Books and Reports (2004 – Present)
Books and reports written by staff of the Development Research Group, World Bank.
(As of February 9, 2020).

2020

Coping with Climate Change in the Sundarbans: Lessons from Multidisciplinary Studies

Climate change poses serious threats to inclusive economic progress and poverty reduction. Strong countermeasures are required to increase the capacity of low-income people to mitigate their risk exposure to the impacts of climate change. Central pillars in planning for sustainable development and poverty alleviation must include vulnerability assessments, appropriate adaptation measures, and resilience-smart investments. This means placing climate change adaptation and resilience at the center of overall development policy. Coping with Climate Change in the Sundarbans contributes to this effort by synthesizing multiyear, multidisciplinary climate change studies on the Sundarbans, the world’s largest remaining contiguous mangrove forest and wetland of international importance, as well as home to some of South Asia’s poorest and most vulnerable communities. The studies’ findings indicate that, in a changing climate, sea-level rise, storm-surge intensification, and water salinization will alter the Sundarbans ecosystem significantly. The ripple effect of these changes will have multifaceted adverse impacts on the nature-dependent livelihoods, health, and nutrition of nearby communities. Elevated health risks, reduced land and labor productivity, and increased exposure to storms, floods, droughts, and other extreme events will make escape from poverty more difficult. Families in the Sundarbans are on the front line of these changes. Their experience and adaptation signal future decisions by hundreds of millions of families worldwide who will face similar threats from progressive sea-level rise. This research lays the technical foundation for developing a better understanding of the changes the Sundarbans currently faces, including responses of the ecosystem and human communities. Based on field research, location-specific, resilience-smart adaptation measures are recommended for reducing climate change vulnerability. Beyond the Sundarbans, the studies’ methods and findings will be of interest to development practitioners, policy makers, and researchers focused on island nations and countries worldwide that feature high-density populations and economic activity in low-lying coastal regions vulnerable to sea-level rise.

Going Viral: COVID-19 and the Accelerated Transformation of Jobs in Latin America and the Caribbean

The economic impact of COVID-19 is unprecedented in size and scope. It has quickly evolved from a health emergency into an employment crisis. It also has far-reaching implications for workers beyond the immediate employment effects, as it most likely has accelerated the transformation process of jobs that had already started in the region and the world. This book focuses on three important pre-pandemic trends observed in the region, namely, premature deindustrialization, servicification of the economy, and task automation, that were significantly changing the labor market landscape in the region and that have been accelerated by the crisis. While there is still uncertainty about the economic impacts of Covid-19, policymakers need to start planning for
a rapidly evolving future that will come sooner than expected. A strong focus on productivity, technology
development and adoption, and training in relevant skills will be key to adapting and taking advantage of the
new opportunities in the post-pandemic world. Importantly, the accelerated transformation of jobs calls for a
rethinking of labor regulations and social protection policies geared towards wage earners employed in the
formal sector of the economy. The three trends identified in Going Viral, the effects of the pandemic itself, and
the growing reliance on electronic platforms raise doubts that wage employment will increase substantially in
the coming years. At the same time, earnings and transactions processed through electronic platforms are
more visible to the authorities, bringing an opportunity to increase tax revenue and social security
contributions. The flexible regulation of the emerging forms of work in a way that encourages employment,
supports formalization, and expands the coverage of social protection to larger segments of the population will
be of utmost importance for policymakers preparing for a new and changed world.

Poverty and Shared Prosperity 2020: Reversals of Fortune
Samuel Freije-Rodríguez and Michael Woolcock, R. Andrés Castañeda, Alexandru Cojocaru, Elizabeth Howton,
Christoph Lakner, Minh Cong Nguyen, Marta Schoch, Judy Yang, and Nishant Yonzan. Washington, DC: World
Bank, October 2020

The report presents new estimates of COVID-19's impacts on global poverty and inequality. Harnessing fresh
data from frontline surveys and economic simulations, it shows that pandemic-related job losses and
deprivation worldwide are hitting already-poor and vulnerable people hard, while also partly changing the
profile of global poverty by creating millions of "new poor." Furthermore, the report breaks ground by jointly
analyzing three factors whose convergence is driving the current crisis and will extend its impact into the future:
the COVID-19 pandemic, armed conflict, and climate change.

Violence without Borders: The Internationalization of Crime and Conflict
Faisal Ali Baig, Quy-Toan Do, Daniel Garrote-Sanchez, Lakshmi Iyer, Chau Le, and Andrei Levchenko, June 2020
| Policy Research Report | Video | Blog |

Just like nearly every aspect of human experience, crime, civil conflict, and violence have become increasingly
global. Around the world, civil wars, of which there are more today than at any time since the end of World War
II, displace greater numbers of people ever further from their countries of origin. Transnational terrorism has
reached a 50-year high, in terms of both its incidence and the number of reported fatalities. Cross-border
criminal markets—illicit drugs, human trafficking, wildlife trade, and so forth—take a heavy toll on the many
societies they affect. This Policy Research Report, The Internationalization of Crime, Conflict, and Violence,
offers a unified framework to take stock of the theoretical and empirical literature on crime, conflict, and
violence and to discuss how the international community organizes itself to address security as a regional and
global public good. The increasingly global effects of crime and conflict require an equally global response to
violence.

2019

Bhutan's Integration with the Global Economy: International Investment Treaties and Conventions
In this context, Bhutan can become wealthier through accelerating both domestic and foreign investment, as well as signing investment treaties. These investments could provide not just capital but also bring necessary skills, knowledge and ideas, and help the country move beyond hydropower. Today FDI inflows are small and constrained, on the one hand, by regulatory barriers and insufficient investment promotion, and, on the other, by inadequacies in skills and infrastructure. Bhutan can benefit from the experience of East Asia and other countries on how to break out of this low investment trap. FDI can help the macroeconomic balance by increasing exports and reducing the current account deficit, although it is not clear the future impact on growth, since it will depend on the quality and type of FDI inflows. FDI can also help create trade. Theoretically, firms invest abroad to expand their sales markets when trade costs are too high, therefore FDI is a substitute for trade. FDI in non-tradable sectors (services, etc) has this feature. However, in practice, FDI goes to export-oriented sectors including extractives but also manufacturing. Given the landlocked nature of geographic setting of Bhutan (with higher trade cost than countries such as India or Bangladesh), FDI could go primarily to non-tradable (at least as shown in the recent trend in the greenfield FDI). In this context, it will be important to use FDI to tap into regional value chains.

