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*About the Photograph:*  
*Tribal woman in Dighalati village, Nagaon district, Assam*  
*Photograph by Michael Foley*

## *Tapping the vast agricultural potential of Assam for a new 'Green Revolution'*

**M**oinul Islam is a man with ambition. He is also a man in a hurry. As the early morning mist rises gently over his neatly furrowed fields deep in the interior of Nagaon district, Assam's most densely populated rural region, this hard-working young farmer recounts how he turned his tiny landholding into a stepping stone to success.

"I used to have only a few bighas<sup>1</sup> of land," recalls Islam. "I grew just enough for my family's consumption because, after the monsoon, my fields had no water. I had to work on other people's land to subsist."

Four years ago, things began to change. With the help of the state government's Assam Agricultural Competitiveness Project and a small

<sup>1</sup>A 'bigha' is less than one acre

investment of his own, Islam, together with two other farmers, installed a shallow, diesel-powered tube well to tap into the region's abundant groundwater. Assured of a good crop during the long, dry season that followed the rains, this enterprising young man was able to switch to a more profitable cropping pattern and grow high-value vegetables during the monsoon when local prices are at their highest because of the torrential rains.

Three years ago, Islam modernized his farm further. With the project's help, he and his group of farmers jointly invested in a power tiller, a multipurpose machine, which helps with the plowing, threshing, and transportation of produce to market. It is also more suitable than a tractor for small holdings and can be hired out to help repay the bank loan.

**Right:**

*Power tillers and tractors are being introduced*

**Below:**

*Moinul Islam uses a shallow tube well to water his small holding of land in Nagaon district*

Islam has spent the extra income he has earned from his land wisely. Within a few years, he has bought adjacent parcels of land, a T.V. and a motorcycle; he soon hopes to convert his airy bamboo-and-mud house into a concrete structure, and perhaps buy a van.

## *Irrigation, vital for agriculture in monsoon-fed lands*

Islam's success is not alone; it is mirrored across the dense patchwork of villages that dot Assam's lush countryside, especially in the districts of Nagaon, Morigaon, Barpeta, and Jorhat. Together, these individual initiatives have unleashed a vibrant new energy in one of the country's most economically lagging states, where average land holdings are the smallest in India, and some 80 percent of the farmers are classified as small and marginal.





**Above:**  
For the first time in decades, Assam has become self-sufficient in rice

**Below:**  
Better farming techniques and high-yielding seeds have helped double paddy yields

For decades, Assam’s remote location and years of insurgency stifled development. The result was that while the state has a wealth of fertile land, the use of high-yielding seeds and chemical fertilizers was low, resulting in yields of rice—the staple crop—that were far below regions that were less well endowed. While groundwater was abundant, with the capacity to support some 8,00,000 tube wells, just one fifth of the land had assured irrigation. The lack of timely water, together with low levels of farm mechanization, hampered the cultivation of crops during the dry season. Although ponds and lakes

abounded and demand for fish was high, fish production remained far below potential. And, while Assam occupied a prime location as the downstream hub for the string of north eastern states that rise up into the blue hills around, the lack of connectivity and good roads prevented the state from capitalizing on this unique advantage.

In 2005, with World Bank support, the state government introduced the Assam Agricultural Competitiveness Project (AACP) to help improve the profitability of agriculture - the state’s primary economic activity. Since irrigation is the most important factor for a sustainable increase in productivity, groups of three farmers were helped to install and share a shallow tube well subsidized by the project. Farmers were also trained in the use of better farming techniques, helped to diversify their crops, buy high-yielding seeds, and adopt appropriate forms of mechanization, including tractors.

Now, by being able to irrigate crops in the dry season, the project’s beneficiaries have doubled their paddy yields. While earlier, an individual farmer would have produced about 2000 kg of paddy with most of it being used





**Above:**  
Farmers are diversifying into high-value vegetables

**Below:**  
The old roadside 'haats' or markets are being modernized

for his own family's consumption, his paddy production has now increased to over 4,100 kg, and an additional 700 kg of vegetables are being grown. This has not only improved the nutrition of individual families, but has also resulted in a dramatic eight-fold increase in the volume of crops being brought to market. "With bountiful ground water, shallow tube wells are one of the most efficient and cost-effective sources of assured irrigation in Assam, leading to an increase in cropping intensity and production as well," said H. C. Baishya, the project's Agriculture Coordinator.

Assam's overall increase in paddy production of 350,000 tonnes has enabled the state to become self-sufficient in rice for the first time in decades. Farmers have begun to sell their high-value vegetables in local markets, with the more enterprising taking their produce further afield to the neighboring states of Arunachal and Meghalaya where demand is high.

Interestingly, the program really got going after the project team adopted the innovative practice of community procurement of pump-sets. This allowed farmers to buy the sets they knew and found reliable. Moreover, group negotiations with listed suppliers resulted in cost savings of between 10 and 14 percent. "The community procurement method has ensured farmer satisfaction as they now have the right to select the brand and model of pumpsets they prefer. This has resulted in complete ownership of the asset and farmers have been able to build a relationship with local dealers for efficient after-sales service," said M. Rahman, the project's Procurement Engineer. It is a testament to the strategy's success that the Government of Assam has now adopted community procurement in all its projects and schemes of similar nature.





*Above:*  
Parimal  
Chandra Das  
expects his  
pond – his  
only asset –  
to bring him  
Rs. 30,000  
a year

### *Fishing, livelihoods for the landless*

Although fishing has always been prevalent in Assam, the project's fish intensification program has led small farmers to view fisheries as a profitable venture for the very first time, especially for the landless poor.

52-year-old Parimal Chandra Das' only asset was a dry pond. In 2009, the project gave Das – an impoverished member of the

scheduled caste community from Nagaon's Sonaribali village – a one-time 90 percent subsidy for desilting his pond, repairing the bund, manuring and liming the acidic water, and buying fingerlings. Das was also taught to feed the fish inexpensive rice bran and mustard oil cakes. "I used to earn about Rs.15-16,000 a year from my pond," Das says. "Now, I am expecting to double my income to Rs.30,000."

The synergies between fisheries and other livestock are also being maximized. With the project's help, Sadhan Dekaraja, a member of the Lalong tribe from Dighalati village, has added a piggery on the banks of his extensive pond, and now uses the residue of pig-meal to feed his fish. Seeing his profits improve, Dekaraja soon plans to add poultry and ducks to his steadily growing enterprise.

Fish hatcheries are also being promoted to make quality fish seeds and fingerlings available to farmers and reduce the genetic deterioration of fish stocks that tends to occur over time through the natural hybridization of species.

*Below: The project's fish intensification program has raised fish production by some 500 percent*



## Assam's unique 'beels' hold vast potential for fish production

Assam is part of one of the most biologically diverse regions in South Asia. Its unique 'beels' or oxbow lakes were once the mainstay of the state's fisheries – beels are crescent-shaped lakes that are formed when deposits of silt cut off wide meanders from the main stem of a river. Assam's beels retain their vast potential for fish production as they cover some 100,000 hectares of the state's land, mostly in upper and middle Assam, compared to just 35,000 hectares covered by ponds. Over the years, however, these beels have become silted up and choked with water hyacinth, and stocks of fish have fallen after embankments on the river sealed off breeding routes. The project is now encouraging villagers to develop their beel fisheries with the minimum of interventions to conserve biodiversity, keeping in mind that beel fish can flow back into the main river whenever it overflows its banks. Unlike in ponds, therefore, beel fish are not fed by fishermen at all. Instead, species of fish that are appropriate for every niche in the food chain are stocked, sometimes

with varieties of carp occupying the water's upper and middle layers, while giant fresh-water prawns inhabit the bottom. To protect young fish from predators, many beel fisheries have adopted the practice of introducing large fingerlings after rearing them in separate tanks located within the beels themselves; this is a learning from Bangladesh. In addition, fisheries legislation is being drafted to remove impediments to the community management of beel fisheries.

The project's fish intensification program in ponds, tanks and beels has resulted in a quantum 500 percent jump in fish production. "Fishing is in many ways more profitable than agriculture as a pond of one bigha can bring in as much as Rs.60,000, whereas agriculture, by itself, is not as profitable," says Bimal Sharma, Fisheries Extension Officer, Nagaon District. The development of fisheries will not only help Assam meet surging local demand but will also enable it to export its produce to other states. 🌐

*Mohammad Jamir Ali, head of the Beel Development Committee in Jamtola village in Kamrup district. The villagers expect to earn Rs. 3-4 lakh in one year from the 6 species of fish being propagated in their newly-cleaned beel.*





**Above:**  
Residents of Nagaon's Nepali Basti village take the morning's milk to the dairy cooperative

### *Taking the milk to market*

Farmers are also earning more from dairy farming. New breeds of cattle have been introduced to replace the tiny local breed of cow. "Our cows used to give 3 liters of milk a day at most," says Geeta Devi Giri, the owner of 15 large Jersey cows and the vice president of the local milk producers' organization, the Dairy Cooperative Society of Nepali Basti village. "Our Jerseys now give us 6-12 liters," she says. Since Geeta Devi, like most others of her community, does not own any land, the cooperative soon plans to undertake the collective procurement of fodder.

