

Preface

The articles in this *IDS Bulletin* were prepared by researchers at IDS and other research institutions for the World Bank's Low Income Countries Under Stress (LICUS) unit at the World Bank. They were prepared as part of a research project on 'turnaround' in fragile states entitled 'How do LICUS/poor performers achieve turnaround?'. The first phase of the project sought to understand the factors that contribute to turnaround in fragile states and focused on Burundi, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Mozambique, Uganda and Vietnam. The second phase sought to understand the factors that shape successful donor interventions in fragile states and focused on projects and programmes in nine countries. The research for both phases was conducted during mid 2004. This *IDS Bulletin* presents the results of the first phase of the project and includes the articles from this phase that were approved for publication by the World Bank. Articles from the second phase will be published separately.

The publication of this *IDS Bulletin* would not have been possible without the generous assistance of a

wide range of people. In particular I would like to thank the numerous World Bank officials who reviewed and commented on these articles and who attended a workshop in London in November 2004 at which early versions of the articles were presented. Among the latter Kathryn Casson, Christian Lotz, and Sarah Cliffe of the LICUS unit deserve particular thanks for initiating the research project in the first place, providing us with considerable administrative and research support during the project, and helping to generate interest in the research within both the World Bank and the broader development community. The advice and inputs of the IDS publications team, particularly Caroline Knowles and Alison Norwood, also merits my appreciation.

Finally, I would like to thank the World Bank for granting IDS permission to publish the articles in this *IDS Bulletin*.

Andrew Rosser
Brighton, November 2005

Disclaimer

The findings, interpretations, and conclusions expressed herein are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Executive Directors of the World Bank or the governments they represent or the staff of the World Bank.

The World Bank does not guarantee the accuracy of the data included in this work. The boundaries,

colours, denominations, and other information shown on any map in this work do not imply any judgement on the part of the World Bank concerning the legal status of any territory or the endorsement or acceptance of such boundaries.