**Exports to Jobs: Boosting the Gains from Trade in South Asia**


South Asia’s economy has grown rapidly, and the region has made a significant reduction in poverty. However, the available jobs for the growing working population remain limited. Policy makers are contending with lingering concerns about jobless growth and poor job quality. Exports to Jobs: Boosting the Gains from Trade in South Asia posits that exports, could bring higher wages and better jobs to South Asia. The report uses a new methodology to estimate the potential impact from higher South Asian exports per worker on wages and employment. The report finds that increasing exports per worker would result in higher wages, mostly for the better-off groups—like the better-educated workers, men, and the more-experienced workers—although the less-skilled and rural workers would benefit from new job opportunities outside of the informal sector. Report findings show that to spread the benefits from higher exports widely, policies are needed to raise skills and get certain groups, such as women and youth, into more and better jobs. Complementary measures include removing trade barriers and investing in infrastructure and increasing the ability of workers to find higher-paying jobs. Together, these actions would help South Asian countries spread the gains from being closely integrated into the global economy through exporting. This book, which is the product of a partnership between the International Labour Organization and the World Bank, contributes to our understanding of the impact that growing exports can have on increasing well-being, and it bridges the gap between academic research and policy making.

**Global Financial Development Report 2019 / 2020: Bank Regulation and Supervision a Decade after the Global Financial Crisis**

Asli Demirgüç-Kunt, Ata Can Bertay, Davide S. Mare with Deniz Anginer, Robert J. Cull, Miriam Bruhn, Claudia Ruiz Ortega, Nan Zhou, Jinjing Liu, November 2019 | Report | Video | Dataset | Blog | Previous Reports

Over a decade has passed since the collapse of the U.S. investment bank Lehman Brothers marked the onset of the largest global economic crisis since the Great Depression. The crisis revealed major shortcomings in market discipline, regulation, and supervision, and reopened important policy debates on financial regulation. Since the
onset of the crisis, emphasis has been placed on better regulation of banking systems and on enhancing the tools available to supervisory agencies to oversee banks and intervene speedily in case of distress. Drawing on 10 years of data and analysis, the Global Financial Development Report 2019/2020 uncovers new evidence on the regulatory remedies adopted to prevent future financial troubles, and particularly the impact of reforms on market discipline and bank capital. Countries should design and enforce regulations that are appropriate for the institutional environment, strength of market discipline, supervisory capacity, and business models of banks in a given country. Regulations also need to be compatible with incentives, but designing and enforcing such regulations are complex tasks, particularly where sophisticated markets do not exist and institutions are underdeveloped. Globalization and technological change are important trends that make it even more challenging to provide effective oversight of banks. The Global Financial Development Report 2019/2020 is the fifth in a World Bank series.

Global Trade Watch 2018: Trade Amid Tensions
Cristina Constantinescu, Aaditya Mattoo, Michele Ruta, Maryla Maliszewska, Israel Osorio-Rodarte.

Global trade growth slowed in 2018 amid a weakening of economic growth in China and the Euro Area and rising trade protectionism. The volume of trade grew by 3.8 percent, down from 5.4 percent in 2017, but has shown signs of reviving in the first quarter of 2019. However, the U.S. tariff increases implemented in early May and China’s response might change the outlook. Trade policy developments are mixed. Restrictive trade measures imposed during 2018 affected 3.8 percent of world merchandise trade, nearly three times the share affected in any of the years since the global financial crisis of 2009. Tit-for-tat tariffs between the United States and China alone affected 2.0 percent of world merchandise trade in 2018. Ongoing trade tensions affected importers in United States and China significantly. While trade fell in targeted products, prices at the border did not change as compared with non-targeted products. Even though trade in stickier inputs tends to be relatively resilient in the short term, if trade tensions are not resolved, existing global value chains are likely to be disrupted in the longer term. It is in the long-term interest of industrial and developing countries for trade tensions to be resolved through a multilateral approach and World Trade Organization reforms.

Impact Evaluation of Nigeria State Health Investment Project

In response to slow progress in improving health service delivery, the Government of Nigeria requested World Bank support in testing performance-based financing (PBF) and decentralized facility financing (DFF) as part of the Nigeria State Health Investment Project (NSHIP). PBF provides funding directly to health facilities based on the quantity and quality of services they deliver. Funds are transferred electronically to each facility’s bank account and they have substantial autonomy in how they use the funds. Up to half the funds can be used to pay performance bonuses to staff. Supervision was substantially strengthened. DFF was similar to PBF except that facility earnings were NOT based on the quantity and quality of services they delivered, they could not pay performance bonuses to health workers and the amount they received was, by design, half the amount earned by PBF facilities. This paper reports an impact evaluation (IE) of the PBF-DFF pilot.
The Rise of Domestic Capital Markets for Corporate Financing

The case of East Asia shows that domestic markets have been a key driver of the observed trends in capital market financing since the early 2000s. As domestic markets developed, more and smaller firms gained access to equity and corporate bond financing. Domestic markets also helped some corporations to diversify funding sources and obtain domestic currency financing. Policy reforms following the Asian Financial Crisis accompanied the growth of domestic markets. Part of the reforms were aimed at developing domestic capital markets for small and medium-size enterprises. Although these markets have developed significantly, they still serve relatively few corporations, albeit from new sectors.

Caroline Freund, Aaditya Mattoo, Pol Antràs, Daria Taglioni, Washington, DC: World Bank, October 2019

Global value chains (GVCs) powered the surge of international trade after 1990 and now account for almost half of all trade. This shift enabled an unprecedented economic convergence: poor countries grew rapidly and began to catch up with richer countries. Since the 2008 global financial crisis, however, the growth of trade has been sluggish and the expansion of GVCs has stalled. Meanwhile, serious threats have emerged to the model of trade-led growth. New technologies could draw production closer to the consumer and reduce the demand for labor. And conflicts among large countries could lead to a retrenchment or a segmentation of GVCs. This book examines whether there is still a path to development through GVCs and trade. It concludes that technological change is, at this stage, more a boon than a curse. GVCs can continue to boost growth, create better jobs, and reduce poverty provided that developing countries implement deeper reforms to promote GVC participation; industrial countries pursue open, predictable policies; and all countries revive multilateral cooperation.

