

Land Reform and Conflict Management in Southern Africa

Symposium, Washington DC, 22 October 2001

Preliminary announcement

The Economic and Social Institute of the Free University Amsterdam presents a public symposium that explores the theme: "Land Reform and Conflict Management in Southern Africa." The symposium is supported by a grant from the United States Institute of Peace (USIP). The symposium approaches its theme through analyses of historical and more recent experience of land reform and land-related issues in Zimbabwe. The full-day symposium will be on **22 October 2001** at USIP in Washington and begins at 9.00 am.

Eight speakers will present a rich set of contextual and empirical papers that draws upon a unique body of long-term collaborative research in Zimbabwe. The outline program includes:

Land reform as an investment in conflict avoidance: Zimbabwe's resettlement program as a core element in post-conflict reconstruction, 1980-99

- Bill Kinsey, Free University Amsterdam and Institute of Development Studies, Univ. of Zimbabwe

The economic costs and benefits of land redistribution

- Presenter: Hans Hoogeveen, The World Bank

External support during the transition phase: Roles for humanitarian aid and development assistance

- Presenter: Trudy Owens, Centre for the Study of African Economies, Univ. of Oxford

Sustainability and resourcefulness: Social support networks during periods of stress

- Presenter: Marleen Dekker, Faculty of Economics and Business Administration, Free Univ. Amsterdam

Forging effective new communities: Trust, cooperation and participation in civil society

- Presenter: Abigail Barr, Centre for the Study of African Economies, Univ. of Oxford

Conflict and crisis--Land invasions in 2000

- Presenter: Heather Holtzclaw, Michigan State University

Conflicting land rights claims in contemporary Zimbabwe: Toward a dynamic and flexible human rights approach

- Presenters: Bill Derman, Michigan State University, and Anne Hellum, Univ. of Oslo

Overview and critique

Discussants: Michael Bratton, Michigan State Univ., and Norma Kriger, Goucher College

Discussion and concluding remarks: Putting African land reforms in perspective

Additional information and a program will be available at the USIP website (www.usip.org) in early October, but all inquiries should be directed to Bill Kinsey (bkinsey@econ.vu.nl). Telephone: +31 20 444 6144; Fax: +31 20 444 6004). Because space is limited, it is requested that those wishing to attend confirm to the email address above.

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