



Recent additions update 2 April 2007

Books

Species and people : linked futures : a report with case studies on the contribution of wildlife conservation to rural livelihoods and the Millennium Development Goals

Switzerland: World Wildlife Fund (WWF), 2006

Around the world, billions of dollars are being spent to reduce poverty and promote sustainable economic development - often with inadequate attention to the link between sustainable development and a healthy environment. In many parts of the world, the dynamics which threaten species are also those which contribute to poverty, such as loss of habitat and its riches, unsustainable depletion of the natural resource base, inequitable access to natural resources necessary for life, and a lack of appropriate governance and management mechanisms. Working towards their mission, World Wildlife Fund (WWF)'s mission is to stop the degradation of the planet's natural environment and to build a future in which humans live in harmony with nature, by: conserving the world's biological diversity; ensuring that the use of renewable natural resources is sustainable; and reducing pollution and wasteful consumption.

http://assets.panda.org/downloads/wwf_mdgreport_2006.pdf

Signing away the future - how trade and investment agreements between rich and poor countries undermine development

Oxford, United Kingdom: Oxfam International, 2007.

The quiet advance of trade and investment agreements between rich and poor countries threatens to deny developing countries a favourable foothold in the global economy. Driven by the USA and the European Union, these agreements impose far-reaching rules that place severe restrictions on the very policies developing countries need in order to fight poverty. In this Oxfam briefing paper, Oxfam believes that trade rules, whether multilateral, regional, or bilateral, should recognize the special and differential treatment that developing countries require in order to move up the development ladder as well as ensuring mechanisms for extensive participation of all stakeholders in the negotiating process, with full disclosure of information to the public, including the findings of independent impact assessments.

http://www.oxfam.org/en/files/bp101_regional_trade_agreements_0703/download

Men of the global south : a reader / Jones, Adam (ed)
London: Zed Books, 2006.

This Reader is designed to fill a glaring gap in the proliferating literature on gender and development, gender and international political economy, and gender and conflict. While there is now a broad and sophisticated feminist literature on the lives and experiences of Third World women and their role in development, there has been a tendency either to ignore men as gendered subjects, or to consign them to negative and stereotypical gender roles, often as victimisers and exploiters of Third World women. While it is vital not to overlook men's roles in crime, exploitation, and violence, it is obvious that a more nuanced and empathetic portrait of Third World men remains to be painted. This perspective makes this Reader a genuinely original intervention into the study of both gender and development.

Keeping the promise: an agenda for action on women and AIDS
UNAIDS Global Coalition on Women and AIDS, 2006.

The Global Coalition on Women and AIDS was launched by UNAIDS in 2004 to respond to the increasing feminization of the HIV epidemic and a growing concern that existing AIDS strategies did not adequately address women's needs. A loose alliance of civil society groups, networks of women living with HIV and United Nations agencies, the Coalition works at global and national levels to advocate for improved AIDS programming for women and girls. This publication describes the key issues such as preventing new HIV infections by improving access to reproductive health care and promoting equitable access to HIV care and treatment.

http://test.earthscape.org/12/ES17343/UNFPA_WomenAIDS.pdf

Joint evaluation of the international response to the Indian Ocean tsunami: synthesis report / Telford, John; Cosgrave, John; Houghton, Rachel
London, United Kingdom: Tsunami Evaluation Coalition (TEC), 2006.

This report is the outcome of an international collaborative process involving over 40 humanitarian and development cooperation agencies. A set of reports synthesize the five Tsunami Evaluation Coalition (TEC) thematic evaluation reports, their sub-studies and other materials relating to the Indian Ocean earthquake and tsunamis of 26 December 2004. This report consists of three main parts: an introduction; sections on the disaster and response; and conclusions and recommendations. It addresses primarily the initial phase of the international response, up to the first 11 months after the disaster. The report has two main aims: to improve the quality of natural disaster response policy and practice, and to account to both donor and affected-country populations. Information on content, methods and constraints are contained in the Introduction.

