



The Bureau for Management, Office of the Chief Information Officer (M/CIO), Knowledge Services Center

New This Month

August 2015

AID AND DEVELOPMENT

Developmental pathways to poverty reduction.
Bangura, Yusuf, editor. New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2015.

With concerns that many countries will not make meaningful progress in reducing their levels of poverty in line with the Millennium Development Goals, contributors question if countries are following the correct development strategies. Drawing on case studies

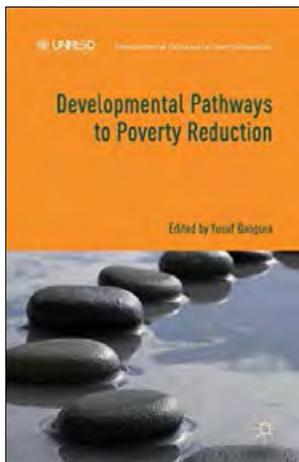


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of countries that have improved their economies, the book offers plans for poverty reduction that emphasize employment-centered structural changes, social policies that protect citizens and contribute to economic growth, and politics that support growth and redistribution.

From the local to the global: key issues in development studies. McCann, Gerard and Stephen McCloskey, editors. London: Pluto Press, 2015.

In its third edition, this book explores how closely the local and global are connected in today's globalized economy. Updated to include chapters on new challenges to poverty eradication such as climate change, the financial crisis, and political instability, it provides an introduction to major development issues including: aid, debt, trade, migration, and gender.

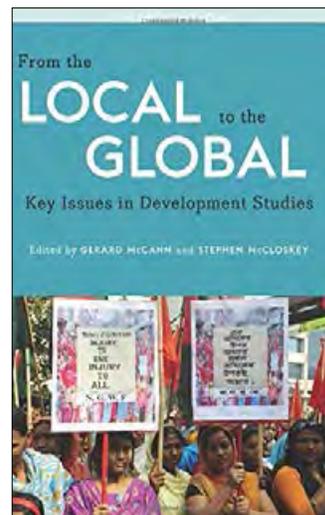


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The paradoxes of aid work: passionate professionals. Roth, Silke. New York: Routledge, 2015.

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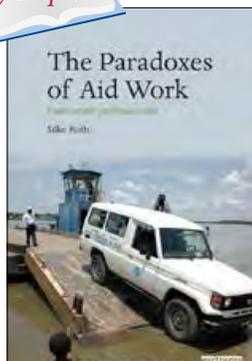


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Roth explores the processes that draw people to 'Aidland' while highlighting the crossovers and connections among the numerous occupations and organizations within this context including development work, emergency relief, and human rights work. She addresses working and living conditions, gender relations, and inequality

among personnel in 'Aidland' and what subsequent effects this work has on the lives of aid-workers.

Cost-benefit studies of natural resource management in Southeast Asia. James, David and Herminia A. Francisco, editors. New York: Springer, 2015.

The book applies cost-benefit analysis techniques to the management of environment and natural resources in developing countries of Southeast Asia, and presents a number of research studies supported by the Economy and Environment Program for Southeast Asia. It emphasizes the relationship among the environment, natural resources, and economic development in developing countries while addressing a range of problems that can be understood using economic evaluation techniques.

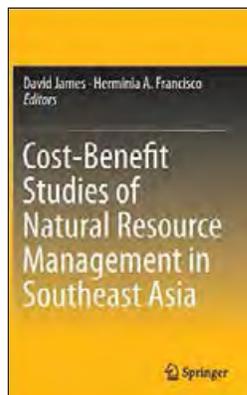


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AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT

Conservation agriculture in subsistence farming: case studies from South Asia and beyond. Chan, Catherine and Jean Fantle-Lepczyk, editors. Boston, MA: CABI, 2015.

The contributors examine the history and current state of conservation agriculture with a particular focus on South Asia. They explore the long-term impacts its practice has on the livelihoods, agricultural products, gender equity and economic development of rural societies. The work of USAID is discussed in several chapters. USAID staff may download this e-book from CAB eBooks.

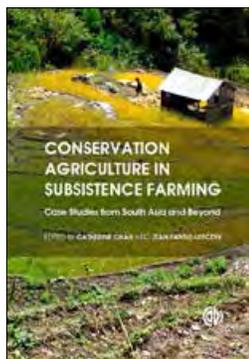


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Livelihoods, natural resources, and post-conflict peacebuilding. Young, Helen and Lisa Goldman, editors. New York: Routledge, 2015.

