



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE



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

New This Month

September 2015

AID AND DEVELOPMENT

Blinded by humanity: inside the UN's humanitarian operations. Barber, Martin. New York: I.B. Tauris, 2015.

Based on his personal experience as a UN humanitarian official, Barber analyzes how effectively international institutions, specifically the UN, have carried out their responsibilities towards conflict-affected people. He contends that the UN's good intentions have met with only partial success due to ill-considered policies and poor practical applications, which have placed constraints on aid workers. He proposes new policy approaches for areas in humanitarian aid efforts that have been overlooked.

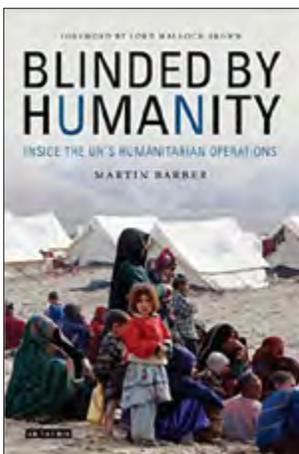


Image: www.amazon.com

Homegrown development in Africa: reality or illusion? Okereke, Chukwumerije and Patricia Agupusi. New York: Routledge, 2015.

Focusing specifically on Ghana, Nigeria, South Africa and Kenya, this book provides a critique of homegrown development initiatives set up as alternatives to international development programs. It examines how far African states have moved toward homegrown development strategies, the effects of this shift, and the conditions needed to enhance the success and sustainability of these initiatives.

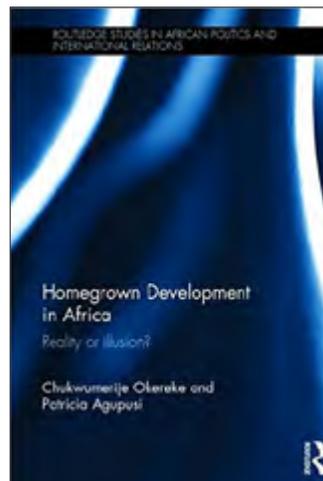


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By Request books are titles that USAID employees have suggested for purchase. Want to see a particular item at the Library? Let us know by emailing KSC@usaid.gov

Multilateral aid 2015: better partnerships for a post-2015 world. OECD. Paris: OECD Publishing, 2015.

This report argues that multilateral organizations must build and strengthen inclusive partnerships that will provide the solutions needed to eradicate absolute poverty and foster economic progress, environmental sustainability, and peaceful societies. It identifies how bilateral providers can support multilateral organizations in implementing the necessary changes to the post-2015 development agenda. USAID staff may download this e-book from the **OECD iLibrary**.



Image: www.oecd.org

The unraveling: high hopes and missed opportunities in Iraq. Sky, Emma.

New York: Public Affairs, 2015.

Emma Sky, representative of the Coalition Provisional Authority in Kirkuk in 2003 and political advisor to U.S. General Odierno from 2007-2010, provides her first hand account in detailing the efforts to transform Iraq, a country torn by decades of war, dictatorship, insurgencies and civil war. She recounts the planning and implementation of the surge, the U.S. troop withdrawal, and the takeover of a third of the country by the Islamic State and explains why efforts to rebuild the nation did not meet expectations.

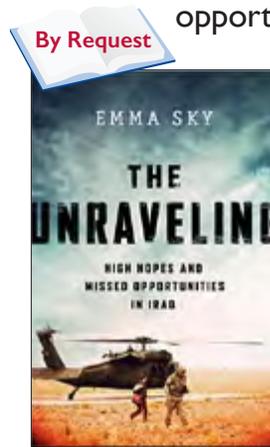


Image: www.amazon.com

HISTORY AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Neighborly adversaries: readings in U.S.-Latin American relations. LaRosa, Michael J. and Frank O. Mora, editors. Lanham, MD: Rowman & Littlefield Publishers, 2015.

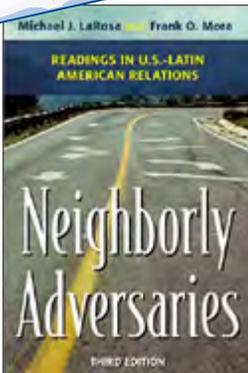


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This text traces the relationship between the United States and Latin America from the early nineteenth century to the present, providing a review of major issues and perspectives in Western Hemisphere relations. This revised edition has been updated to include the policies

of Presidents George W. Bush and Barack Obama. Issues covered include: trade policy, drug trafficking, immigration, and tourism.

DEMOCRACY, HUMAN RIGHTS, AND GOVERNANCE

Advocacy in conflict: critical perspectives on transnational activism. De Waal, Alex, editor. London: Zed Books, 2015.