<http://www.reliefweb.int/library/documents/2006/tec-tsunami-14jul.pdf>

The right to water: from concept to implementation / Dubreuil, Celine
Marseilles, France: World Water Council, 2006

The synthesis presented in this report aims to: clarify the meaning of the right to water; present approaches on how right to water can be implemented in developing and developed countries, in rural and urban areas, and in a practical and affordable manner; identify key factors for effective implementation of the right to water.

[http://www.worldwatercouncil.org/fileadmin/www/Programs/Right to Water/Pdf doct/RightTo Water_FinalText_Cover.pdf](http://www.worldwatercouncil.org/fileadmin/www/Programs/Right%20to%20Water/Pdf%20doct/RightToWater_FinalText_Cover.pdf)

Geography against development : a case for landlocked developing countries / Chowdhury, Anwarul K.; Erdenebileg, Sandagdorj
New York: United Nations, 2006

Landlocked countries are among the most disadvantaged and underachieving countries in the world. This publication attempts to analyse the impact of geographical handicaps on external trade and economic development of landlocked developing countries and identify practical solutions to address them.

Cultural etiquette in the Pacific Islands

Noumea, New Caledonia: Secretariat of the Pacific Community, 2005.

Cultural awareness and knowledge are essential for anyone working in cross-cultural environments. The aim of this guide is to serve as a cultural awareness guide on general etiquette. It covers each country in the Pacific (including Australia and Aotearoa New Zealand and their indigenous peoples) and provides brief country information, as well as information on language, leadership and protocols, daily life including religion, dress, greetings and meals.

Birth registration in the Pacific : Part 1: a situation analysis of birth registration in Vanuatu, Solomon Islands and Kiribati. Part 2: Report on the Regional Workshop on Enhancing Birth Registration: Fiji, Kiribati, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu and Timor-Leste
Suva, Fiji: United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), 2005.

The importance of registering a child immediately after birth in Pacific Island countries is not well understood due to the inadequate awareness by parents, communities and other stakeholders. The aim of the workshop was to raise awareness on the importance of birth registration, to develop a better understanding on the present birth registration systems and practices in the Pacific and to develop National Action Plans to improve birth registration systems and practices. Participants were able to: Gain an enhanced understanding of the importance of birth registration including with respect to child rights, access to public services and national planning; Share and review information on the current systems and practices of birth registration in the Pacific; Recommend national birth registration plans of action.

http://www.unicef.org/pacificislands/BR_Report_Part1.pdf

http://www.unicef.org/pacificislands/BR_Report_Part2.pdf

Sexual and reproductive health and rights : a position paper

London: Department for International Development (DFID), 2004.

Sexual and reproductive health is a human right, essential to human development and the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals. This paper by the Department for International Development (DFID) reviews achievements since the 1994 International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD), sets out DFID's position on sexual and reproductive health and rights, and

its view of the future. Important progress has been made, but there remains much to be done to achieve universal access to reproductive health services by 2015.
<http://www2.dfid.gov.uk/pubs/files/sexualreprohealthrights.pdf>

What parliamentarians can do about HIV/AIDS : action for children and young people
New York: UNICEF & UNAIDS, 2003.

This information kit, prepared by UNICEF and partners, calls on parliamentarians to use their influence and resources in halting the spread of HIV/AIDS. Decisive action by political leaders has proven to be a common, critical factor in changing the course of the pandemic. Leadership by elected officials - whose actions must include breaking the silence, educating their constituencies and lobbying for AIDS legislation and budgetary allocations - is the key to controlling the disease.
http://www.unicef.org/publications/files/Parliamentarians_AIDS.pdf

Learning for change: principles and practices of learning organisations / Britten, Bruce Sundbyberg, Sweden: Swedish Mission Council, 2002.

