Center for Community-Based Resource Management (CBRM)

Natural Resources Institute, University of Manitoba

CBRM Database

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Case Study Name:	Microenterprise Occupation and Poverty Reduction in Microfinance Programs: Evidence from Sri Lanka
Authors:	Shaw, J.
Document Type:	Paper in a scientific journal
Year:	2004
Language:	English
Document Location:	World Development 32(7), 1247-1264
Full Citation:	Shaw, J. 2004. Microenterprise Occupation and Poverty Reduction in Microfinance Programs: Evidence from Sri Lanka. <i>World Development</i> 32(7), 1247-1264
Region:	South Asia
Country:	Srilanka
Ecosystem Type:	Semi arid and arid
Social Characteristics:	indigenous community
Scale of Study:	Community, regional
Resource Type:	Other (microfinance)
Type of Initiative:	Research driven-project
Community Based Work:	Resource management
Keywords:	Asia, Sri Lanka, microfinance, poverty, microenterprise development, rural livelihoods
Summary:	The microenterprise earnings of microfinance clients in south-eastern Sri Lanka are linked to their initial incomes. Poorer clients face geographic, financial and sociocultural barriers to entry to the most promising

microenterprise occupations, leading them to select low-value activities with poor growth prospec
semi-urban areas, poverty impacts could be strengthened by supplementing loans with nonfin
interventions encouraging poor clients to select higher-value occupations. In arid rural areas,
microenterprises face severe market and infrastructure constraints, microenterprise development is un
to facilitate poverty exit.