2018

Asylum Seekers in the European Union: Building the Evidence

In 2015 and 2016, migrant flows into the European Union (EU) surged, with Greece and Italy the main entry points. Many of the migrants applied for international protection in Europe, becoming asylum seekers. This spike in EU asylum seekers, as well as the increasing numbers of those granted refugee status, brought a need for information on who they are their sociodemographic characteristics; their education and work experience; their experience on the journey to Italy and Greece; and what it cost them not only financially but also physically and emotionally to get there. This study took a rigorous approach to ensure that it produced hard data to support policy decisions, decisions made not only in receiving countries but also in countries of origin and transit. This report then, contributes to knowledge of aspects of migration and forced displacement, but much more has yet to be learned.

The Challenges of Urbanization in West Africa
López-Calix, J., M. Rogy, M. Mukim, Y. Batana, L. Razafimandimby, A. Sanoh, O. Béguy, J. Hoogeveen, A. Zafar, M.
The Sahel is experiencing rapid and disorderly urbanization. The capital cities of Bamako, Conakry, and Niamey dominate the urban landscape in their respective countries. In each of these three countries, the economic importance of the capital city is enormous. For instance, Bamako represents about 34 percent of gross domestic product (GDP), whereas Conakry and Niamey each represent about 27 percent of GDP in their respective countries. Furthermore, as their populations are increasing at a faster rate than anywhere else in the world, the attendant youth bulge could turn into either a demographic dividend, whereby cities take advantage of a temporary boom in the working age population to productively employ young people, or a demographic disaster, accompanied by urban instability if cities do not meet these aspirations.

**Enhancing Potential**


The global economy grew faster than expected in 2017, with a broad-based upturn. Growth in developing East Asia and Pacific (EAP) accelerated slightly in 2017, reflecting the favorable global environment. The growth outlook for the region remains favorable. Following stronger than anticipated growth in 2017, China is expected to slow moderately in 2018 as its economy continues to rebalance. Growth in the large ASEAN economies is expected to be robust and relatively stable in 2018. The prospects for the region's smaller economies are generally favorable, reflecting stronger commodity prices and higher investment. Robust growth has underpinned and will continue to contribute to the region's success in reducing poverty and economic insecurity. This positive outlook for the region's economies is subject to two sets of risks. First, a more rapid pace of U.S. monetary policy tightening than is currently anticipated could increase volatility and exacerbate vulnerabilities. Second, heightened policy uncertainty could dim the prospects for global growth. Developing EAP countries will need to be prepared to address the risks associated with monetary tightening in advanced economies and their possible interactions with domestic financial vulnerabilities. In tandem, the prospects of moderating growth across the region in the medium term mean that countries will need to find ways of raising their long-term potential growth. With the threats to the continued openness of the global trading system, it is advisable for developing EAP to continue enhancing trade facilitation and integration. Improving competitiveness will also be important as developing EAP countries adjust to the ongoing changes in the manufacturing landscape. Increasing the contribution of education to economic growth will require increasing the effectiveness of schools and education systems. This will require action in the following five main domains so as to raise learning outcomes and the quality of human capital: (a) aligning institutions and creating sound administrative systems to ensure basic conditions for learning; (b) concentrating equitable public spending on primary education; (c) increasing teaching accountability, raising selectivity in recruitment, and providing adequate pay and career prospects; (d) providing a key package of services (for example, health coverage for children of preschool age) that can help ensure children's physical and cognitive development, thus raising readiness to learn; and (e) adopting a systemic approach to assessment and using feedback to inform instruction. As technologies continue to evolve, including with greater automation, more emphasis will be needed on upgrading capabilities and ensuring that workers and managers have the necessary skills. To provide economic security, more focus will be needed on strengthening social assistance and insurance programs and
on increasing resilience to systemic shocks. Pacific Island Countries (PICs) need to focus on maintaining fiscal sustainability and enhancing their economic resilience.

**Fair Progress? Economic Mobility Across Generations Around the World**

**Moving for Prosperity: Global Migration and Labor Markets**

This Policy Research Report (PRR), Moving for Prosperity: Global Migration and Labor Markets, is an attempt to address this tension between the academic research and the public discourse by focusing on the economic evidence. The authors suggested a labor market-oriented, economically motivated rationale to the political opposition to migration. Global migration patterns lead to high concentrations of immigrants in certain places, industries, and occupations. For example, the top 10 destination countries account for 60 percent of global immigration. Four states host half of all immigrants in the United States, and 10 counties host half of the immigrants in these four states. Immigrants are further concentrated in a narrow set of industries and occupations in specific geographic regions. The same pattern repeats itself in almost every major destination country. It is these geographic and labor market concentrations of immigrants that lead to increased anxiety, insecurity, and potentially significant short-term disruptions among native-born workers. Furthermore, the positive effects and benefits in the destination labor markets tend to be more diffuse whereas the costs are more concentrated and easily attributable to immigration. This PRR aims to inform and stimulate debate, contribute to better policies, facilitate further research, and identify prominent knowledge and data gaps. It presents key facts and findings, research methods and data sources on economic migration and refugees, the determinants of their decisions, and their impact on labor markets in both source and destination countries.

The labor market focus of the PRR is motivated not only by the fact that important development and poverty implications of migration—the World Bank's operational and analytical focus—work through these labor market channels. This focus also reflects space and time constraints, and the absence of rigorous research in certain other areas, which simply do not allow an all-encompassing report that covers every dimension of migration. We believe many of the social, cultural, and political dimensions are highly important; and we are certain future analytical work within and outside the World Bank will address these shortcomings.