This book was commissioned by the Swedish Mission Council as a way of further developing an understanding of organisational learning in church-related organisations involved in international development. The term "learning organisation" first emerged in the late 1980s. Despite its origins in corporate sector management thinking, it is an idea that immediately had resonance in the world of international development.
http://www.missioncouncil.se/publikationer/Learning_for.pdf

DVDs

In this world (DVD) / Winterbottom, Michael (Director)
London: The Film Consortium, Dallington Films Ltd & BBC Films, 2002.

Jamal and Enayatullah are cousins, young Afghans who live in the Pakistani city of Peshawar, on the Afghan border. Jamal, an orphan, scrapes a living in a brick factory and lives in the sprawling Shamshatoo refugee camp. His cousin works in the family's market stall. To give him the chance of a better life, it is decided that Enayatullah will be sent to England. Jamal persuades the family that he should be sent along to. The pair join ranks of refugees who annually place their lives in the hands of people smugglers, asylum seekers and migrants - courageous and resourceful people seeking a better life, whose stories often end in tragedy.

Articles

Beware of strangers bearing gifts / Sorbara, Mark J.
African business no. 329 March 2007

There are few places in the world besieged by charitable organisations and NGOs as much as Africa. But is their presence beneficial or harmful to Africa? In whose interests do these charities operate and what are their motives? The author takes an intriguing viewpoint.

African Union : from non-interference to non-indifference / Ankomah, Baffour
New African no. 460 March 2007

Gradually a radical rethink of how Africa should conduct its affairs is taking hold in the halls of the African Union (AU). In the first decades of independence, the African Union's predecessor, the organisation of African Unity (OAU) did not react to horrendous things happening to member countries - all because of the OAU's "non-interference" policy. A complete sea-change is now the order of the day in Addis Ababa, the seat of the AU.

West Africa : being fleeced at the borders / Akioye, Seun
New African no. 460 March 2007

The author traveled by road from Ghana to Nigeria recently. What he experienced, courtesy of immigration officers, does not make pleasant reading. West African leaders will have to do something dramatic to stop the fleecing of their citizens at the entry points.

Buruli : the flesh-wasting disease / Akarue, Josephine
New African no. 460 March 2007

Despite the increasing prevalence and morbidity of the Buruli Ulcer in Cote d'Ivoire, a large section of the population remains ignorant of its existence. The name Buruli comes from one of the countries in Uganda where the ulcer was first diagnosed. Today Cote d'Ivoire has about 22,000 cases making it the world's highest endemic nation. Unlike Malaria, it has low mortality and spread and there is no local name for easy identification of the ulcer.

Amazing grace / Andrews, Beverley
New African no. 460 March 2007

The author reports on a new initiative bringing relief to poor schools in Africa, started by a small UK-based charity group, Schools 4 schools. This programme, established in 2003, tries to make a positive difference to the live and future prospects of youngsters living in South Africa. It twins schools in London with several in Africa. The focus is on small projects working with and for local people.

The Plot against maize / Ross, John
Latinamerican press vol 39:4 March 7, 2007

Big biotechnology firms in Mexico are taking advantage of the corn crisis where corn prices are at an all-time high due to the burgeoning interest in ethanol production as a petroleum substitute. These firms force farmers to purchase genetically-modified seeds.

More evidence of drugs-for guns trade (between Haiti and Jamaica) / Arthur, Charles
Latinamerican press vol 39:3 February 21, 2007

Jamaican marijuana is being smuggled into Haiti in exchange for weapons, fuelling a crime wave. In a study published in 2005, the Geneva-based independent research project, the Small Arms Survey, estimated as many as 170,000 small arms illegally held in Haiti. An Oxfam report "The Call for Tough Arms control : voices from Haiti", has called for a new international Arms trade Treaty, based on the principles of international law, to reduce the cost of irresponsible arms transfers.