This book explores how natural resource management initiatives throughout the world have supported livelihoods and facilitated post-conflict peacebuilding. Through case studies and analysis, the contributors identify lessons and opportunities for a more effective design of interventions to support livelihoods that depend on natural resources and examine how to incorporate livelihood assistance in approaches to post-conflict redevelopment.



Image: www.amazon.com

Sustainability for a warming planet. Llavador, Humberto, John E. Roemer, and Joaquim Silvestre. Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, 2015.

Llavador, Roemer and Silvestre believe sustainability must be achieved by capping the concentration of carbon at a level not much higher than today and that cooperation between developing and developed nations is vital to addressing the interconnected problems of economic growth and climate change. Based on the ethics of sustainability and egalitarianism, they propose finding an economic growth path that would maintain environmental resources for future generations.



Image: www.amazon.com

DEMOCRACY, HUMAN RIGHTS, AND GOVERNANCE

The challenge of stability and security in West Africa. Marc, Alexandre, Neelam Verjee, and Stephen Mogaka. Washington, DC: The World Bank, 2015.

This book examines the impetuses of conflict and violence and the resulting impact in West African nations. It also addresses new challenges to security including migration, regional imbalances, the fragility of political institutions, and managing the competition for power. It highlights case studies of countries including Sierra Leone, Liberia, and Cote d'Ivoire, detailing lessons in the dynamics of resilience against political violence and civil war. USAID staff may download this e-book from the [World Bank eLibrary](#).

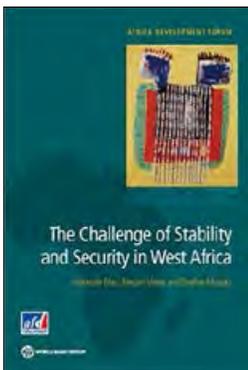


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The dynamics of radicalization: a relational and comparative perspective. Alimi, Eitan Y., Chares Demetriou, and Lorenzo Bosi. New York: Oxford University Press, 2015.

The authors offer insights into the processes of radicalization among social movements engaged in contentious politics. Examining al-Qaeda, the Red Brigades, and the Greek Cypriot EOKA, they go beyond existing explanations that attribute radicalization to aggressive motivations, grievances or violence-prone ideologies, instead highlighting the role relational dynamics plays among various parties and actors involved in episodes of contention. They identify turning points in the radicalization process and the factors that drive or impede radicalization.

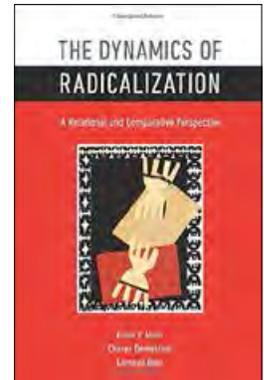


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Inside Syria: the backstory of their civil war and what the world can expect. Erlich, Reese. Amherst, NY: Prometheus Books, 2014.

Through interviews with rebel leaders, regime supporters, and Syrian president Bashar al-Assad, Erlich explores the complex dynamics of the Syrian Civil War. He explains who is supporting Assad, the agendas of the rebel factions, while providing insights into the plight of the Syrian people caught in the cross fire. He explains the history of the colonization of the region, and describes the past and present roles of the Kurds, and the influence of Iran as well as American policies in the region.

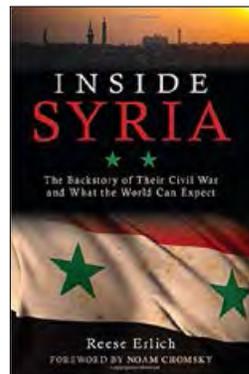


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The quiet power of indicators: measuring governance, corruption, and rule of law. Merry, Sally Engle, Kevin E. Davis, and Benedict Kingsbury. New York: Cambridge University Press, 2015.

This book examines how global indicators of national legal governance are produced, disseminated, and used, while also exploring how performance indicators are used by the EU for accession countries and by the U.S. Millennium Challenge Corporation in allocating U.S. aid funds. It utilizes original case studies including the World Justice Project's measurement of the rule of law, the World Bank's Doing Business index, and the Transparency International Corruption (Perceptions) index.

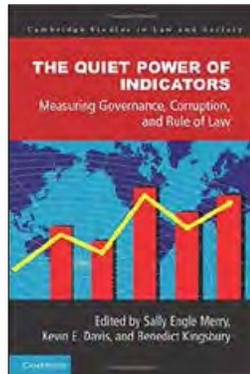


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South Sudan: a slow liberation. Thomas, Edward. London: Zed Books, 2015.