**Oral Democracy: Deliberation in Indian Village Assemblies**
Oral Democracy studies citizens' voices in civic and political deliberations in India's gram sabhas (village assemblies), the largest deliberative institution in human history. It analyses nearly three hundred transcripts of gram sabhas, sampled within the framework of a natural experiment, allowing the authors to study how state policy affects the quality of discourse, citizens’ discursive performances and state enactments embodied by elected leaders and public officials. By drawing out the varieties of speech apparent in citizen and state interactions, their analysis shows that citizens' oral participation in development and governance can be improved by strengthening deliberative spaces through policy. Even in conditions of high inequality and illiteracy, gram sabhas can create discursive equality by developing the 'oral competence' of citizens and establishing a space in which they can articulate their interests. The authors develop the concept of 'oral democracy' to aid the understanding of deliberative systems in non-Western and developing countries. This title is also available as Open Access.

World Development Report 2018: Learning to Realize Education’s Promise


The World Development Report 2018 (WDR 2018)—LEARNING to Realize Education's Promise—is the first ever devoted entirely to education. And the timing is excellent: education has long been critical to human welfare, but it is even more so in a time of rapid economic and social change. The best way to equip children and youth for the future is to place their learning at the center. The 2018 WDR explores four main themes: 1) education's promise; 2) the need to shine a light on learning; 3) how to make schools work for learners; and 4) how to make systems work for learning.

2017
Building State Capability: Evidence, Analysis, Action

Governments play a major role in the development process, and constantly introduce reforms and policies to achieve developmental objectives. Many of these interventions have limited impact, however; schools get built but children don't learn, IT systems are introduced but not used, plans are written but not implemented. These achievement deficiencies reveal gaps in capabilities, and weaknesses in the process of building state capability. This book addresses these weaknesses and gaps. It starts by providing evidence of the capability shortfalls that currently exist in many countries, showing that many governments lack basic capacities even after decades of reforms and capacity building efforts. The book then analyses this evidence, identifying capability traps that hold many governments back - particularly related to isomorphic mimicry (where governments copy best practice solutions from other countries that make them look more capable even if they are not more capable) and premature load bearing (where governments adopt new mechanisms that they cannot actually make work, given weak extant capacities). The book then describes a process that governments can use to escape these capability traps. Called PDIA (problem driven iterative adaptation), this process empowers people working in governments to find and fit solutions to the problems they face. The discussion about this process is structured in a practical manner so that readers can actually apply tools and ideas to the capability challenges they face in their own contexts. These applications will help readers devise policies and reforms that have more impact than those of the past.

Financing for SMEs in Sustainable Global Value Chains

Increasing access to financing for small and medium enterprises (SMEs) has been a long-standing G20 priority under the GPFI. Strengthening SMEs in global value chains (GVCs) was highlighted as a G20 goal at the Hangzhou Summit in 2016, where G20 leaders reaffirmed their intention to support the development of SMEs and linkages to GVCs. Under its presidency in 2017, Germany has underscored the importance of SME finance in sustainable GVCs by further aligning this agenda with the G20's Sustainability Development Goals (SDGs), and by emphasizing the need for companies to adhere to basic labor, social and environmental standards.

This report demonstrates how governments, financial institutions and businesses can work together to support financing models that encourage SMEs to upgrade their production processes to comply with sustainability standards in GVCs.


This Global Financial Development Report is a key component in the ongoing debate over the role of international banking in supporting economic development and promoting shared prosperity. This report, the fourth in its series, comes at a critical time when the global reform agenda is shaping financial globalization—in particular, banking. During the decade prior to the 2007–09 global financial crisis, banking activities across national borders increased dramatically. In many cases, the trend brought benefits, including additional
capital, liquidity, and technological improvements, which resulted in greater efficiency and financial development. The global financial crisis, however, led to a reevaluation of the virtues of bank globalization, with global banks seen as culpable for transmitting the financial crisis across borders. In fact, the Financial Stability Board (FSB), the G20, and policymakers throughout the developing world voiced concerns about the effects of global banking. The Global Financial Development Report 2017/2018 offers new research and data that help fill gaps in the knowledge of international banking and contributes key insights to the policy discussion. The report provides stylized facts and examines existing and new evidence of the causes and effects of bank globalization—in particular, for economic growth, shared prosperity, and poverty reduction. The World Bank report Bankers without Borders is not associated with the Grameen Foundation's Bankers without Borders program, which engages volunteer consultants to donate their expertise to serve social enterprises and nonprofits in poor countries. For more information, visit: https://www.bankerswithoutborders.com.

*Innovative Experiences in Access to Finance: Market-Friendly Roles for the Visible Hand?*


Interest in access to finance and awareness of its importance have increased significantly since the early 2000s. Growing evidence suggests that lack of access to credit prevents many households and firms from financing high-return investment projects, which has an adverse effect on growth and poverty alleviation. Despite the increasing awareness of the importance of access to finance among both researchers and policymakers, there are still some major gaps in our understanding of the main drivers of access, as well as about the impact of different policies in this area. This book aims to fill some of these gaps by discussing recent innovative experiences in broadening access to credit in Latin America. These experiences are consistent with an emerging new view that, while recognizing the central role of the public sector in improving the contractual and informational environment for financial markets, also contends that there might be room for well-designed, restricted interventions in collaboration with the private sector to foster the development of financial markets and broaden access to them. In particular, the book analyzes, among other things, some interesting experiences from Brazil, Chile, Colombia, and Mexico that use different instruments to broaden access to credit in a sustainable way, such as structured finance, factoring, credit guarantees, and correspondent banking. Most of these experiences have led to financial innovation by developing new financial products and coordinating different players in the financial and real sectors to overcome barriers to access to credit. The book provides a first systematic analysis of these innovative experiences, including an analytical framework to understand problems of access to finance and a discussion of the effects and optimal design of public interventions. Finally, the book discusses some open policy questions about the role of the private and public sectors (including state-owned banks) in broadening access to finance in a sustainable and market-friendly manner.

*The Global Findex Database 2017: Measuring Financial Inclusion and the Fintech Revolution*

Website | Video | Press Release

The Global Findex Database 2017 presents key findings from the Global Findex database, with detailed insight
into how adults in more than 140 economies access accounts, make payments, save, borrow, and manage risk. As the data show, each economy has its own successes, challenges, and opportunities when it comes to financial inclusion. A growing body of research demonstrates the impact of country advances on significant priorities such as reducing poverty, hunger, and gender inequality.