Solidarity in medicine (in Bolivia) / Garat, Martin
Latinamerican press vol 39:2 February 7, 2007

Almost 1700 Cuban doctors are working in Bolivia. In 2006 after Bolivia was ravaged by heavy rains causing landslides and floods, Cuba sent doctors to help victims. After these emergency efforts both countries agreed to maintain a base of Cuban doctors in Bolivia to provide free medical care to poor urban areas. However the presence of Cuban doctors has caused protests from some Bolivian doctors. Despite these protests the Cuban doctors are likely to remain in Bolivia.

Representation, Citizenship and the Public Domain in Democratic Decentralization / Ribot, Jesse C.
Development vol 50:1 March 2007

The author analyzes how 'democratic' decentralization reforms in most developing countries, rather than empowering representative elected local government, have often resulted in a transfer of power to a wide range of local institutions, including private bodies, customary authorities and non-governmental organizations. This essay explores the logic behind choosing these institutions and the effects of recognizing these institutions on three dimensions of democracy representation, citizenship and the public domain.

Democracy and Development / van Beuningen, Cor
Development vol 50:1 March 2007

Democracy is now generally recognized as the form of government that is best able to facilitate decision making and resolve internal conflicts in a peaceful way, as well as to provide the conditions for social and economic development and the reduction of poverty. Similarly, the human rights of citizens can best be realized through the development of democratic institutions, procedures, and values. The author argues that the advancement of democracy can thus be considered as not only an essential goal in its own right, but also linked to peace building, the consolidation of human rights and to growth and development.

Democratization, Inclusion and the Moderation of Islamist Parties / Schwedler, Jillian
Development vol 50:1 March 2007

The author examines three questions about the political inclusion of Islamist groups in the Middle East. Using empirical evidence from studies of elections in the region, she discusses whether inclusion

or exclusion is a better strategy for deflating radical challenges. She concludes that inclusion is far more likely to produce an overall moderate political sphere, though it is unlikely to eliminate all forms of radicalism.

Democracy, Development and Discourse in Central Asia / Chenoy, Anuradha M.
Development vol 50:1 March 2007

The author raises questions about the nature of democracy, development and discourse in Central Asia. The premise for the transition in the former Soviet Republics has been free market, democracy and the belief that the two will be mutually re-enforcing. Experience has shown that the linkage between capitalism and democracy is not that strong and it is capitalism and not democratic structures that have grown in accordance to western considerations in Central Asia. The method of capitalist growth has led to conditions of social distress for the majority of people and has enhanced autarchic tendencies in some of these states.

The African Movement of Working Children and Youth / Terenzio, Fabrizio
Development vol 50:1 March 2007

The author shares his thoughts on how working children have been participating in African development over the last 20 years. He argues that the sheer number of children in Africa makes them key stakeholders in economic, social and political contexts in the continent. He underlines that the success and sustainability of children's livelihoods and development depends largely on their participation.

Citizen-centred Local Governance: Strategies to combat democratic deficits / Shah, Anwar / Shah, Furhawn
Development vol 50:1 March 2007

The authors examine the analytical underpinnings of local governance. They outline analytical approaches to local governance in order to understand the role of governments and comparing and contrasting institutional arrangements. They suggest how to evaluate and reform local governance in both industrial and developing countries.

Assessing Democratization: A case for qualitative approaches / Machangana, Keboitse
Development vol 50:1 March 2007

The author suggests that reform-orientated qualitative assessments led by internal stakeholders are a way forward in assessing democratization efforts, and contributing to democratization processes. She analyzes extant measures for assessing democratization and highlights major challenges. She introduces the State of Democracy assessment methodology, developed by the International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance as an alternative assessment framework.

Women's Organizations and Local Democracy: Promoting effective participation of women in Central America / Clulow, Michael
Development vol 50:1 March 2007

The author presents four feminist non-governmental organizations that have played a leading role in democratizing local activities to include the participation of women. Las Dignas and Las Méridas from El Salvador, CEM-H from Honduras and Grupo Venancia from Nicaragua individually and collectively have successfully developed many tools and approaches to promote women's participation. He suggests at the heart of all their work, and the key to their successes are the building of strong participatory organizations and the empowerment and training of women.