In 2011, after a long war of liberation which resulted in looting, raids, and massacres among ethnic communities, South Sudan became the world's youngest independent nation. Writing from the Jonglei state, South Sudan's most mutinous area, Thomas examines what is happening in the country today. He explains how this area came to be at the heart of the country's struggle and has exemplified South Sudan's history as a rebel threat to the Sudanese government.

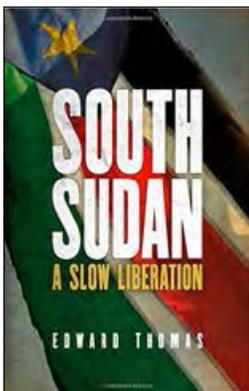


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ECONOMIC GROWTH AND TRADE

Africa: why economists got it wrong. Jervin, Morten. London: Zed Books, 2015.

As little as two decades ago among economists Africa was described as hopeless, yet now that continent is considered to be on the rise and ripe for economic growth. Jervin offers a critique of the mainstream accounts of African economic history, showing how African economies had been growing reliably for decades prior to the 1990s and challenges economists whose analysis failed to recognize this.

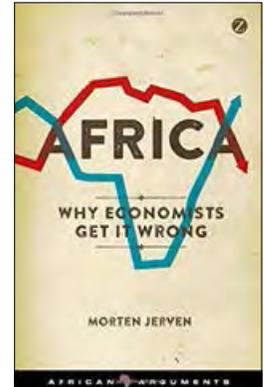


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Demanding devaluation: exchange rate politics in the developing world. Steinberg, David A. Ithaca, NY: Cornell University Press, 2015.

Utilizing case studies of China, Argentina, South Korea, Mexico and Iran, Steinberg argues that the demands of powerful interest groups often dictate government decisions pertaining to exchange rates. He contends that a country's political system helps determine whether it undervalues or overvalues its exchange rates resulting in either economic growth or economic stagnation.

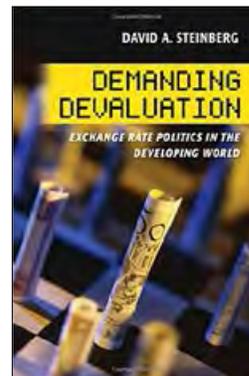


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Intellectual property, trade and development: strategies to optimize economic

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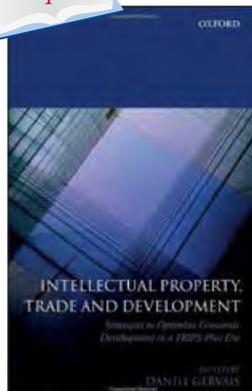


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development in a TRIPS-Plus era. Gervais, Daniel, editor.

The contributors seek to increase the developing world's understanding of the relationships among intellectual property, trade rules, and economic and social development. They detail new ways of implementing intellectual property rules and optimizing their effects. This updated volume provides new

legal, economic, political and social research on the relationship between intellectual property, trade and development.

Poverty reduction policies and practices in developing Asia.

Heshmati, Almas, Esfandiari Maasoumi, and Guanghua Wan, editors. Manila, Philippines: Asian Development Bank, 2015.

This book examines major policy challenges facing developing Asia and how the region's rapid economic growth to reduce poverty utilizes socially and environmentally sustainable measures. The contributors explore poverty and related issues such as climate

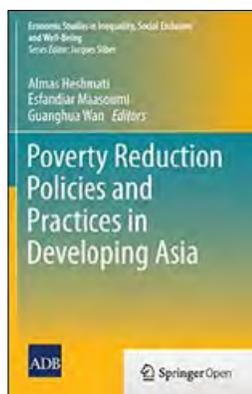


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change, disaster management, poverty alleviation with microfinance, urban and rural poverty reduction policies, and sustainability in poverty reduction. They also seek to advance the development of new tools and measurement of multidimensional poverty and poverty reduction policy analysis.

EDUCATION

Education quality and social justice in the Global South: challenges for policy, practice and research.

Tikly, Leon and Angeline M. Barrett, editors. New York: Routledge, 2015.

Contributors contend that implementing a high quality level of education, using theories of social justice, can increase the understanding of inclusion, relevance, and democracy in education. The essays explore recent

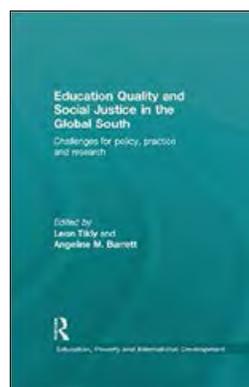


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research initiatives to improve education quality, and highlight the importance of supporting local policy makers, educators, and parents as agents of change. The book is divided into three parts: 1) framing education quality; 2) planning and policies for quality; and 3) implementing quality in schools.