*Tracking Universal Health Coverage: 2017 Global Monitoring Report*

A number the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) adopted by the United Nations General Assembly in September 2015 have targets that relate to health. However, one goal – SDG3 - focuses specifically on ensuring healthy lives and promoting well-being for all at all ages. Target 3.8 of SDG3 – achieving universal health coverage (UHC), including financial risk protection, access to quality essential health-care services and access to safe, effective, quality and affordable essential medicines and vaccines for all – is the key to attaining the entire goal as well as the health-related targets of other SDGs.

**2016**

*Enhancing Financial Capability and Inclusion in Senegal: A Demand-Side Survey*

*Impact Evaluation of Zambia’s Health Results-Based Financing Pilot Project*

*Making Politics Work for Development: Harnessing Transparency and Citizen Engagement*

*Middle East and North Africa Economic Monitor: Economic and Social Inclusion to Prevent Violent Extremism*

*Poverty and Shared Prosperity 2016: Taking on Inequality*

*World Development Report 2016: Digital Dividends*
Deepak Mishra and Uwe Deichmann with Kenneth Chomitz, Zahid Hasnain, Emily Kayser, Tim Kelly, Märt

2015

A Measured Approach to Ending Poverty and Boosting Shared Prosperity: Concepts, Data, and the Twin Goals


Latin America and the Rising South: Changing World, Changing Priorities

Land Delivery Systems in West African Cities: The Example of Bamako, Mali

Operationalizing the Science of Delivery Agenda to Enhance Development Results

Trade in Zimbabwe: Changing Incentives to Enhance Competitiveness

Trust, Voice, and Incentives: Learning from Local Success Stories in Service Delivery in the Middle East and North Africa

Urban Flooding of Greater Dhaka in a Changing Climate: Building Local Resilience to Disaster Risk

2014

Analyzing Food Security Using Household Survey Data: Streamlined Analysis with ADePT Software

Right to Work? Assessing India's Employment Guarantee Scheme in Bihar
Simulating Distributional Impacts of Macro-dynamics: Theory and Practical Applications

Surge in Solar-Powered Homes: Experience in Off-Grid Rural Bangladesh

The Unfinished Revolution: Bringing Opportunity, Good Jobs and Greater Wealth to All Tunisians

Working toward Better Pay: Earning Dynamics in Ghana and Tanzania

Youth Employment in Sub-Saharan Africa
A Unified Approach to Measuring Poverty and Inequality: Theory and Practice

Enterprise Women: Expanding Economic Opportunities in Africa,

Growing Green: The Economic Benefits of Climate Action

Improving Gender and Development Outcomes through Agency: Policy Lessons from Three Peruvian Experiences

Sustaining Trade Reform: Institutional Lessons from Argentina and Peru

The Clean Development Mechanism: An Early History of Unanticipated Outcomes

2012


Financial Development in Latin America and the Caribbean: The Road Ahead

Greenprint: A New Approach to Cooperation on Climate Change

Economic Mobility and the Rise of the Latin American Middle Class

Eurasian Cities: New Realities along the Silk Road

Pathways to African Export Sustainability

Seasonal Hunger and Public Policies: Evidence from Northwest Bangladesh

The Elderly and Old Age Support in Rural China
2011

Assessing Sector Performance and Inequality in Education
Emilio Porta, Gustavo Arcia, Kevin Macdonald, Sergiy Radyakin, and Michael Lokshin

Connecting Landlocked Developing Countries to Markets: Trade Corridors in the 21st Century
Jean-Francois Arvis, Graham Smith, Robin Carruthers, Christopher Willoughby

Contesting Development: Participatory Projects and Local Conflict Dynamics in Indonesia
Patrick Barron, Rachael Diprose, and Michael Woolcock
Yale University Press, 2011.

Financial Development in Latin America and the Caribbean: The Road Ahead
Sergio Schmukler, Augusto de la Torre, and Alain Ize

Health Equity and Financial Protection: Streamlined Analysis with ADePT Software
Adam Wagstaff, Marcel Bilger, Zurab Sajaia, and Michael Lokshin

India's Health Insurance Scheme for the Poor: Evidence from the Early Experience of the Rashtriya Swasthya Bima Yojana
Robert J. Palacios, Jishnu Das, and Changqing Sun.

Leveraging Migration for Africa: Remittances, Skills, and Investments
Dilip Ratha, Sanket Mohapatra, Caglar Ozden, Sonia Plaza, William Shaw, Abede Shimeles.

Making Schools Work: New Evidence on Accountability Reforms
Barbara Bruns, Deon Filmer, and Harry Anthony Patrinos.

Perspectives on Poverty in India: Stylized Facts from Survey Data
Peter Lanjouw and Rinku Murgai and others.

Rising Global Interest in Farmland: Can it Yield Sustainable and Equitable Benefits?
Klaus W. Deininger, Derek Byerlee, Jonathan Lindsay, Andrew Norton, Harris Selod, and Mercedes Stickler.

Special Economic Zones in Africa: Comparing Performance and Learning from Global Experiences
Thomas Farole.

Supply Chains in Export Agriculture, Competition, and Poverty in Sub-Saharan Africa
Guido Porto, Nicolas M Depetris Chauvin, and Marcelo Olarreaga.