**Below:**  
Netra Lal Giri, Geeta Devi's brother, and his new breed of Jersey cows



But higher yields do not by themselves lead to higher profits. Marketing of this perishable commodity is the key. "Selling milk used to be a problem as it wouldn't travel very far in the heat. We could only sell the morning's milking and converted the evening's milk into cottage cheese to sell to local sweet shops. When there was a 'bandh' – or closure – we didn't earn anything," Geeta Devi recalls. "Now, with the cooperative, each drop of milk is collected, and we get our money on time."

The project has provided the cooperative with bulk milk coolers that have built-in smokeless generators, to be independent of the erratic power supply. With refrigeration and better transportation, milk from the village will soon be able to travel the 120 km to Guwahati, where it will fetch a better price. Geeta Devi too has plans. She wants to expand her herd to 40-50 cows, build a concrete house, and see her 12 year old daughter become a doctor.

### *Connecting the dense network of villages*

To help farmers take their produce to market, the project has improved rural roads in many parts of the state. Prefabricated bridges have been constructed, phasing out the old



**Above:**  
Assam's old wooden bridges are being converted to concrete to withstand the heavy monsoon rains

wooden structures which needed frequent and expensive repairs after the monsoons. Makeshift roadside haats – or markets – are being modernized so that vegetables can be stored overnight, putting an end to the practice of selling produce at throwaway prices at the end of each day. The project soon plans to send SMS messages to farmers informing them about prices prevailing in markets further afield. Agriculture-based businesses are also being promoted to add value to the state's primary produce.

Explaining the project's impact, Niraj Verma, Project Director says, "Assam's agriculture budget was never enough to exploit the state's vast agrarian potential. The AACP has provided the critical catalyst. Last year,

the Food Corporation of India procured foodgrains from Assam's Nagaon District for the very first time."

"The AACP addresses a complex challenge in a holistic way," says Grahame Dixie, the World Bank's team leader for the project. "It coordinates the work of various line departments including agriculture, livestock, fisheries, forestry, irrigation, as well as markets and roads, and is initiating substantial reform of the extension system. In the last two years, the project has been transformed into one of the acknowledged successes in the World Bank's India portfolio."

Citing a major reason for the project's success, Manivannan Pathy, the World Bank's joint team leader for the project adds, "Support from senior officials from the Government of Assam, especially during the project's difficult periods, was critical in the project's transformation."

Summing up, Verma says "With Assam's huge agricultural potential, the AACP can be a precursor for ushering in the next 'Green Revolution'. Clearly, Assam's farmers will no longer need to rely solely on their "Borun Devata", or weather god, to earn a good living. 🌍

*All photographs taken by Michael Foley*

**Right:**  
Improved roads link key farming areas to markets



## Old adversaries join hands to protect India's forests



*Above:*  
As part of Joint Forest Management, villagers cultivate citronella grass on forest fringes and help protect the forests from smugglers and poachers

### Joint Forest Management

Zulekha Begum has lived near a forest all her life. But, she couldn't tell one tree from the next. Now, she is an expert, pointing out teak, maha neem, arjuna, and amla trees with ease. The men in her village too have changed. They used to sneak into the forest at night to clandestinely cut firewood or smuggle out valuable logs of teak. Now, they guard the trees willingly, often at risk to themselves.

This radical change came about after the concept of Joint Forest Management (JFM) was introduced in the forest-rich Hojai region of Assam's Nagaon district. JFM converted the old adversaries – villagers living on the forest's fringes and the Forest Department – into allies, each with a stake in protecting the priceless natural heritage around them.

"We were like cops and robbers," says Mr. Rehman, the Range Forest Officer, Hojai. "But, now we treat them like brothers." The



villagers are paid by the Forest Department to guard the forests, prepare plant nurseries, grow seedlings, and clear the beds of weeds. They are also allowed to collect firewood, earn from sales of quick-growing plants such as jatropha and citronella, and are entitled to a 40 percent share in future revenues from long-gestation hardwood trees such as teak.

Both forests and communities have benefited. "Illegal logging and elephant poaching are now almost non-existent," points out Rehman. "With few staff, we could never prevent smuggling over such a vast area, not even with guns. But now, the villagers help us in every way." The local people feel far more secure earning a legal income. "While smuggling, we were always afraid," says Mohammad, a long time resident. "But now I have no fear of the police, and can hold my head high."

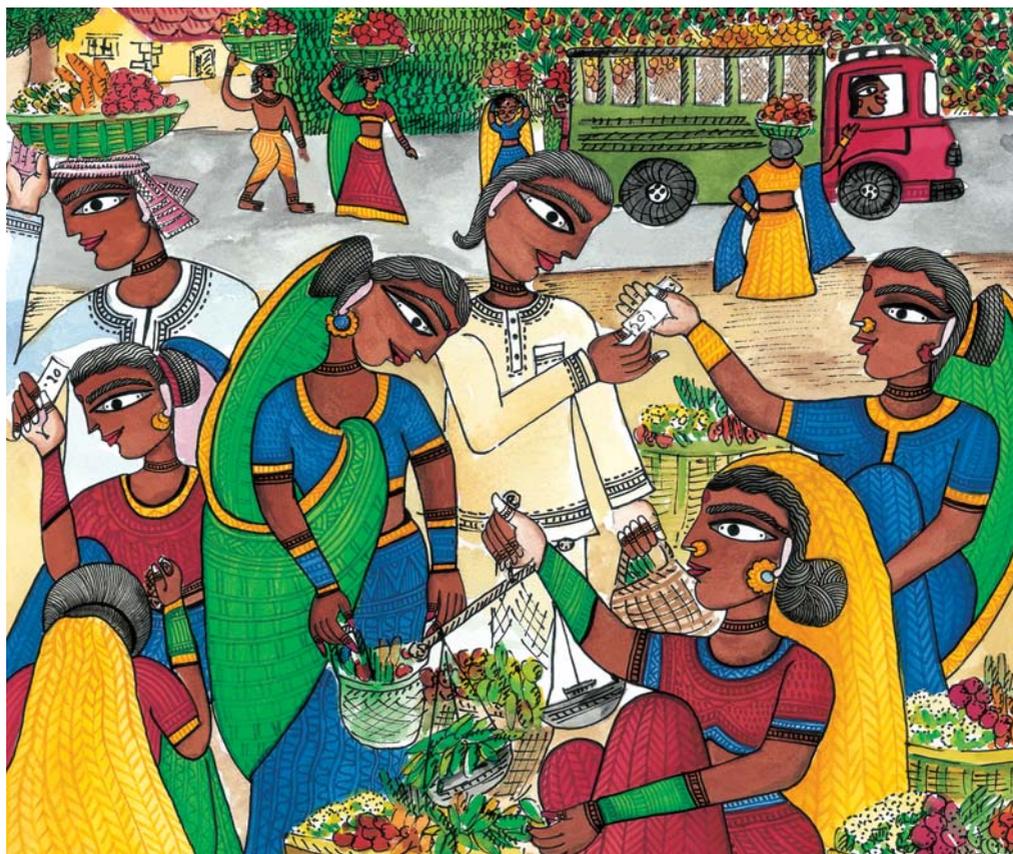
All village children now go to school as they are no longer needed to supplement paltry incomes. Zulekha Begum, has transformed from being the penniless wife of an impoverished farmer who never ventured outside her home, to earning a respectable income of her own.

The community is also cashing in on the forest's tourism potential; they cleared a picnic spot by a fast-flowing stream, and charge Rs.50 from each busload of visiting tourists. The Rs. 4,500 they earned last year has been placed in a common fund to develop other income generating activities.

India started experimenting with JFM about 30 years ago, and the model was formally adopted about a decade ago. JFM now covers almost one-third of India's national forest area, stretching across 27 states. 🌐

*Left:*  
Zulekha Begum and other ladies in the People's Nursery, Hojai Forest Range

### *Free markets can still feed the world*



*When prices of staples soar, the poor bear the brunt. Without global action, people in poor countries will be deprived of adequate and nutritious food, with tragic consequences for individuals and for the future prosperity of their countries says World Bank Group President Robert B. Zoellick*

Nicolas Sarkozy, France's president, has rightly identified food price volatility as a priority for his country as it chairs the Group of 20 leading economies this year. Figures released on Wednesday by the UN's Food and Agriculture Organisation show that costs for a range of basic commodities have now surpassed their peaks of 2008. With food accounting for a large and volatile share of tight family budgets in the poorest countries, rising prices are re-emerging as a threat to global growth and social stability.

When prices of staples soar, the poor bear the brunt. Without global action, people in poor countries will be deprived of adequate and nutritious food, with tragic consequences for individuals and for the future prosperity of

their countries. The G20 should agree to put food first – because food is the essence of life, and because practical action by the G20 could help make a real difference to hundreds of millions of people.

The overarching goal should be to ensure that the most vulnerable people and countries are no longer denied access to nutritious food. The G20 can achieve this, providing we take the following practical and interconnected steps.

***Increase public access to information on the quality and quantity of grain stocks.***

Better information reassures markets and helps calm panic-induced price spikes. Multilateral institutions could help identify ways to improve transparency.