E-learning in higher education in Latin America.

OECD. Paris: OECD Publishing, 2015.

This report analyzes the incorporation of information and communication technologies (ICTs) in higher education in Latin America with particular attention to e-learning.

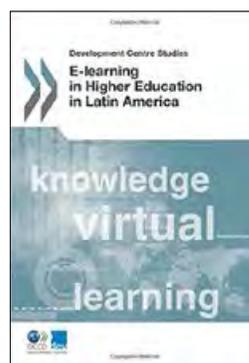


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It explores how ICTs and new learning and teaching practices can help meet the challenges the region faces including access to and quality of higher education, financial constraints, and relevance to the needs of the labour market. USAID staff may download this e-book from the [OECD iLibrary](http://www.oecd.org).

GENDER EQUALITY AND WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT

Gender-based violence: perspectives from Africa, the Middle East, and India. Djamba Yanyi K. and Sitawa R. Kimuna, editors. New York: Springer International Publishing, 2015.

Contributors discuss gender-based violence in Africa, the Middle East, and India, three regions where the cultural norms limit women's autonomy. Topics include men's attitudes towards domestic violence in Africa, links between domestic abuse and HIV, the effects of physical abuse on reproductive health, the role of youth aggressive behavior in nonconsensual sex, and the role of gender norms in spousal abuse.

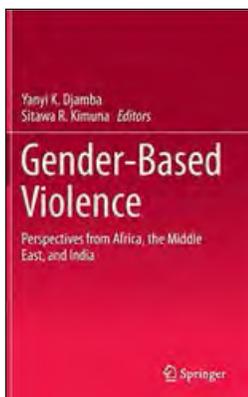


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HEALTH, NUTRITION & POPULATION

Discovering tuberculosis: a global history, 1900 to the present. McMillen, Christian W. New Haven, CT: Yale University Press, 2015.

McMillen presents a global history of tuberculosis, examining key locations, developments, ideas, and medical successes and failures since 1900. He explores race and TB in Africa and Native American reservations, mass resistance in India, the search for a vaccine, drug resistant TB strains in Kenya, and the reemergence of TB during the HIV/AIDS epidemic. He concludes with an explanation of why preventing and curing TB has been so difficult.

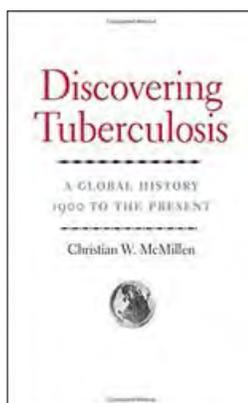


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Epic measures: one doctor, seven billion patients. Smith, Jeremy N. New York: Harper Wave, 2015.

Smith details the quest of medical doctor and economist Christopher Murray who began the Global Burden of Disease study, one of the largest scientific projects ever attempted, to gain a truer understanding of how we

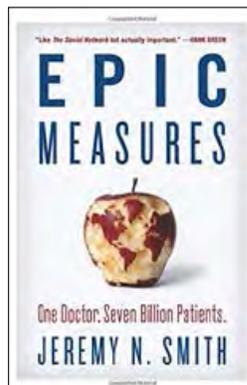


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live and how we die. Murray contends that we cannot understand what makes us sick, or do much to improve it, until we can accurately measure how people live and die. In his telling of Murray's story, Smith highlights the breakthroughs and setbacks of scientists as they strive to bring the news of their findings to the world.

HIV/AIDS in China and India: governing health security. Lo, Catherine Yuk-ping. New York: Palgrave MacMillan, 2015.

Lo takes a look at the HIV/AIDS policies enacted by the international community since 2000, with a special focus on China and India. She compares their respective policy approaches and discusses the challenges they face in dealing with HIV/AIDS as they balance their development needs and strengthening ties with the global community with the need to protect their populations.

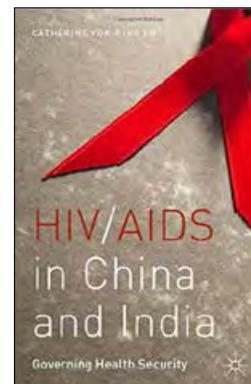


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To save humanity: what matters most for the healthy future. Frenk, Julio and Steven J. Hoffman, editors. New York: Oxford University Press, 2015.