The Changing Wealth of Nations: Measuring Sustainable Development in the New Millennium
Glenn-Marie Lange, Kirk E. Hamilton, Giovanni Ruta, Lopa Chakraborti, Deval Desai, Bram Edens, Susana
Seventy-five percent of the world's poor live in rural areas and most are involved in agriculture. In the 21st century, agriculture remains fundamental to economic growth, poverty alleviation, and environmental sustainability. The World Bank's Agriculture and rural development publication series presents recent analyses of issues that affect the role of agriculture, including livestock, fisheries, and forestry, as a source of economic development, rural livelihoods, and environmental services. The series is intended for practical application, and hope that it will serve to inform public discussion, policy formulation, and development planning. Increased global demand for land because of higher and more volatile food prices, urbanization, and use of land for environmental services implies an increased need for well-designed land policies at the country level to ensure security of long-held rights, to facilitate land access, and to deal with externalities. Establishing the infrastructure necessary to proactively deal with these challenges can require large amounts of resources. Yet with land tenure deeply rooted in any country's history, a wide continuum of land rights, and vast differences in the level of socioeconomic development, the benefits to be expected and the challenges faced will vary across and even within countries, implying a need to adapt the nature and sequencing of reforms to country circumstances. Also, as reforms will take time to bear fruit and may be opposed by vested interests, there is a need to identify challenges and to reach consensus on how to address them in a way that allows objective monitoring of progress over time. Without this being done, the chances of making quick progress in addressing key land policy challenges are likely to be much reduced.

The Land Governance Assessment Framework (LGAF) is intended as a first step to help countries deal with these issues. It is a diagnostic tool that is to be implemented at the local level in a collaborative fashion, that addresses the need for guidance to diagnose and benchmark land governance, and that can help countries prioritize reforms and monitor progress over time.

2010

Entrepreneurial Snapshots 2010: Measuring the Impact of the Financial Crisis on New Business Registration

Handbook on Impact Evaluation: Quantitative Methods and Practices

Innocent Bystanders: Developing Countries and the War on Drugs
Life Chances in Turkey: Expanding Opportunities for the Next Generation

New Insights into the Provision of Health Services in Indonesia: A Health Work Force Study

Climate Change and Agriculture: An Economic Analysis of Global Impacts, Adaptation and Distributional Effects

Conditional Cash Transfers for Attacking Present and Future Poverty


Handbook on Poverty and Inequality

The handbook on poverty and inequality provides tools to measure, describe, monitor, evaluate, and analyze poverty. It provides background materials for designing poverty reduction strategies. This book is intended for researchers and policy analysts involved in poverty research and policy making. The handbook began as a series of notes to support training courses on poverty analysis and gradually grew into a sixteen, chapter book. Now the Handbook consists of explanatory text with numerous examples, interspersed with multiple-choice questions (to ensure active learning) and combined with extensive practical exercises using stata statistical software. The handbook has been thoroughly tested. The World Bank Institute has used most of the chapters in training workshops in countries throughout the world, including Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Botswana, Cambodia, India, Indonesia, Kenya, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malawi, Pakistan, the Philippines, Tanzania, and Thailand, as well as in distance courses with substantial numbers of participants from numerous countries in Asia (in 2002) and Africa (in 2003), and online asynchronous courses with more than 200 participants worldwide (in 2007 and 2008). The feedback from these courses has been very useful in helping us create a handbook that balances rigor with accessibility and practicality. The handbook has also been used in university courses related to poverty.

Health Financing and Delivery in Vietnam: Looking Forward

Reforming China’s Rural Health System
The Ease of Doing Business in APEC: The Impact of Regulatory Reforms

2008

Analyzing Health Equity Using Household Survey Data A Guide to Techniques and Their Implementation

Land in Transition: Reform and Poverty in Rural Vietnam

Measuring Inequality of Opportunities in Latin America and the Caribbean

2007

At Loggerheads? Agricultural Expansion, Poverty Reduction, and Environment in the Tropical Forests

This report specifically addresses the potential dilemma of trade-offs between poverty reduction and environmental protection. It seeks to improve the diagnosis of forest problems and facilitate the prescription and application of solutions by focusing on both the causes and consequences of forest conversion to agriculture and on the nature and location of forest poverty. The first section is diagnostic, examining the drivers and consequences of deforestation and forest poverty. The second part looks at how governance, institutions, and policies shape those drivers. It identifies opportunities for win-win policies. In particular, anything that boosts labor demand outside agriculture will tend to reduce both poverty and deforestation. Additionally, promotion of some kinds of agroforestry can help to improve the ecological functions of degraded forests while boosting farm output and employment. The report offers a systematic framework for thinking about how to integrate forest management with rural development in a sustainable way.

Bridges Over Water: Understanding Transboundary Water Conflict, Negotiation and Cooperation

This book places the study of transboundary water conflicts, negotiation, and cooperation in the context of various disciplines (such as international relations, international law, international negotiations, and economics), analyzing them using various quantitative approaches, such as river basin modeling and game theory. Case studies of particular transboundary river basins, lakes and aquifers are also considered. This is the first textbook for a relatively recent yet rapidly expanding field of study.
Emerging Capital Markets and Globalization: The Latin American Experience
The book should stimulate a vigorous discussion on how to best revise the reform agenda for capital market development in emerging economies going forward. This effort should involve not only country authorities but also academics and advisers from multilateral agencies such as the World Bank. The complexities highlighted in the book invite intellectual modesty, eclecticism, and constant attention to country specificity. While it does not provide detailed policy prescriptions, the book does point to issues that cannot be ignored and puts forward provocative questions for the policy debate. The policy discussion in the book is particularly interesting with respect to the following aspects: internationalization of stock markets and local currency debt markets.

Global Trade and Poor Nations: The Poverty Impacts and Policy Implications of Liberalization
This thoughtful volume assesses the likely impact of reformed trade policies on the poorest of the poor—those on the bottom economic rungs in developing nations. The focus on a spectrum of poor nations across different regions provides some helpful and hopeful guidelines regarding the likely impacts of a global trade reform, agreed upon under the auspices of the World Trade Organization, as well as the impact of such reforms on economic development. In order to facilitate lesson-drawing across different regions, each country study utilizes a similar methodology. They combine information on trade policy at the product level with income and consumption data at the household level, thus capturing effects both on the macro level and in individual households where development policies ideally should improve day-to-day life. This uniformity of research approach across the country studies allows for a deeper and more robust comparison of results.