***Improve long-range weather forecasting and monitoring, especially in Africa.***

Accurate long-range weather forecasting is taken for granted by farmers and purchasers in the developed world; in poor countries where yields depend on rainfall, poor crop projections amplify price swings. Better weather forecasting would enable people to plan ahead, and help anticipate needs for assistance. The World Meteorological Organisation and the World Bank are already helping, but more is needed.

***Deepen our understanding of the relationship between international prices and local prices in poor countries.***

Factors such as transport costs, crop types and exchange rates can mean that local prices are delinked from international prices: in Cambodia, rice prices were on a par with international prices in mid-2009, but while local prices have since risen by a quarter, international prices are now 15 per cent lower. Work could target first those commodities and countries most at risk from volatility.

***Establish small regional humanitarian reserves in disaster-prone, infrastructure-poor areas.***

Large stocks can be costly, degrade easily and impede producers. But in places where food crises are likely to recur and transport links are weak such as the Horn of Africa, small, pre-positioned strategic reserves would get food to the hungry fast, probably at lower cost. The World Food Programme (WFP) could manage this system.

***Agree on a code of conduct to exempt humanitarian food aid from export bans.***

Export restrictions make food price volatility worse. Ideally, countries would not impose any export bans; in 2011 they should at least agree that food for humanitarian purposes be allowed to move freely.

***Ensure effective social safety nets.***

It is vital that we protect the most vulnerable populations, such as pregnant and lactating women and children under two. We need to connect agriculture and nutrition, and help

## *Global food prices continue to rise*

**T**he World Bank's food price index increased by 15 percent between October 2010 and January 2011 and is only 3 percent below its 2008 peak. The last six months have seen sharp increases in the global prices of wheat, maize, sugar and edible oils, with a relatively smaller increase in rice prices. Higher global wheat prices have fed into significant increases in local wheat prices in many countries. Higher maize, sugar, and oil prices have contributed to increase the costs of various types of food, though local maize prices have largely been stable in Sub-Saharan Africa.

Local rice prices have increased in line with global prices in some large rice-consuming Asian countries. These food price rises create macro vulnerabilities, particularly for countries with a high share of food imports and limited fiscal space, as well as increases in poverty.

Estimates of those who fall into, and move out of, poverty as a result of price rises since June 2010 show there is a net increase in extreme poverty of about 44 million people in low- and middle-income countries.

In the immediate term, it is important to ensure that further increases in poverty are curtailed by taking measures that calm jittery markets and by scaling up safety net and nutritional programs. Investments in raising environmentally sustainable agricultural productivity, better risk-management tools, less food intensive bio-fuel technologies, and climate change adaptation measures are all necessary over the medium term to mitigate the impact of expected food price volatility on the most vulnerable. 

To access Food Price Watch, go to: [http://www.worldbank.org/foodcrisis/food\\_price\\_watch\\_report\\_feb2011.html](http://www.worldbank.org/foodcrisis/food_price_watch_report_feb2011.html)



countries target those most in need at reasonable cost.

***Give countries access to fast-disbursing support as an alternative to export bans or price fixing.***

To help countries avoid policies that harm their own farmers and neighbours, we need to provide reliable, fast alternatives customised to local needs. The World Bank has created a crisis response window under the International Development Association (IDA), its \$49bn fund for the poorest countries, and launched a rapid-response Food Security Fund, but we could also explore credit lines or loans with repayment suspension and extension during price shocks.

***Develop a robust menu of other risk management products.***

In some cases, the most useful tools might be weather insurance or a rainfall index; in others, it could be a hedge on energy prices to keep transport and input costs low.

***Help smallholder farmers become a bigger part of the solution to food security.***

Eighty-six per cent of staples in poor areas

come from local sources, so support for country-led efforts to bolster smallholder agriculture is critical. One concrete step would be for the G20 to help farmers benefit from tenders from humanitarian purchasers such as the WFP. This may require flexibility to allow development benefits such as building local markets to be taken into account in sourcing decisions. South Sudan could offer a timely pilot.

The answer to food price volatility is not to prosecute or block markets, but to use them better. By empowering the poor, the G20 can take practical steps towards ensuring the availability of nutritious food. Mr Sarkozy has shown leadership in putting this issue on the G20 agenda; the G20 must now act to put food first. 🌍

*This article was originally published in the Financial Times on 5 January 2011*

# ICR Update

**T**his is a short summary of the Implementation Completion Report (ICR) of a recently-closed World Bank project. The full text of the ICR is available on the Bank's website.

To access this document, go to [www.worldbank.org/reference/](http://www.worldbank.org/reference/) and then opt for the Documents & Reports section.

## Technical Assistance for Economic Reform



### Context

The Bank's India Country Strategy was focused on supporting reforms, particularly in states which embark upon comprehensive restructuring programs aimed at implementing fiscal, pricing and regulatory reforms that will put their finances on a sustainable course and establish a better environment for private investment. This Project aimed to complement the Bank's efforts through operations in the power sector, fiscal and public sector reforms, education, health, and agriculture at the state level by assisting reform-minded government agencies to formulate, design, and possibly implement selected reforms. While reforming states were expected to be the main beneficiaries of the Project, as was evidenced by the then pipeline of applications for funding under this credit, any reform minded entity was eligible for

Technical Assistance for Economic Reform	
Approval Date:	12 May 2000
Closing Date:	31 December 2007
Total Project Cost:	US\$M 55
Bank Financing:	US\$M 45
Implementing Agency:	Government of India
Outcome:	Satisfactory
Risk to Development Outcome:	Moderate
Overall Bank Performance:	Moderately Unsatisfactory
Overall Borrower Performance:	Moderately Satisfactory

support as well. Hence, central and municipal agencies (through their respective

state governments), engaged in similar reforms in similar areas were also able to access this credit facility.

### **Project Development Objectives**

By improving access to technical expertise and advisory services, the project will assist reform-minded governments (central, state and municipal) to design, and possibly implement, selected reforms.

### **Main beneficiaries**

The main beneficiaries of the project were central, state and municipal government agencies. These included:

1. Ministry of Statistics and Program Implementation, Government of India
2. Ministry of Personnel, Government of India
3. Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India
4. Ministry of Rural Development, Government of India
5. Government of Assam
6. Government of Uttarakhand
7. Government of Karnataka
8. Government of Tamil Nadu

### **Project components**

**Component 1:** Government of Uttar Pradesh (GoUP). This component had been appraised when the project went to the Board, but eventually did not disburse. It was aimed at supporting the following reforms in UP:

- Tax Reform
- Expenditure Management
- Public Enterprise Reform
- Municipal Management and Finances
- Monitoring of Poverty Impacts
- Reform in the Irrigation Department
- Modernization of the Financial Management and Audit Functions
- Civil Service Reform

**Component 2:** Ministry of Statistics and Program Implementation. This sub-project and a component by itself aimed at improving capacities for the management and implementation of projects. Several activities were envisaged under this component.

**Component 3:** Unallocated. This component was to be allocated on a first come first serve basis (\$12 million was reallocated to Tsunami Relief Effort).

Amongst others, component 3 and the savings from component 1 and 2 were allocated to the following:

- Restructure and privatize Karnataka state power sector;
- Introduce Value Added Tax (VAT), Government of Karnataka;
- Capacity Building for Good Governance, Government of India;
- Procurement Assessment Review, Government of Tamil Nadu (GoTN)
- Improvement in Wholesale Price Index (WPI), GoI
- Capacity Building for the Prime Minister Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY), GoI

### **Other significant changes**

The Project went through significant changes as most of the sub-projects identified during project preparation did not materialize after the Project became effective. It became clear within the first year of implementation that the funds available under this facility could be more effectively utilized if they are linked with the Bank's existing engagements and projects. For example, the Bank was supporting a broad-based reform program in Karnataka through a DPL and the project team identified capacity gaps and areas where Technical Assistance (TA) funds were needed. This led to the preparation of 3 sub-projects in the state, namely, introduction and implementation of Value Added Tax (VAT); preparation of power sector reforms; and computerizing the human resource database of state employees.

### **Implementation**

Implementation of this project involved a lot of work which should have been a part of project preparation. The first four years of implementation (2001-2004) included helping the client identify Technical Assistance (TA) needs, prepare sub-projects and present them to the Bank through Department of Economic Affairs (DEA). Given the differences in size, timing of approval and varied nature of activities and reforms under the eleven sub-projects,



*The Project assisted the government to design and possibly implement selected reforms*

implementation was a challenge throughout the seven year project period. All sub-projects were on different supervision cycles.

The strategy of linking these sub-projects to existing Bank engagements paid off well and had two major advantages: First, the Bank supervision team was focused on ensuring that they are implemented well as they complimented the larger reform program; and second, the client saw the merit and advantage of using these funds effectively, leading to greater ownership on their part.

#### **Major achievements**

This Project was able to support a wide range of impressive reforms that include: introduction of VAT in Karnataka, capacity building for good governance, several e-governance initiatives in Uttarakhand, capacity building in rural roads, procurement reform in Tamil Nadu and preparation for reforms in the power sector in Karnataka, amongst others.

