Celestine Nyamu-Musembi and Andrea Cornwall, November 2004, available online at: <http://server.ntd.co.uk/ids/bookshop/details.asp?id=847>

IDS Working Paper 227: 'Corporate Accountability to the Poor? Assessing the Effectiveness of Community-Based Strategies', by Niamh Garvey and Peter Newell, October 2004, available online at: [www.drc-citizenship.org](http://www.drc-citizenship.org)

Article: 'El manejo de cuenca como una estrategia de sobrevivencia común: reciprocidad y transparencia para una nueva relación entre ciudades industriales y áreas rurales. Caso Tatahuicapan-Coatzacoalcos, in Revista Electrónica REDLACH, forthcoming at: <http://www.rlc.fao.org/redes/redlach/boletin.htm>,

Article: 'La gestión comunitaria y el reconocimiento de los servicios ambientales de los ecosistemas: dos experiencias en el estado de Veracruz, by Dra. Luisa Paré y Carlos Robles in Florescano, E. and Ávila, P., Agua y lagos en Michoacán: una mirada desde lo global hasta lo local, México: Colegio de Michoacán, CONCAULTA and Gobierno del estado de Michoacán, forthcoming 2005

#### 5. TO RECEIVE OR STOP RECEIVING THIS NEWSLETTER

NOTE: If you are not on our mailing list but would like to receive this Newsletter, you can subscribe directly from our website: [www.drc-citizenship.org](http://www.drc-citizenship.org) or send an e-mail to [drcinfo@ids.ac.uk](mailto:drcinfo@ids.ac.uk) with 'subscribe' in the subject line. If you want to stop receiving this newsletter at any time, you can unsubscribe directly from our website: [www.drc-citizenship.org](http://www.drc-citizenship.org), or you can send an e-mail to [drcinfo@ids.ac.uk](mailto: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.