From Competition at Home to Competing Abroad: A Case Study of India’s Horticulture
There is persuasive evidence that India has a comparative advantage in agriculture. Yet its share in global agriculture exports is miniscule and its domestic market is increasingly protected. In global trade negotiations, India’s efforts have been directed less towards the elimination of all distortions at home and abroad, than towards retaining the right to protect. To develop a case and a strategy for both domestic reforms and proactive engagement in international negotiations, it is critical to understand why a large, low-cost producer of agricultural commodities needs such strong protection and has such a feeble presence in the global market. The author addresses this puzzle in the context of the horticulture sector, one of the most dynamic segments of Indian agriculture and international trade. The sector represents a ‘picture of the future’ and encompasses the major challenges that Indian agriculture faces in a world where food patterns are changing because of increasing incomes; delivery schedules are more demanding with the emergence of supermarkets in retail; and barriers to trade such as tariffs and subsidies are less important than the challenges posed by high sanitary and phyto-sanitary (SPS) standards. The horticulture sector also represents a miniature ‘picture of agriculture’ in that here too India is a large, low-cost cost producer but has a tiny share in global trade and seeks to protect its own market.
Making Finance Work for Africa
Making Finance Work for Africa presents a coherent policy approach that addresses African priorities and can work in African conditions. It challenges the applicability of some conventional views on a range of issues from securities markets and banking regulation to the organization of microfinance institutions. The authors identify promising trends from across sub-Saharan Africa and pinpoint shortcomings. The book will be useful to policy makers, bankers, financial analysts, and economists working in Africa.

Made in India: The Economic Geography and Political Economy of Industrialization
Sanjoy Chakravorty and Somik V. Lall, January 2007.
This book is a definitive account of the geography of industrialization in India. The primary goal is to analyse the consequences of specific policies and show how policy frameworks need to be changed to achieve a more balanced, equitable, and sustainable industrial growth.

The World Trade Organization (WTO): Law, Economics and Politics
The World Trade Organization (WTO) is one of the most important international organizations in existence today. It contains a set of disciplines that affect the ability of governments to impose trade restrictions, and has helped to support the steady expansion of international trade since the 1950s. It is a unique organization in providing a framework for member states to make binding policy commitments that are enforced through a unique dispute settlement system and a variety of transparency mechanisms.

Transparency and Trade Facilitation in the Asia Pacific: Estimating the Gains from Reform
Benjamin Shepherd, Matthias Helble, and John S. Wilson, The Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Australia, 2007.
In the development context, it is increasingly recognized that tariff liberalization is not enough to ensure the integration of an economy into international markets (World Bank Independent Evaluation Group, 2006). Barriers other than tariffs hinder firms in emerging economies from successfully entering export markets. The main objective of this research report is to provide a first, quantitative assessment of the trade policy transparency environment in APEC member economies.

How Universities Promote Economic Growth
The purpose of this volume is to examine the role of universities in enhancing technological capability in Asian as well as other industrial countries. This volume also discusses the University-Industry Links (UIL) policies of national governments, corporations and sub national governments. Case studies, policies, strategies and conclusions for Switzerland, United Kingdom, Netherlands, Japan, Thailand, United States, China, Singapore, and India are all individually examined. The volume also covers topics such as knowledge transmission, knowledge production, knowledge sharing, research and development, lessons learned best practices and innovation initiatives and their roles for economic growth in relation to UIL.
2006

*Rethinking Bank Regulation: Till Angels Govern*

This volume assembles and presents a new database on bank regulation in over 150 countries. It offers the first comprehensive cross-country assessment of the impact of bank regulation on the operation of banks, and assesses the validity of the Basel Committee's influential approach to bank regulation. The treatment also provides an empirical evaluation of the historic debate about the proper role of government in the economy by studying bank regulation and analyzes the role of politics in determining regulatory approaches to banking. The data also indicate that restrictions on the entry of new banks, government ownership of banks, and restrictions on bank activities hurt banking system performance. The authors find that domestic political factors shape both regulations and their effectiveness.

2005

*Under New Ownership: Privatizing China's State-Owned Enterprises*

This publication is organized as follows: Chapter 1, discusses China's industrial system: where it is now, where it should be headed, and why. Chapter 2, contains reform in China. Chapter 3, discusses the accelerated change in enterprise ownership 1997-2003. Chapter 4, covers Chinese ownership reform in the East European mirror. Chapter 5, discusses assessing the effects of ownership reform in China. Chapter 6, considers making privatization work.

*Beautiful but Costly: Business Costs in Small Remote Economies*

Small countries have often argued that the interaction of factors such as diseconomies of small scale, huge costs for imported inputs, the cost of isolation and remoteness, and the costs of physical dispersion have hindered their ability to attract foreign investment in a globalised market. This publication is a study of the operating costs confronting the private sector in small economies, with the view to determine whether these act as a fundamental impediment to trade and investment. Is the private sector in these economies fundamentally disadvantaged in its preparations for globalisation because its costs are higher than in large ones? Further, are any of the detectable cost structure disadvantages the result of poor economic management and/or of fundamental structural characteristics? The outcome of the study offers a brief speculation on the type of policy interventions the international community could devise to assist those countries that face high costs structures by virtue of their inherent structural characteristics.

*Economic Growth in Latin America and the Caribbean: Stylized Facts, Explanations, and Forecasts*

The book analyzes whether economic reforms have been beneficial to growth in the region. In doing so, it recognizes that growth is driven by a variety of factors - in some cases poor growth is due to insufficient structural reforms (e.g., low trade openness), in others to inappropriate stabilization policies (e.g., exchange
rate overvaluation), and still in others to negative international conditions (e.g., growth slowdown in industrial countries). It is obvious but still correct to say that identifying the problem is the first step towards the solution. This book contributes to this effort by examining the growth performance of countries in Latin America and the Caribbean, explaining the underlying sources of their economic growth, and designing a strategy for further growth.

*Growth and Empowerment: Making Development Happen*


Despite significant gains in promoting economic growth and living conditions (or “human progress”) globally over the last twenty-five years, much of the developing world remains plagued by poverty and its attendant problems, including high rates of child mortality, illiteracy, environmental degradation, and war. In *Growth and Empowerment*, Nicholas Stern, Jean-Jacques Dethier, and F. Halsey Rogers propose a new strategy for development. Drawing on many years of work in development economics—in academia, in the field, and at international institutions such as the World Bank—the authors base their strategy on two interrelated approaches: building a climate that encourages investment and growth and at the same time empowering poor people to participate in that growth. This plan differs from other models for development, including the dogmatic approach of market fundamentalism popular in the 1980s and 1990s. Stern, Dethier, and Rogers see economic development as a dynamic process of continuous change in which entrepreneurship, innovation, flexibility, and mobility are crucial components and the idea of empowerment, as both a goal and a driver of development, is central. The book points to the unique opportunity today—after 50 years of successes and failures, and with a growing body of analytical work to draw on—to pursue new development strategies in both research and action.