Despite the initial implementation and financial management delays, the sub-projects were extremely useful in building

*Given the varied nature of reforms and activities under the sub-Projects, implementation was a challenge throughout the Project*



capacity; funding training activities and consultants; and strengthening institutional capacity in some cases. These sub-projects were well implemented and closely supervised and they all achieved their developmental objectives.

In the end this Project as a whole essentially added up to what each of the sub-projects had achieved as the broad project level indicators had no real relevance and were not linked to outcomes.

#### **Lessons Learnt**

- All new Bank projects should take into account lessons learned from similar projects done by the Bank, not only by documenting them, but having risk mitigating strategies.
- A multi-sector project of this kind, with multiple implementing agencies should have a well-designed information flow mechanism, with special attention to financial flows and reporting.
- When there are multiple implementing agencies spread across several states and central ministries, it may be better to have a single entity coordinating the flow of financial information, monitoring audit reports and disbursing claims.
- At least 50 to 60 percent of the project funds for a project of this nature should be committed (in terms of contracts awarded) before the project goes to the Board.
- An agreed multi-sector supervision strategy should be a part of the project design.
- A Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) framework to assess impact of the overall project as well as the sub-projects should be a part of project design.
- Terms and conditions of accessing funds should be clearly communicated to all entities.
- For a project of this nature such a facility is likely to generate more interest if it's a grant rather than a loan.
- A small part of the credit proceeds should be earmarked to allow for learning across states and implementing agencies. 🌐

# Recent Project Signings

## Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) Second Rural Roads Project

Visiting World Bank Group President Robert B. Zoellick joined India's Finance Minister Pranab Mukherjee to witness the signing of the deal to supplement the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) or the Prime Minister's Rural Roads Program.

More than six million people are set to directly benefit from a new agreement for the World Bank to provide \$1.5 billion in funding to expand India's rural roads program, the largest rural roads project the Bank has ever approved.

The funding will be used to build more than 24,000 kilometers of all weather roads in the states of Himachal Pradesh, Jharkhand, Meghalaya, Punjab, Rajasthan, Uttarakhand and Uttar Pradesh and any other state, which may join the program at a later date over the next five years. The construction and maintenance of these roads will create an estimated 300 million person-days of employment for the rural people. More than 20,000 engineers as well as many contractors and skilled and unskilled workforce will be trained in modern rural road engineering practices and business procedures. 🌐

## Bihar Kosi Flood Recovery Project

A new agreement for the Bihar Kosi Recovery Project, worth \$220 million, was signed in the presence of Bihar Chief

Minister Nitish Kumar and visiting World Bank Group President Robert B. Zoellick in Patna. The new project aims to help Bihar's flood-affected people by supporting the reconstruction of about 100,000 houses, and the rebuilding of 90 bridges and 290 kilometers of rural roads.

The project will not only support flood recovery efforts, but also help reduce risks from flooding, and boost emergency responses in the event of future disasters.

The 2008 floods in the Kosi basin affected about 3.3 million people in five districts of Bihar. About one million people were evacuated and about 460,000 people were given temporary shelter in relief camps.

Thousands of families dependant on farming lost land due to siltation, with massive damage to housing and infrastructure. An already vulnerable rural population lost whatever little they owned, falling even deeper into poverty. 🌐

## National Cyclone Risk Mitigation Project I

A \$255 million agreement for phase one of the National Cyclone Risk Mitigation Project -I (NCRMP-I), to be implemented by the NDMA was signed in the presence of visiting World Bank Group President Robert B. Zoellick and India's Finance Minister Mr. Pranab Mukherjee.

More than one million people living in the coastal areas of Orissa and Andhra Pradesh are set to benefit from this project.

It is the first Adaptable Program Loan (APL) taken by the country. The overall program is expected to include at least three phases. After the first phase in the states of Orissa and Andhra Pradesh, it is expected to be expanded to other States and Union Territories in the second and third stages. This phased in approach will help incorporate lessons learned as well as new ideas and advancements in technology in the management of risks. 🌐



# Events

## PRESS CONFERENCE

### Unleashing the Potential of Renewable Energy in India

11 February 2011 • New Delhi

**A** new World Bank report says developing indigenous renewable energy sources which have low marginal costs of generation are more economically viable in the long run. Renewables can play an important role in increasing India's energy security by diversifying supply, reducing import dependence and mitigating fuel price volatility.

The Report *Unleashing the Potential of Renewable Energy in India* is a diagnosis, assessing the feasibility of developing Renewable Energy (RE) in India. The Report is based on data from nearly 180 wind, biomass, and small hydropower projects in 20 states, as well as information from the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE) and the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (CERC).

At a press conference organized for the launch of this report, **Inger Andersen, Vice-President, Sustainable Development Network, World Bank** said "Renewable energy is seen as the next big technology industry, with the potential to transform the trillion dollar energy industry across the world. Investing in renewable energy would enable India to develop globally competitive industries and technologies that can provide new opportunities for growth." 

## PRESS CONFERENCE

### Empowering Rural India: Expanding Electricity Access by Mobilizing Local Resources

15 February 2011 • Mumbai

**T**his World Bank report says decentralizing power generation and distribution to the local level through the distribution grid of the state utility by using renewable energy sources will help reduce prolonged outages and increase electricity supply in rural areas.

If such sources replace kerosene and diesel for localized generation and supply, economic gains can be substantial, the Report *Empowering Rural India: Expanding Electricity Access by Mobilizing Local Resources* suggests.

At its launch in Mumbai World Bank's **Vice-President for Sustainable Development Network, Ms Inger Andersen** said: "Despite over a century of investment in electric power systems, there are roughly 1.6 billion people across the globe that lack access to electricity, mainly in rural areas. There are as many people in South Asia without access to electricity as in Sub-Saharan Africa, most of them in India. Experience in countries like China and Philippines show that distributed generation projects that also combine supply and are grid connected has been successful. The involvement of local community leads to socio-economic development in the area, thereby promoting inclusive growth." 



## World Bank Group President Robert B. Zoellick visits India

11-14 February, 2011



**W**orld Bank Group President Robert B. Zoellick came to India on a four-day visit aimed at strengthening the Bank's co-operation with India as the country gears up to accelerate growth to provide better infrastructure and efficient social services for its people.

"India is a player on the global stage. The country's status as a rising economic power is closely connected with how it manages this next phase of growth, balancing rapid development with the environment and most importantly, the need to ensure all people have opportunity," said Zoellick.

He said India's needs, especially for financing its ambitious infrastructure and human development programs, are growing rapidly, as it strives to improve the lives of a billion people, one-third of whom are desperately poor.

"We support the government's strategy of boosting growth while helping the most vulnerable people be able to seize the opportunities afforded by an expanding economy," said the Bank President, who

last visited India in December 2009.

During his visit, Zoellick met government leaders, including Prime Minister Manmohan Singh, Finance Minister Pranab Mukherjee and Deputy Chairman of the Planning Commission Montek Singh Ahluwalia to better understand how the World Bank Group can be useful to India in meeting its development priorities as it gears up for the XII Five Year Plan. The discussions with the prime minister and government also covered cooperation on global issues. The World Bank and India work closely on climate change, biodiversity including saving the wild tiger, trade, and regional integration.

During his visit, the World Bank President also witnessed the signing of two new projects in the roads and disaster management sectors, as well as met with private sector representatives, the Self-Employed Women's Association, and urban and water experts. He also traveled to Bihar, where the Bank is helping the state government with a rehabilitation program for areas affected by the Kosi floods. 

**T**his is a select listing of recent World Bank publications, working papers, operational documents and other information resources that are now available at the New Delhi Office Public Information Center. Policy Research Working Papers, Project Appraisal Documents, Project Information Documents and other reports can be downloaded in pdf format from 'Documents and Reports' at [www.worldbank.org](http://www.worldbank.org)

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## India Publications

### Empowering Rural India: Expanding Electricity Access by Mobilizing Local Resources

By South Asia Energy Unit, The World Bank

Available: On-line

English; Paperback; 51 pages

This study focused on developing business models to enhance rural electricity access. It shows that decentralizing power generation and distribution to the local level by using renewable energy sources will help reduce prolonged outages and increase electricity supply in rural areas. In this model, the rural franchisee in addition to distributing power and collecting revenues also generates power locally and supplies to the franchised area. The local community benefits because certain minimum percentage of the generated power goes to the designated area and the balance is fed into the grid. The franchisee will also be able to draw from the grid in case required.

Analysis undertaken in two districts each in Haryana and Maharashtra show substantial economic gains if implemented.

However, the existing policy allows such local generation and supply only in very remote rural areas that are still not connected to the grid. The Report recommends extending the DG&S model to even those rural areas that are connected to the grid and are not necessarily classified as remote, thus providing increased access and power supply to rural households.

### Unleashing the Potential of Renewable Energy in India 2010

By South Asia Energy Unit, The World Bank

Available: On-line

English; Paperback; 56 pages

The Report *Unleashing the Potential of Renewable Energy in India* is a diagnosis, assessing the feasibility of developing Renewable Energy (RE) in India. The Report is based on data from nearly 180 wind, biomass, and small hydropower projects in 20 states, as well as information from the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE) and the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (CERC).

