



The 2008 World Development Report will be dedicated to agriculture. In doing so, the World Bank is demonstrating how important the agricultural sector is for development and particularly for reducing poverty. We called upon young academics from around the world to present us their innovative ideas on this topic. Read their most interesting articles, published in this issue of *a&rd* on pages 42-62.



Photo: FAO/Faidutti

### Bird flu is particularly threatening to ...

... developing countries where poultry are part of people's daily lives. Moreover, poultry produced on factory farms has become a major production sector, particularly in Asia. While measures to control the spread of bird flu in Asia and Africa are essential, they also constitute a major threat to an important source of livelihood for people in these countries. More on pages 4 to 21



Photo: agenda/Bathing

### Bioenergy to fight climate change

Climate change, increasing oil prices and secure energy supplies – reasons enough to explain the renaissance currently being experienced by energy production from biomass. The potentials and also high risks involved in this mounting focus on bioenergy – particularly for emerging nations – are described in the articles on pages 22 to 41

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