*Intellectual Property and Development: Lessons from Recent Economic Research*


This book brings together empirical research that assesses the effects of changing intellectual property regimes on various measures of economic and social performance-ranging from international trade, foreign investment and competition to innovation and access to new technologies. The studies presented point to an important development dimension to the protection of intellectual property. But a one-size fits all approach to intellectual property is unlikely to work. There is need to adjust intellectual property norms to domestic needs, taking into account developing countries' capacity to innovate, technological needs, and institutional capabilities. In addition, governments need to consider a range of complementary policies to maximize the benefits and reduce the costs of reformed intellectual property regulations.

*Lessons from NAFTA for Latin America and the Caribbean*


Analyzing the experience of Mexico under the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA), "Lessons from NAFTA" aims to provide guidance to Latin American and Caribbean countries considering free trade agreements with the United States. The authors conclude that the treaty raised external trade and foreign investment inflows and had a modest effect on Mexico’s average income per person. It is likely that the treaty also helped achieve a modest reduction in poverty and an improvement in job quality.
The Political Economy of Protection: Theory and the Chilean Experience
The Political Economy of Protection explains why countries, especially developing countries, change their trade policies over the course of history. It does so through an interdisciplinary approach, which borrows analyses from both political science and economics. While the central focus of this book is to explain historical changes in trade policy in one country, Chile, it is broadly relevant for students, scholars, and trade specialists interested in gaining a deeper understanding of the politics and economics of international trade. Given the intensifying public debates about the benefits of globalization, the author provides a uniquely rigorous yet interdisciplinary analysis of the forces that shape trade policy decisions, not just in Chile, but throughout the world.

Worlds Apart: Measuring International and Global Inequality
Worlds Apart addresses just how to measure global inequality among individuals and shows that inequality is shaped by complex forces often working in different directions. Branko Milanović analyzes income distribution worldwide using, for the first time, household survey data from more than 100 countries. He evenhandedly explains the main approaches to the problem, offers a more accurate way of measuring inequality among individuals, and discusses the relevant policies of first-world countries and nongovernmental organizations.

2004

China and the WTO: Accession, Policy Reform, and Poverty Reduction Strategies
This report he reforms involved in China’s accession to the WTO, assesses their implications for the world economy, and examines the implications for individual households, particularly the poor. Its key objective is to provide the information that will allow policy makers to implement WTO commitments and formulate supporting policies to contribute strongly to economic development and poverty reduction. Individual chapters by leading scholars analyze the nature of the reforms in key areas, such as agriculture, services, intellectual property and safeguards and anti-dumping. These chapters form the building blocks for later chapters, which analyze the implications of reform for the economy. The book also includes a series of studies that assess the implications for households, taking into account the social safety net policies applying in China, and the impacts of complementary policies in areas such as labor market reform and investments in human capital.

Improving City Competitiveness through the Investment Climate: Ranking 23 Chinese Cities (Chinese)

Public Expenditure Tracking Surveys in Education
This book provides three examples of good practice in using public expenditure tracking surveys (PETS) to improve transparency and accountability in managing education resources, and describes the approaches to be used in carrying out the surveys. It presents the experiences of Peru, Uganda and Zambia and underlines the importance of sharing the information generated to create incentives for making education systems more efficient. As the experience of Uganda shows, it was possible to reduce the rate of leakage of non-salary expenditures drastically thanks to an information campaign based on a PETS.

HIV/AIDS Treatment and Prevention in India: Modeling the Cost and Consequences


The three policies analyzed in this document include a minimalist policy in which the government strengthens private sector delivery, an intermediate policy of providing treatment for mothers who have AIDS and their spouses, and a generous policy of providing treatment to the poorest 40 percent of all AIDS patients. In January 2004 the Indian government adopted an AIDS financing policy which contains elements of all three of the hypothetical policies analyzed in this book. This study's projections of the total financial cost of the program and of the cost-effectiveness of the three options can help the government and its partners to plan the scale-up of the existing treatment program, to optimize the mix of components in order to improve its cost-effectiveness and to design monitoring and evaluation measures which provide feedback on program performance.

Reforming Infrastructure: A Policy Research Report


World Development Report 2004: Making Services Work for Poor People


Too often, services fail poor people in access, in quality, and in affordability. But the fact that there are striking examples where basic services such as water, sanitation, health, education, and electricity do work for poor people means that governments and citizens can do a better job of providing them. Learning from success and understanding the sources of failure, this year's World Development Report, argues that services can be improved by putting poor people at the center of service provision. How? By enabling the poor to monitor and discipline service providers, by amplifying their voice in policymaking, and by strengthening the incentives for providers to serve the poor. Freedom from illness and freedom from illiteracy are two of the most important ways poor people can escape from poverty. To achieve these goals, economic growth and financial resources are of course necessary, but they are not enough. The World Development Report provides a practical framework for making the services that contribute to human development work for poor people. With this framework, citizens, governments, and donors can take action and accelerate progress toward the common objective of poverty reduction, as specified in the Millennium Development Goals

The Millennium Development Goals for Health: Rising to the Challenges


This report focuses on the health and nutrition Millennium Development Goals agreed to by over 180 governments. It assesses progress to date and prospects of achieving the goals. The report identifies what
developing country governments can do to accelerate the pace of progress while ensuring that benefits accrue to the poorest and most disadvantaged households. It also pulls together the lessons of development assistance and country initiatives and innovations to improve the effectiveness of aid, based on a number of country case studies. It highlights some of the principles of effective development assistance: country driven coordination; strategic coherence expressed in comprehensive poverty reduction strategies, which fully address the issues of health, nutrition, and population; financial coherence embodied in medium term expenditure framework; pooling of donor funds; and a common framework for reporting and assessing progress.