The Report suggests that about 3GW of renewable energy – all from small hydropower is economically feasible, when the avoided cost of coal-based generation of Rs 3.08/kWh is considered. The entire cumulative capacity of 68GW in these three technologies can be harnessed at less than Rs 6/kWh.

About 62GW—90 percent of cumulative renewable capacity in wind, biomass, and small hydropower—is economically feasible when the environmental premiums on coal are brought into consideration.

The entire renewable potential including solar is less expensive than diesel, where existing 20 GW of diesel based installed capacity points to innovative possibilities of scaling up renewable in a big way.

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### Status of Secondary Education Participation in India: An Analysis of NSS 64th Round Data

By Deepa Sankar

Available: On-line

English; Paperback; 47 pages

Report No. 33 (South Asia Human Development Unit)

This analytical report presents the status of secondary education participation in India using National Sample Survey (NSS) 64th round (2007-08).

The specific objectives of this policy note are:

- a. the participation rates of adolescents in secondary education, disaggregated by gender, social and religious groups, household economic quintiles and different locations (rural or urban as well as across states) in India using NSS 64th round (2007-08);
- b. the transition patterns from elementary to secondary stage and dropouts in between, disaggregated; and
- c. the proportion of population who had secondary education; and participation in secondary education by type of management of schools.

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### Country Strategy Progress Report – FY2009-2012

By World Bank India

Available: On-line

English 62 pages

Report No.: 58433

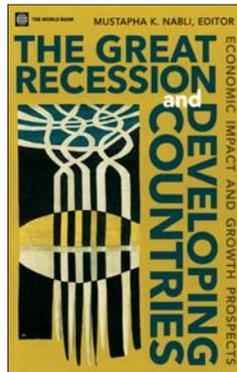
Country Strategy is aligned with the Government of India's development goals as laid out in the 11th Five-Year Plan (2007-12) and addresses key challenges under three pillars:

- i. sustaining high and inclusive growth;
- ii. ensuring sustainable development; and,
- iii. improving public service delivery, with a cross-cutting focus on improving effectiveness of public spending and achieving results.

This progress report takes stock of the implementation progress of the CAS and notes strategic shifts. It begins with a description of the current country context, notes progress under each pillar, and concludes with a forward-looking section on challenges and risks.

## Other Publications

### The Great Recession and Developing Countries: Economic Impact and Growth Prospects



Edited by Mustapha K. Nabli

Price: \$35.00

English; Paperback

662 pages

ISBN: 978-0-8213-8513-5

SKU: 18513

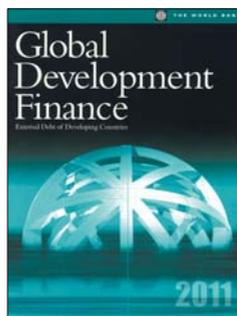
The 2008–09 financial crisis, which originated in the United States and rapidly spread to the rest of world, resulting in the most severe and intense Great Recession since World War

II, has posed new challenges for international policy coordination and the management of national economies.

*The Great Recession and Developing Countries* delves into 10 country case studies that explore growth during the pre-crisis boom, the effects of the crisis, policy responses, and recovery. Looking beyond the crisis, the volume undertakes projections of medium-term growth and explores the possible impact of the global crisis. The use of a common methodology in preparing the case studies facilitates cross-country comparisons and helps draw some useful lessons as well as identify areas where more study is needed. Although the case studies do not constitute a statistically representative global sample, they illustrate a broad range of experiences in the wake of the Great Recession—covering Brazil, China, Ethiopia, India, Malaysia, Mexico, the Philippines, Poland, Turkey, and Vietnam—and give insights on how developing countries can best prepare and respond to such crises.

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### Global Development Finance 2011: External Debt of Developing Countries



By World Bank

Price: \$75.00

Global Development

Finance

English; Paperback

338 pages

ISBN: 978-0-8213-8673-6

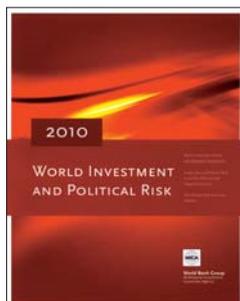
SKU: 18673

*Global Development Finance 2011: External Debt of Developing*

*Countries* provides statistical tables showing the external debt of 128 developing countries that report public and publicly guaranteed external debt to the World Bank's Debtor Reporting System (DRS). It also includes tables of key debt ratios for individual reporting countries and the composition of external debt stocks and flows for individual reporting countries and regional and income groups along with some graphical presentations.

GDF 2011 draws on a database maintained by the World Bank External Debt (WBXD) system. The database covers external debt stocks and flows, major economic aggregates, and key debt ratios, as well as average terms of new commitments, currency composition of long term debt, and debt restructurings in greater detail than can be included in the GDF book.

### World Investment and Political Risk 2010



By Daniel Villar, Stephan Dreyhaupt, Persephone Economou, Caroline Lambert, Gero Verheyen and Emanuel Salinas

Price: \$28.00  
English; Paperback  
112 pages  
ISBN: 978-0-8213-8478-7  
SKU: 18478

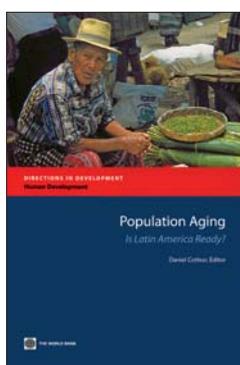
Two years into the deepest global financial crisis in the post-war era, the world economy is still experiencing uneven economic recovery and financial weakness. Financial market conditions are signaling improved investor confidence and more appetite for cross-border investments.

As part of its mandate to encourage investment to developing countries, the Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency (MIGA) seeks to foster more understanding of the role of political risk, and instruments to mitigate it.

The objective for this report is to examine

- i. overall investment trends and perceptions of political risk especially for what regards foreign direct investment (FDI) to emerging markets;
- ii. investments and risks specifically in Conflict-Affected and Fragile States
- iii. the role political risk insurance (PRI) is playing today and its likely role in the future.

### Population Aging: Is Latin America Ready?



Edited by Daniel Cotlear  
Price: \$35.00  
English; Paperback  
320 pages  
ISBN: 978-0-8213-8487-9  
SKU: 18487

Latin America and the Caribbean will soon face the challenges of an aging population. This process, which took over a century in the rich world, will occur in two or three decades in

the developing world; seven of the 25 countries that will age more rapidly are in LAC.

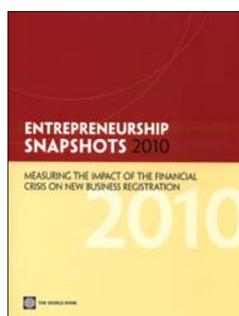
This book explores three sets of issues. First is a group of issues related to the support of the aging and

poverty in the life cycle. This covers questions of work and retirement, income and wealth, and living arrangements and intergenerational transfers. It also explores the relation between the life cycle and poverty.

Second is the question of the health transition. How does the demographic transition impact the health status of the population and the demand for health care? And how advanced is the health transition in LAC?

Third is an understanding of the fiscal pressures that are likely to accompany population aging and to disentangle the role of demography from the role of policy in that process.

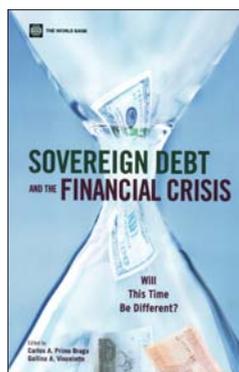
### Entrepreneurship Snapshots 2010: Measuring the Impact of the Financial Crisis on New Business Registration



By World Bank  
Price: \$19.95  
English; Paperback  
40 pages  
ISBN: 978-0-8213-8476-3  
SKU: 18476

Now in its fourth year, the WBGES measure entrepreneurial activity in 115 developing and industrial countries over the six year period 2004-2009. Importantly, the data offer a distinctive and timely snapshot of the impact of the 2008-2009 financial crisis on entrepreneurial activity.

### Sovereign Debt and the Financial Crisis: Will This Time Be Different?



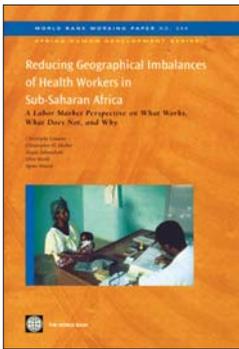
Edited by Carlos A. Primo Braga and Gallina A. Vincelette  
English; Paperback  
554 pages  
ISBN: 978-0-8213-8483-1  
SKU: 18483

In the wake of the financial crisis of 2008, governments worldwide undertook massive fiscal interventions to stave off what otherwise would have likely been a

system-wide financial and economic meltdown. The policy responses engendered significant shifts in growth trajectories and debt sustainability outlooks of both mature and developing economies.

The objective of the book is to present and discuss policy-relevant research on the current debt challenges which developing, emerging market, and developed economies face. Its value added lies in the integrated approach of drawing on theoretical research and evidence from practitioners' experience in developing, emerging market, and developed countries.

