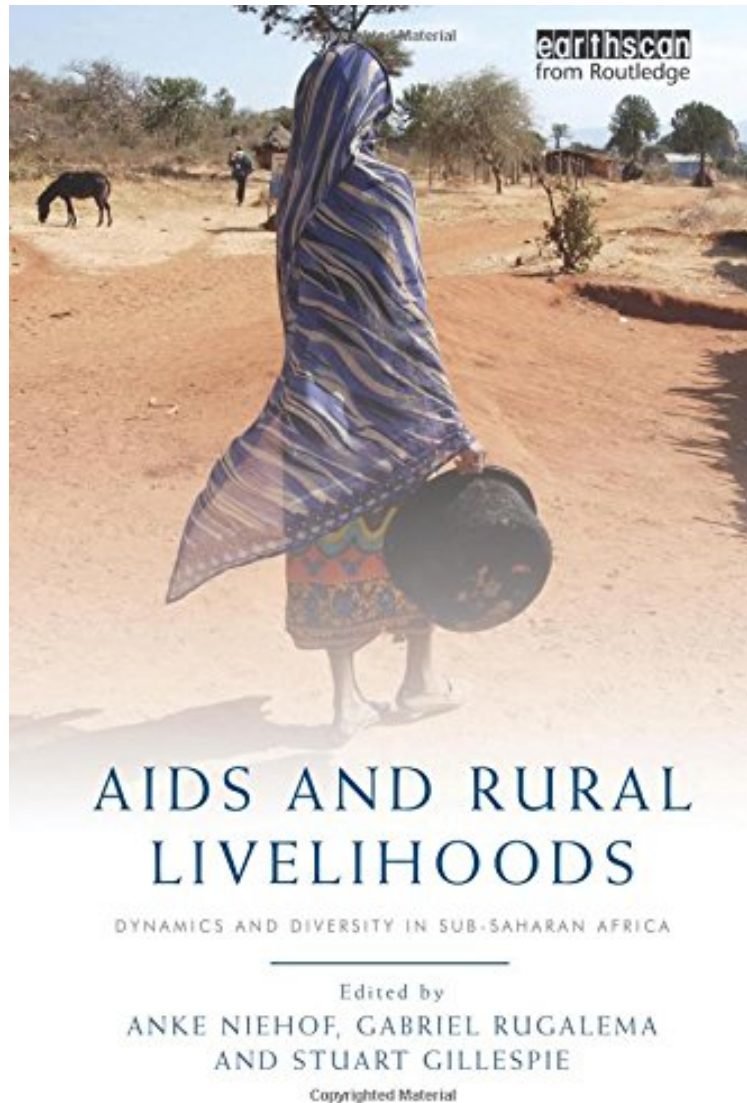


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Rural Livelihoods: Dynamics and Diversity in Sub-Saharan Africa" is an analysis of HIV and the rural sections of Africa. For three decades, AIDS has proven to be a plague on Africa, having a death toll higher than war throughout the war torn region. Agriculture is still the go to way to make a living, but HIV and AIDS have had untold impact on it all. Analyzing the policies international and locally to face the crisis, "AIDS and Rural Livelihoods" bridges the gap and proves to be a scholarly and thoughtful investigation of these serious issues.

AIDS epidemics continue to threaten the livelihoods of millions of people in sub-Saharan Africa. Three decades after the disease was first recognized, the annual death toll from AIDS exceeds that from wars, famine and floods combined. Yet despite millions of dollars of aid and research, there has previously been little detailed on-the-ground analysis of the multifaceted impacts on rural people. Filling that gap, this book brings together recent evidence of AIDS impacts on rural households, livelihoods, and agricultural practice in sub-Saharan Africa. There is particular emphasis on the role of women in affected households, and on the situation of children. The book is unique in presenting micro-level information collected by original empirical research in a range of African countries, and showing how well-grounded conclusions on trends, impacts and local responses can be applied to the design of HIV-responsive policies and programmes. AIDS impacts are more diverse than we previously thought, and local responses more varied - sometimes innovative, sometimes desperate. The book represents a major contribution to our understanding of the impacts of AIDS in the epidemic's heartland, and how these can be managed at different levels.

'This book is a collection of cutting edge pieces of work on the complex, dynamic and uncertain interactions between HIV and rural livelihoods. The papers bring together the blends of practice, policy and research that public policy on HIV/AIDS demands and because of this they achieve the rare distinction of being both grounded and ground breaking.'

Lawrence Haddad, Director, Institute of Development Studies 'A collection of well written articles that together provide an understanding of the AIDS epidemic and the extent to which it has impacted rural livelihoods. This is a must-read - it is well formatted, insightful and absolutely informative.'

Hon. Prof. Ruth Oniang'o, Great Lakes University of Kisumu, Kenya

About the Author Anke Niehof is a full professor at Wageningen University, the Netherlands, holding the chair of Sociology of Consumers and Households. Gabriel Rugalema is a Senior Officer in the Gender, Equity and Rural Employment Division of FAO, Rome. Stuart Gillespie is a senior research fellow at the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI), director of the Regional Network on AIDS, Livelihoods and Food Security (RENEWAL) and coordinator of the Agriculture and Health Research Platform (AHRP).