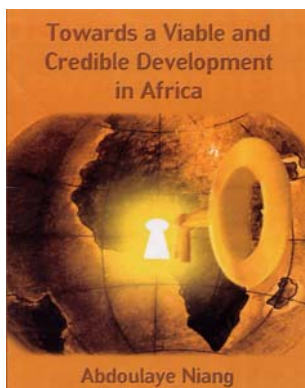


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About the Author: A native of Mali, Abdoulaye Niang holds a doctorate in Agricultural Economics from Purdue University. He has served the government of Mali in various capacities, including holding the position of Economic and Finance Advisor and Coordinator of the Mali Sud Project. In 1982, Niang joined the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA), where, since that time, he has filled several roles. Niang currently serves as Team Leader for Agriculture and Food Security at the Division of Sustainable Development at UNECA.

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Ordering Information: ISBN # 1-57197-455-5 • \$18.95 • 176 pages • Hardcover • 5.5"x 8.5" • Available May 2006