**Reducing Geographical Imbalances of Health Workers in Sub-Saharan Africa: A Labor Market Perspective on What Works, What Does Not, and Why**

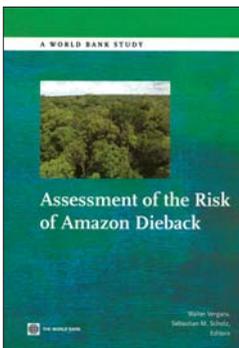


By Christophe Lemiére, Christopher Herbst, Negda Jahanshahi, Ellen Smith and Agnes Soucat  
Price: \$15.00  
English; Paperback  
56 pages  
ISBN: 978-0-8213-8599-9  
SKU: 18599

This report discusses and analyzes labor market dynamics and outcomes

(including unemployment, worker shortages, and urban-rural imbalances of categories of health workers) from a labor economics perspective. It then uses insights from this perspective as a basis for elaborating policy options that incorporate the underlying labor market forces. The goal of the study is to address undesirable outcomes (including urban-rural HRH imbalances) more effectively.

**Assessment of the Risk of Amazon Dieback**



Edited by Walter Vergara and Sebastian M. Scholz  
Price: \$25.00  
World Bank Studies  
English; Paperback;  
112 pages  
ISBN: 978-0-8213-8621-7  
SKU: 18621

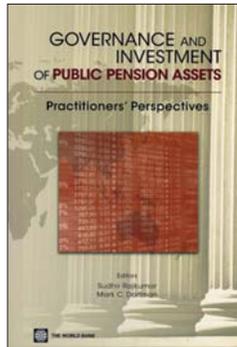
The Amazon basin is a key component of the global carbon cycle. Not only is the old-growth rainforests

in the basin huge carbon storage with about 120 billion metric tons of carbon in their biomass, but they also process annually twice the rate of global anthropogenic fossil fuel emissions through respiration and photosynthesis. In addition, the basin is the largest global repository of biodiversity and produces about 20 percent of the world's flow of fresh water into the oceans.

Despite the large CO2 efflux from recent deforestation, the Amazon rainforest is still considered to be a net carbon sink or reservoir because vegetation growth on average exceeds mortality. However, current climate trends and human-induced deforestation may be transforming forest structure and behavior.

Clearly, with changes at a global scale at stake, there is a need to better understand the risk, and dynamics of Amazon dieback. Therefore, the purpose of the book is to assist in understanding the risk, process and dynamics of potential Amazon dieback and its implications.

**Governance and Investment of Public Pension Assets: Practitioners' Perspectives**



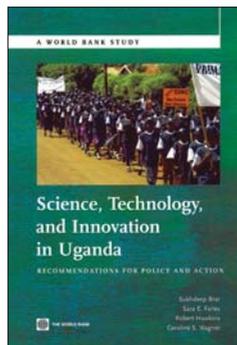
Edited by Sudhir Rajkumar and Mark C. Dorfman  
Price: \$35.00  
English; Paperback  
360 pages  
ISBN: 978-0-8213-8470-1  
SKU: 18470

The global financial crisis of 2008–09, increasing fiscal pressures, and aging populations have focused the attention of policy

makers in many countries on public pension finances. In this context, what role can effective governance and optimal investment of public pension assets play in delivering affordable pensions?

This book seeks to provide insight on these issues, drawing on the experience of more than 30 practitioners from every region of the world: senior public pension fund officials, policy makers, regulators, and experts on the governance and investment of pension and other institutional assets.

**Science, Technology and Innovation in Uganda: Recommendation for Policy and Action**



By Sukhdeep Brar, Sara E. Farley, Robert Hawkins and Caroline S Wagner  
Price: \$20.00  
World Bank Studies  
English; Paperback  
128 pages  
ISBN: 978-0-8213-8672-9  
SKU: 18672

This study presents a unique methodology to view science, technology

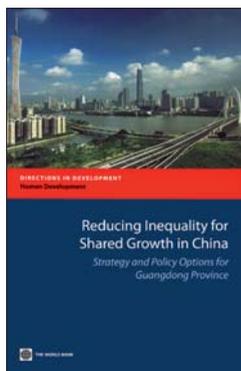
and innovation (STI) in developing countries. The study provides a set of cases studies drawn from a diverse range of experiences across the Ugandan private sector and offers concrete policy recommendations on how to support broader development of STI in Uganda.

The study *Science, Technology and Innovation in Uganda* finds that of all the STI challenges facing firms, universities, and public research organizations in Uganda, the barriers to collaboration and communication are the most urgent in terms of STI priorities to address in the coming years.

**Reducing Inequality for Shared Growth in China: Strategy and Policy Options for Guangdong Province**

By The World Bank  
Price: \$35.00  
English; Paperback  
392 pages

ISBN: 978-0-8213-8484-8  
SKU: 18484

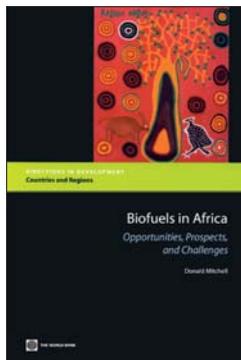


As China's powerhouse for economic growth and a pioneer of reform and opening up, Guangdong has maintained an annual average GDP growth rate of 13.7 percent over the past three decades. Its historical achievements notwithstanding, Guangdong witnessed increased inequality and regional disparity.

To assist the authority in developing a strategy for the new phase of reforms that promotes more inclusive and sustainable growth, the report *Reducing Inequality for Shared Growth in Guangdong Province* recommends a three-pillar approach: eliminating absolute poverty, reducing inequality in opportunities, and containing inequality in outcomes.

The report also proposes a range of policy actions in these three broad areas. First, to further develop the social assistance program (i.e. the minimum living allowance program) to address the issue of absolute poverty; Second, to improve income opportunities of the rural poor by better facilitating rural labor migration to non-farming jobs and urban labor markets, deepening rural finance reform, and providing better protection of their rights over land. Third, to invest in people through more equitable access to and financing of social services such as basic education, skills development, and health care. Further reform of the intergovernmental fiscal system is essential to the success of these efforts.

### Biofuels in Africa: Opportunities, Prospects, and Challenges



By Donald Mitchell  
Price: \$30.00  
English; Paperback  
216 pages  
ISBN: 978-0-8213-8516-6  
SKU: 18516

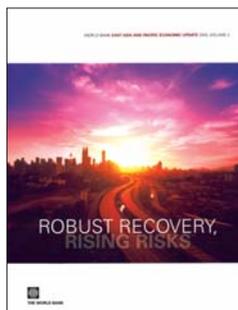
A new economic opportunity for sub-Saharan Africa is looming large: biofuel production.

Africa is uniquely positioned to produce these new cash crops for both domestic use and export. The region has abundant land resources and preferential access to protected markets with higher-than-world-market prices. The rapid growth in the demand for transport fuels in Africa and high fuel prices create domestic markets for biofuels.

Expanding the production of crops for biofuels will affect the entire rural sector in Africa as resources are

shifted away from traditional crops and the prices of all agricultural commodities rise. Even smallholders can participate in producing biofuel crops. To promote the sustainability and significant contribution of this enterprise, this book provides guidance in formulating suitable policy regimes, which are based on protecting the rights of current land users, developing revenue-sharing schemes with local communities, safeguarding the environment and biodiversity, expanding institutional capacity, formulating new regulations and procedures, and emulating best practices from experienced countries.

### World Bank East Asia and Pacific Economic Update 2010: Robust Recovery, Rising Risks



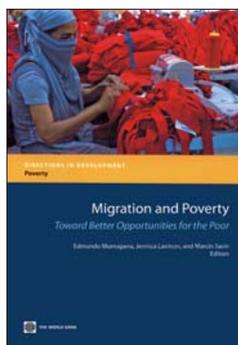
By World Bank  
Price: \$35.00  
English; Paperback  
104 pages  
ISBN: 978-0-8213-8495-4  
SKU: 18495

The *World Bank East Asia and Pacific Economic Update 2010, Volume 2* is the latest edition of the comprehensive, twice-

yearly review of the region's economies prepared by the East Asia and Pacific region of the World Bank. According to this Update output and trade flows have recovered to above pre-crisis levels throughout developing East Asia. Confidence is on the rise, and private sector investment is once again driving growth.

Yet greater confidence in the region's growth prospects and concerns about tepid economic expansion in advanced economies are confronting policy makers with a delicate balancing act. In particular, the return of large capital inflows to East Asia has caused currencies to appreciate substantially, and is leading to concerns about asset price bubbles. Countries need to address emerging risks at the same time as medium-term challenges to sustain strong growth. The need for China to rebalance the economy by altering the pattern of growth and investment is increasingly critical for sustainability.

