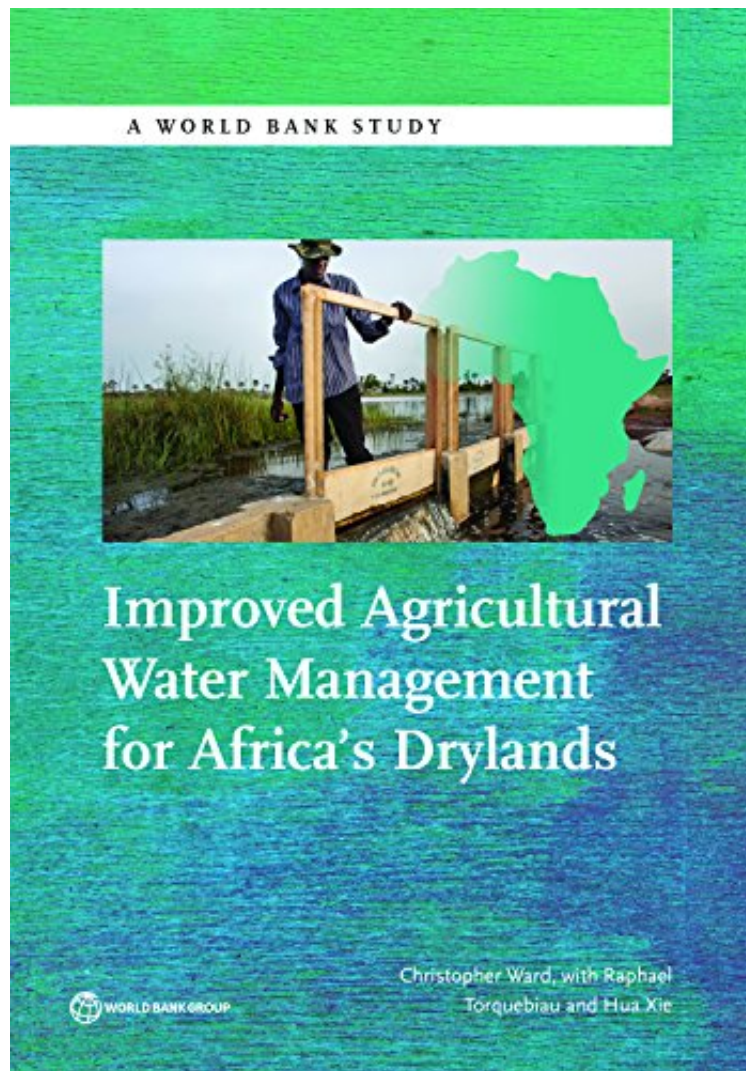


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Improved Agricultural Water Management for Africa's Drylands (World Bank Studies)

Christopher Ward

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Christopher Ward : Improved Agricultural Water Management for Africa's Drylands (World Bank Studies) before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Improved Agricultural Water Management for Africa's Drylands (World Bank Studies):

Dryland regions in Sub-Saharan Africa are home to one-half of the region's population and three-quarters of its

poor. Poor both in natural resources and in assets and income, the inhabitants of drylands are highly vulnerable to droughts and other shocks. Despite a long history of interventions by governments, development agencies, and civil society organizations, there have been no sustained large-scale successes toward improving the resilience of drylands dwellers. *Improved Agricultural Water Management for Africa's Drylands* describes the extent to which agricultural water management interventions in dryland regions of Sub-Saharan Africa can enhance the resilience and improve the well-being of the people living in those regions, proposes what can realistically be done to promote improved agricultural water management, and sets out how stakeholders can make those improvements. After reviewing the current status of irrigation and agricultural water management in the drylands, the authors discuss technical, economic, and institutional challenges to expanding irrigation. A model developed at the International Food Policy Research Institute is used to project the potential for irrigation development in the Sahel Region and the Horn of Africa. The modeling results show that irrigation development in the drylands can reduce vulnerability and improve the resilience of hundreds of thousands of farming households, but rainfed agriculture will continue to dominate for the foreseeable future. Fortunately, many soil and water conservation practices that can improve the productivity and ensure the sustainability of rainfed cropping systems are available. The purpose of this book is to demonstrate the potentially highly beneficial role of water and water management in drylands agriculture in association with agronomic improvements, market growth, and infrastructure development, and to assess the technological and socioeconomic conditions and institutional policy frameworks that can remove barriers to adoption and allow wide-scale take-up of improved agricultural water management in the dryland regions of Sub-Saharan Africa.

About the Author Christopher Ward, Canada's original MuchMusic VJ, wrote the world-wide No. 1 hit "Black Velvet." His songs have been recorded by Diana Ross, The Backstreet Boys, Amanda Marshall, and many others, and he's been seen as a judge on YTV's "The Next Star". He lives in Toronto.