

CV Louise Fortmann

I am a rural sociologist. I grew up in central Pennsylvania and received a BA in political science from Penn State in 1968. I received an MS from Cornell in rural sociology in 1970 after which I worked for a year as a VISTA (Volunteers in Service to America, the domestic equivalent of the Peace Corps) Volunteer in Cattaraugus County, NY as a welfare rights organizer. I did my dissertation research on delivery of legal services to the rural poor in Cattaraugus County. In 1973 I earned a PhD in development sociology from Cornell. I have spent eleven years living and doing research on agriculture and natural resource management in east and southern Africa. I came to UC Berkeley as an assistant professor in the Department of Forestry and Resource Management in 1984.