### Migration and Poverty: Towards Better Opportunities for the Poor



Edited by Edmundo Murrugarra, Jennica Larrison and Marcin Sasin  
Price: \$25.00  
English; Paperback  
176 pages  
ISBN: 978-0-8213-8436-7  
SKU: 18436

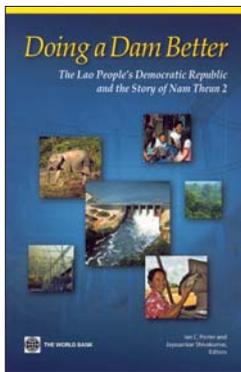
This volume uses recent research from the World Bank to document and analyze the bidirectional relationship between poverty and migration in

developing countries. The case studies chapters compiled in this book (from Tanzania, Nepal, Albania and Nicaragua), as well as the last, policy-oriented chapter – illustrate the diversity of migration experience and tackle the complicated nexus between migration and poverty reduction. Two main messages emerge:

Although evidence indicates that migration reduces poverty, it also shows that migration opportunities of the poor differ from that of the rest. In general, the evidence suggests that the poor either migrate less or migrate to low return destinations. As a consequence, many developing countries are not maximizing the poverty-reducing potential of migration.

The volume shows that developing countries' governments are not without means to improve this situation. Several of the country examples offer a few policy recommendations towards this end.

### Doing a Dam Better: The Lao People's Democratic Republic and the Story of Nam Theun 2

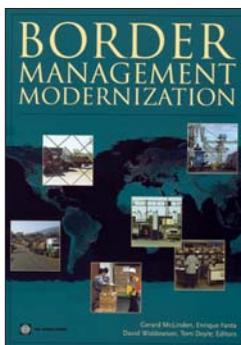


Edited by Ian C. Porter and Jayasankar Shivakumar  
**Price: \$25.00**  
**English; Paperback**  
 216 pages  
 ISBN: 978-0-8213-6985-2  
 SKU: 16985

*Doing a Dam Better* describes how careful management, effective communications, and technical expertise helped to reach consensus and

nurtured private-public partnerships, engaged stakeholders, strengthened the country's development framework and poverty reduction efforts, and addressed the project's environmental and social impacts.

### Border Management Modernization



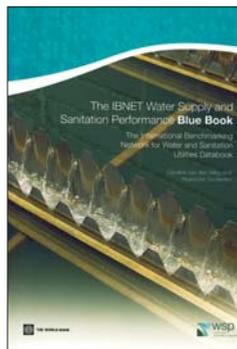
Edited by Gerard McLinden, Enrique Fanta, David Widdowson and Tom Doyle  
**Price: \$39.95**  
**English; Paperback**  
 400 pages  
 ISBN: 978-0-8213-8596-8  
 SKU: 18596

Border clearance processes by customs and other agencies are among the

most important and problematic links in the global supply chain. It takes three times as many days, nearly twice as many documents, and six times as many signatures to import goods in poor countries than it does in rich ones. Delays and costs at the border undermine a country's competitiveness, either by taxing imported inputs with deadweight inefficiencies or by adding costs.

This book is designed to shed new light on these problems and to identify a range of strategies that will help officials meet their traditional control responsibilities while at the same time facilitating legitimate trade.

### The IBNET Water Supply and Sanitation Performance Blue Book: The International Benchmarking Network for Water and Sanitation Utilities Databook



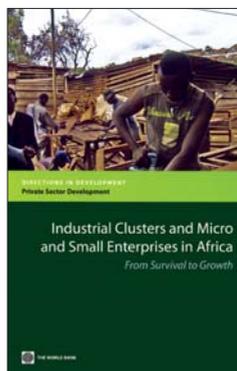
By Caroline van den Berg and Alexander Danilenko  
**Price: \$30.00**  
**English; Paperback**  
 224 pages  
 ISBN: 978-0-8213-8582-1  
 SKU: 18582

This Blue Book of the International Network of Water and sanitation Utilities (IBNET) is designed to raise awareness of how

benchmarking and specifically IBNET tools can help enhance utility performance and thereby help to improve urban water and wastewater services. As the largest public water sector performance database IBNET provides comparative information on utilities' cost and performance indicators. IBNET set and implemented the first global benchmarking standard for the water and wastewater sector.

Since its establishment in 1996, the IBNET program has grown into the largest publicly available water sector performance mechanism that collects, analyses and provides information on more than 2,500 water and wastewater service providers from 110 countries around the world.

### Industrial Clusters and Micro and Small Enterprises in Africa: From Survival to Growth



By World Bank  
**Price: \$25.00**  
**English; Paperback**  
 190 pages  
 ISBN: 978-0-8213-8627-9  
 SKU: 18627

The World Bank, Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) Research Institute, and the Foundation for Advanced Studies on International Development (FASID), in

collaboration with researchers affiliated with the African Economic Research Consortium (AERC), recently conducted a study on Africa's domestic enterprises to improve the understanding of the constraints micro and small enterprises in Africa face in improving productivity and expanding their markets.

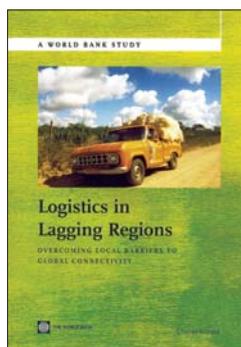
Lack of managerial skills among entrepreneurs running

micro and small enterprises is a major constraint for innovation and growth in the clusters.

The study discusses the merit of cluster-based managerial human capital development to build steps toward more innovation-oriented clusters, the importance of sound spatial planning policy, particularly at the local level in the context of urban planning, the need to expand market access and economic linkages for industrial clusters including regional integration and linkages with large enterprises.

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### Logistics in Lagging Regions: Overcoming Local Barriers to Global Connectivity



By Charles Kunaka  
Price: \$15.00  
World Bank Studies  
English; Paperback  
90 pages  
ISBN: 978-0-8213-8649-1  
SKU: 18649

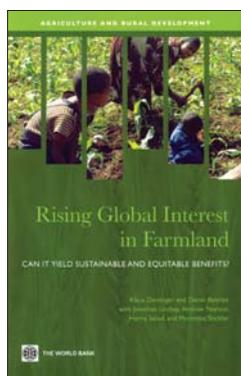
Using case studies of sisal and soybean supply chains in Brazil and India respectively, this study explores the role and

impact of intermediaries in facilitating trade in lagging regions. The study assesses the horizontal relationships between the small scale producers in thin markets and the vertical connections between different tiers of the same supply chain. The study analyzes the traditional approach to linking producers namely through cooperatives and itinerant traders and the relatively newer innovations using ICT.

The study finds that farmers linked through the different mechanisms are more integrated to international supply chains or are able to better manage supply chains longer than would otherwise be the case.

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### Rising Global Interest in Farmland: Can It Yield Sustainable and Equitable Benefits?



Price: \$25.00  
English; Paperback  
264 pages  
ISBN: 978-0-8213-8591-3  
SKU: 18591

This book aims to provide key pieces of information needed for informed debate about large-scale land acquisition by drawing on the experience from past land expansions, discussing predictions for potential

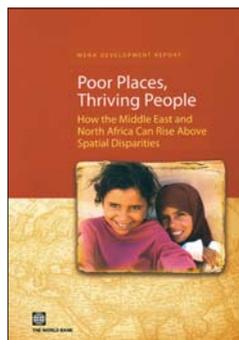
future demand, and providing empirical evidence of what is happening on the ground in the countries most affected by the recent increase in demand for land.

It complements demand side considerations with a detailed assessment of the amount of land, whether

currently cultivated or not, that might potentially be available for agricultural cultivation at the global and country levels. It then describes in some detail the policies in place to manage land acquisition processes and analyzes how these policies may affect outcomes.

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### Poor Places, Thriving People: How the Middle East and North Africa Can Rise Above Spatial Disparities



By World Bank  
Price: \$35.00  
English; Paperback  
412 pages  
ISBN: 978-0-8213-8321-6  
SKU: 18321

The book says all lagging areas can benefit from a “level playing-field for development” and investment in people. Smart policies for the

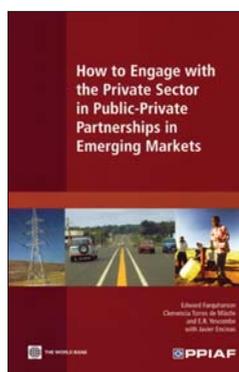
investment environment, health, education, social transfers and urban development can close spatial gaps in living standards.

Second, lagging areas that are close to economic agglomeration can benefit from spillovers – provided that they are connected. Third, shifting regional development policy away from spatial subsidies towards the facilitation of cluster-based growth will increase the chance of cost-effective impacts.

The final chapter of the book examines the institutional prerequisites for effective spatial policy. It argues that centralized/sectoral structures are not always adapted to governments’ spatial development agendas, and describes alternative institutional options.

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### How to Engage with the Private Sector in Public-Private Partnerships in Emerging Markets

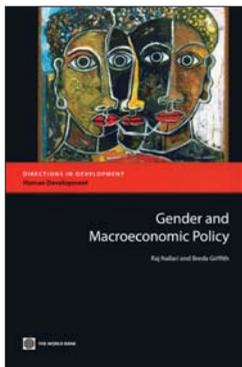


Price: \$25.00  
English; Paperback  
196 pages  
ISBN: 978-0-8213-7863-2  
SKU: 17863

This book guides the reader through the life of a PPP and provides a realistic overview of the necessary steps to successfully engage and manage such a partnership from the early stages. It presents a

framework that highlights the requirements, options, and challenges that governments are likely to face when embarking into PPPs, and explains how to address them so that a sound PPP program can be implemented and the benefits for both partners—public and private—can fully materialize. This book draws on experiences from both mature and developing PPP markets across the world, and case studies illustrate the key messages throughout.