Local Democratization in Brazil: Strengths and dilemmas of deliberative democracy / Souza, Celina
Development vol 50:1 March 2007

The author analyzes two Brazilian mechanisms designed to improve local deliberative democracy: participatory budgeting and community councils. She addresses two questions: how these experiences are being implemented and how sustainably. She argues that despite the uneven capability of local governments to empower ordinary citizens, some progress has been made towards local deliberative democracy, although the sustainability of these experiences is not yet clear.

Urban Governance and Participation in Central Mexico / Guarneros-Meza, Valeria
Development vol 50:1 March 2007

The author looks at national aspects that characterize Mexico's democratization and decentralization processes, and their impact upon the central region of Mexico. Based on the region's social characteristics, she discusses the concept of 'urban governance' in terms of its ambiguity, which promotes municipal systems of participation at the same time as it fragments their internal organization.

Marginalized Groups and Political Participation: Perspectives from the Philippines / Velasco, Djorina
Development vol 50:1 March 2007

The author probes into the realities shaping possible political participation by marginalized groups. She portrays the challenges to meaningful participation in the Philippine urban system, where patronage politics and populism are omnipresent threats. She surveys the political responses that are being developed by combining participatory local governance initiatives with progressive party-building. She first examines the challenges to meaningful political participation of marginalized groups by describing the context of contemporary urban poor mobilizations in Manila, and secondly at the issue of politicizing citizens' participation.

Government, NGOs and the Paramilitary: A Colombian contradiction / Brittan, James J.
Development vol 50:1 March 2007

The author analyzes the contradictions that affect non-governmental organizations (NGOs)' activity in Colombia. He protests that even as it discredits and opposes NGOs and human rights organizations, the Colombian state has supported and used paramilitary-funded NGOs to implement Plan Colombia and thereby impose a neo-liberal economic order. As a result of this contradictory policy, poor Colombians do not benefit from NGO interventions but, indeed, end up suffering from the retaliation of state forces and paramilitary groups.

Profiles of Key Democracy and Good Governance NGOs/Agencies

Development vol 50:1 March 2007

This section provides a cross-sectional summary of organizations working on democracy. The list is by no means comprehensive, rather it aims to be a representative sampling that illustrates the mosaic of democracy-promoting entities.

Freshly brewed development : international markets demand chemical-free coffee / Inter Press Service

Latinamerica press vol 38:23 December 13, 2006

Sandoval is a small farmer and leader of the Santa Adelaida cooperative in the Balsamo mountain range in south San Salvador. He is an expert on growing and selling organic traditional gourmet aromatic coffee has told reporters he needs to produce more coffee to meet the demand. The Santa Adelaida coffee is now in a leading position in international markets.

Urban agriculture takes off (in Cuba) / Horta, Lucila

Latinamerica press vol 38:20 November 1, 2006

Small plots in the island's cities yield fruitful harvests of vegetables, grains, even spices. The state provides periodic inspections of these plots examining not only the quality produced but also the appropriate use and recovery of the soils and other agricultural techniques. The system has been praised by international experts as an example of food production without the use of pesticides or chemical fertilisers and as a form of relief on the family budget.

Oil but no development (in Peru) / Remon, Cecilia

Latinamerica press vol 38:20 November 1, 2006

An Achuar indigenous group in Peru has demanded oil companies stop contaminating the Corrientes River. Since oil exploration in the area began, the water extracted with the oil has not been re-injected into the actual oil pits but dumped into the river going against the standard international procedure. The consumption of heavy metals from the river are affecting the community member's health as well as contaminating soil, animals and fish. Leaders of 32 Achuar communities, government representatives, the oil company Pluspetrol and the Ombudsman office entered into a new series of talks in October 2006 and signed a new agreement. Pluspetrol will now be required to re-inject all production waters for two blocks designated for oil exploration by the government.