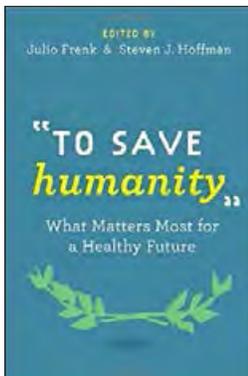


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This volume contains a collection of short essays on the future of global health issues authored by people in science, politics, and social advocacy. With the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) set to expire at the end of 2015, this collection advocates for continued progress on these health and development fronts.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Data mining for the social sciences: an introduction. Attewell, Paul and David B. Monaghan. Oakland, CA: University of California Press, 2015.

Attewell and Monaghan offer a simple introduction to data mining and discuss how it differs from conventional statistical modeling. Part one focuses on the broader concepts of data mining including general strategies such as cross-validation, boosting and calibrating as well as outlining the important stages in a data mining project. Part two features examples on topics such as variable selection tools, extracting variables, classification trees, and clustering.

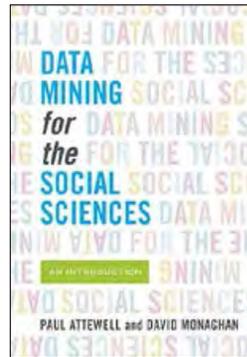


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CENTER FOR PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

AFRICA

The color of grace: how one woman's brokenness brought healing and hope to child survivors of war. Williams, Bethany Haley, PhD. New York: Howard Books, 2015.

While sharing her own story of personal shame and emotional healing which takes her to war torn zones of Africa, psychologist Bethany Haley Williams recounts her work with Exile International, a nonprofit she founded

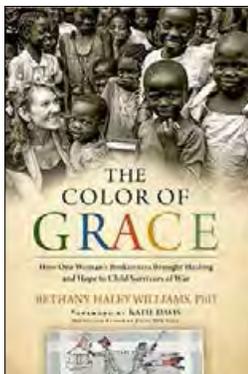


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that implements art/expressive therapy and long-term, rehabilitative care to restore and empower war-affected children. She tells stories of boys taught to kill and girls once used as sex slaves who have learned how to forgive themselves and their captors and have now become advocates for peace and forgiveness.

ASIA

Family life: a novel. Sharma, Akhil. New York: W.W. Norton and Company, 2014.

In Delhi in 1978 Ajay and his brother Birju wait for the day when they and their mother can join their father

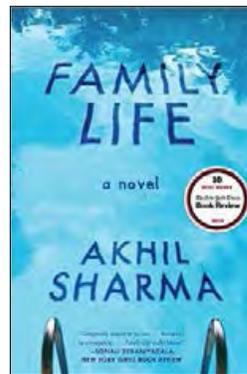


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in America. When in America, tragedy strikes and Birju is left severely brain-damaged and Ajay is left virtually orphaned in a strange land. Ajay prays to a God he envisions as Superman to find his place amidst the misfortune of his family's life.

EUROPE AND EURASIA

Leaving Berlin: a novel. Kanon, Joseph. New York: Atria Books, 2015.

After fleeing the Nazis before the war, Alex Meier, a young Jewish writer, now finds himself faced with deportation from America as the politics of his youth have made him a target of the McCarthy witch hunts. To remain in the U.S., he makes a bargain with the CIA to act as their agent in his native Berlin. Things go wrong from the start as a kidnapping is botched, an East German agent is killed, and he discovers his real assignment is to spy on the woman he loved and left behind.

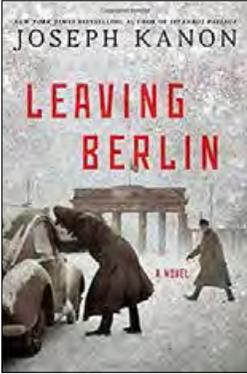


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LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

Hold tight, don't let go: a novel of Haiti. Wagner, Laura Rose. New York: Amulet Books, 2015.

When fifteen year old cousins Nadine and Magdalie lose everything in the 2010 earthquake, including the woman who raised them, the inseparable pair must fend for themselves in a refugee camp, making the best of their new lives. Unexpectedly, Nadine's father in Miami sends for her and Magdalie must choose between reuniting with Nadine or building a new life for herself in Haiti, embracing its possibilities for love, friendship, and a future.



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Looking for a shortcut to USAID Library resources?

Check out our content Page at
<https://pages.usaid.gov/M/CIO/usaaid-library>.

From here you can link to the Library catalog, e-journal collections, research databases, and research guides.

While there, make sure to browse the list of services offered by the Library Staff as well as some of the services provided by the Center for Professional Development.



Remember that a full list of all of the Electronic Resources can also be found at: <http://kscguides.usaid.gov/>.

Contact the Knowledge Services Center for assistance at ksc@usaid.gov

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