## Gender and Macroeconomic Policy



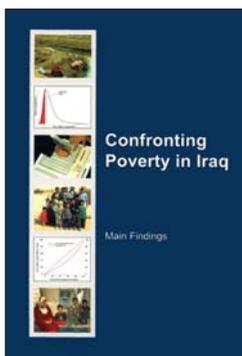
By Raj Nallari and  
Breda Griffith  
Price: \$30.00  
English; Paperback  
184 pages  
ISBN: 978-0-8213-7434-4  
SKU: 17434

Focusing on gender equality—which means equality in opportunity, inputs, and outcome—has yielded important insights for the growth and

development of an economy. But we are still at the cusp. While there have been huge improvements in recognizing gender as an analytical category at the microeconomic level, the macroeconomic implications of gender equality remains undeveloped.

Over the past three decades, economic development has generally affected women differently than men in the developing world. At the same time, gender relations have affected macroeconomic outcomes. This volume examines the research and policy implications of engendering macroeconomic policy.

## Confronting Poverty in Iraq: Main Findings



By World Bank, Iraq  
Poverty Reduction Strategy  
High Committee  
Price: \$20.00  
English; Paperback  
112 pages  
ISBN: 978-0-8213-8562-3  
SKU: 18562

According to the findings in this book, Iraqi living standards have two unusual characteristics.

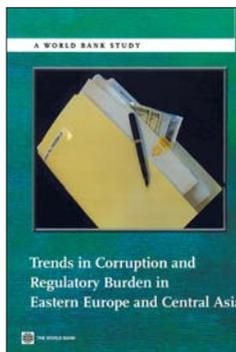
First, they have fallen over the past generation. Second, they feature surprisingly little inequality. These characteristics are both rooted in Iraq's recent history of authoritarian government, war, military occupation, insurgency, and civil strife leading to infrastructure destruction and population displacement.

There have been few opportunities for individuals to prosper from professional or entrepreneurial activities. Decades of neglected investment have resulted in deterioration of social services and economic infrastructure. Consequently, individuals have lacked capabilities to prosper and an investment climate conducive to prosperity. School enrollment and life expectancy have declined.

The Public Distribution System (PDS) provides 85 percent of food needs. While PDS has been useful as a safety net for the poor and the vulnerable, the system is expensive, inefficient, and fiscally risky. Indeed, PDS food rations account for a far greater share of public spending than does education or health.

Going forward, Iraq faces two main challenges. While Iraq does not have to develop from scratch, it faces a formidable challenge in re-development. Second, a shift by the Government is required—from direct provision of basic subsistence toward investment in human capacities.

## Trends in Corruption and Regulatory Burden in Eastern Europe and Central Asia



By The World Bank  
Price: \$15.00  
World Bank Studies  
English; Paperback  
90 pages  
ISBN: 978-0-8213-8671-2  
SKU: 18671

Historically countries of Eastern Europe and Central Asia have faced a number of obstacles in their transition to democracy

and market-based economies.

This report uses the results of the most recent Business Environment and Enterprise Performance Survey (BEEPS) to examine trends in corruption and administrative burden of regulations on private sector firms in 29 Eastern European and Central Asian countries.

Results show that countries with greater capacity to enforce and implement anti-corruption measures are less likely to have high levels of corruption and incidence of graft. The results presented in the report show that countries of Eastern Europe and Central Asia are no longer facing higher corruption or regulatory burden than firms in comparable non-transition countries.

## World Bank at the International Kolkata Book Fair

The World Bank's Public Information Center (PIC) routinely participates in Book Fairs in Delhi and other cities. The PIC stall at the International Kolkata Book Fair held from 25 January 2011 to 6 February 2011 drew more than 15,000 visitors. Besides displaying the Bank's formal publications, the objective was to generate awareness amongst people about the World Bank, its mission and its operations in India. Recent World Bank publications on economic management, financial management, health, nutrition, gender, agriculture, poverty, information & communication, governance, infrastructure, flagship publications, operational documents and India documents were displayed. PIC staff present at the stall provided information on how the World Bank functions, list of important websites, scholarships and about its projects. 

## India Project Documents

### **Additional Financing for the Karnataka Community Based Tank Management Project**

Date 11 February 2011  
Project ID P071033  
Report No. 59570 (Procurement Plan)

### **Karnataka Community Based Tank Management Project**

Date 11 February 2011  
Project ID P071033  
Report No. 59571 (Procurement Plan)

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Date 11 February 2011  
Project ID P102549  
Report No. 59614 (Procurement plan for first 18 months)

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Date 10 February 2011  
Project ID P107668  
Report No. 59585 (Procurement Plan-October 2010 to September 2011)

### **Bihar Rural Livelihoods Development Project**

Date 10 February 2011  
Project ID P090764  
Report No. 59581 (Procurement Plan)

### **Himachal Pradesh Mid-Himalayan Watershed Development Project**

Date 10 February 2011  
Project ID P093720  
Report No. 59582(Procurement Plan)

### **National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) Technical Assistance Project**

Date 10 February 2011  
Project ID P121515  
Report No. 59586 (Procurement Plan)

### **Rajasthan Rural Livelihoods Project**

Date 10 February 2011  
Project ID P102329  
Report No. 59584 (Procurement Plan)

### **Third Uttar Pradesh Sodic Lands Reclamation Project**

Date 10 February 2011  
Project ID P112033  
Report No. 59583 (Procurement Plan)

### **E-delivery of Public Services Project**

Date 08 February 2011  
Project ID P108258  
Report No. AB6348 (Program Information Document)

### **Karnataka Health Systems Development and Reform Project**

Date 08 February 2011  
Project ID P071160  
Report No. 59568 (Procurement Plan)

### **Rajasthan Agricultural Competitiveness Project**

Date 24 January 2011  
Project ID P124614  
Report No. AC5880 (Integrated Safeguards Data Sheet)

### **National Ganga River Basin Project**

Date 19 January 2011  
Project ID P119085  
Report No. AB6013 (Project Information Document)

### **Vocational Training Improvement Project**

Date 08 January 2011  
Project ID P099047  
Report No. 59537 (Procurement Plan for goods)

### **Uttaranchal Decentralized Watershed Development Project**

Date 05 January 2011  
Project ID P078550  
Report No. 59157 (Project Paper)

### **Second Karnataka State Highway Improvement Project**

Date 04 January 2011  
Project ID P107649  
Report No. AC5789 (Integrated Safeguards Data Sheet)  
59095 (Board Report)

### **Andhra Pradesh Community Based Tank Management Project**

Date 01 January 2011  
Project ID P100789  
Report No. 59576 (Procurement Plan for 2010-2011)

### **Andhra Pradesh Road Sector Project**

Date 01 January 2011  
Project ID P096021  
Report No. 59574 (Procurement Plan)

### **Eastern Dedicated Freight Corridor Project**

Date 01 January 2011  
Project ID P114338  
Report No. E2664 (Environmental Assessment for Bhaupur – Khurja)  
RP1065 (Resettlement Plan – 2 Vol.)

### **Integrated Disease Surveillance Project**

Date 01 January 2011  
Project ID P073651  
Report No. 59575 (Procurement Plan – 2010-2012)

### **Madhya Pradesh Water Sector Restructuring Project**

Date 01 January 2011  
Project ID P073370  
Report No. 59573 (Procurement Plan for Civil works– 2010-2012)

### **Uttaranchal Decentralized Watershed Development Project**

Date 27 December 2010  
Project ID P078550  
Report No. 59157 (Project Paper)

### **Emergency Tsunami Reconstruction Project: Restructuring**

Date 22 December 2010  
Project ID P094513  
Report No. 58306 (Project Paper – 2 Vol.)

### **Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) Rural Roads Project**

Date 20 December 2010  
Project ID P124639  
Report No. 58652 (Summary of Discussion)

### **Sustainable Urban Transport Project: Restructuring**

Date 20 December 2010  
Project ID P110371  
Report No. 58320 (Project Paper – 2 Vol.)

### **National Vector Borne Disease Control and Polio Eradication Support Project**

Date 13 December 2010  
Project ID P094360  
Report No. 58561 (Project Paper – 2 Vol.)

#### **India Economic Update**

The second in the semi-annual series of India Updates points out that India's economic growth seems to be back to the pre-crisis trend, but inflation is worrying. The RBI is likely to continue its policy of cautious rate hikes in an uncertain environment. The signals are not clear whether core inflation is caused by more general demand pressures, which would best be addressed with more aggressive policy tightening, or by second round effects of earlier food and commodity price shocks, for which the current monetary policy stance is likely to be adequate. The December 2010 Update also discusses several medium-term issues: the link between the real exchange rate and growth, a long-term look at education, demographics and growth, the challenges facing the introduction of the GST, and the mid-term evaluation of the Eleventh Development Plan.

For more information, please visit:  
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