Image: www.amazon.com

This volume explores the consequences of advocacy campaigns by Western celebrities and NGOs which, contributors contend, all too often compromise the integrity of the cause in pursuit of prominence and influence. Utilizing high profile case studies including campaigns for the rights of Palestinians in Gaza and democracy in Burma, the contributors evaluate the successes and failures of past efforts and offer criticism of current efforts.

Diasporas, development, and peacemaking in the Horn of Africa. Laakso, Liisa and Petri Hautaniemi, editors. London: Zed Books, 2014.

In a globalized world, transnational diaspora communities often engage in 'long-distance' politics and support social development in their homelands. They shape relationships among countries and regions due to their strong stake in the fate of their countries of origins. Examining case studies from the Horn of Africa, including Somalia and Ethiopia, this volume challenges the notion that diaspora communities are often warmongers, and examines how they can be a force for good in bringing peace to their home countries.

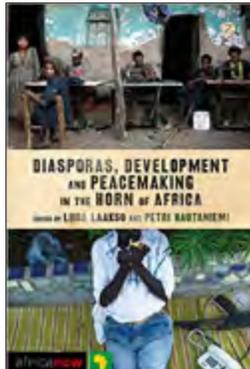


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Governance, conflict and development in South Asia: perspectives from India, Nepal and Sri Lanka. Hettige, Siri and Eva Gerharz, editors. Thousand Oaks, CA: SAGE Publications Inc., 2015.



Image: www.amazon.com

This book examines the varying forms of governance that emerged in South Asia after colonialism, with particular attention paid to India, Sri Lanka, and Nepal. The contributors explore the development and conflict-related challenges that have resulted from these changes and reveal how shortcomings in governmental provisions coincide with increased levels of conflict.

They also highlight how the governments have influenced developmental successes and failures.

Latin American democracy: emerging reality or endangered species? Millett, Richard L., Jennifer S. Holmes, and Orlando J. Pérez, editors. New York: Routledge, 2015.

Despite many Latin American transitions from military-led rule to democracy within the last thirty years, numerous countries still face challenges to the consolidation of democratic governance. These include weak political institutions, corruption, transnational crime, and globalization. This recently updated edition explores the state of democratic consolidation within the region and includes new chapters on the environment, decentralization, the economy, indigenous groups, and the role of China in Latin America.



Image: www.amazon.com

ECONOMIC GROWTH AND TRADE

The economics of inequality. Piketty, Thomas. Cambridge, MA: The Belknap Press of Harvard University Press, 2015.

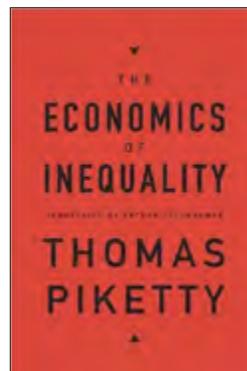


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Piketty provides the conceptual and factual background for interpreting changes in economic inequality over time. He explains how inequality evolves and how economists measure it. Chapter topics include capital-labor inequality, inequality of labor income, and instruments of redistribution.

Globalization and development: why East Asia surged ahead and Latin America fell behind.

Elson, Anthony. New York: Palgrave MacMillan, 2013.

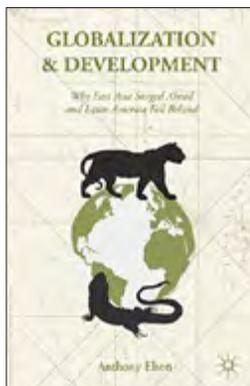


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Elson compares the evolutions of six East Asian and Latin American countries to investigate the divergence in economic outcomes between the two regions. He identifies the key factors common to each region that have allowed East Asia to take advantage of the globalized economy to support its development, while Latin America has not, including

economic policy choices and the role of institutions and governance.

The last mile in ending extreme poverty.

Chandy, Laurence, Hiroshi Kato, and Homi Kharas, editors. Washington, DC: Brookings Institute Press, 2015.

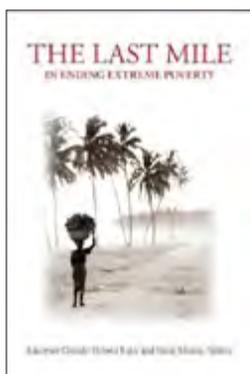


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The contributors examine what is required to eradicate extreme poverty throughout the globe and identify three challenges that are vital to these efforts: securing peace, creating jobs, and strengthening resilience. The book puts forth solutions to address these issues and identifies the knowledge gaps that remain.

The price of China's economic development: power, capital, and the poverty of rights.

Hong, Zhaohui. Lexington, KY: The University Press of Kentucky, 2015.

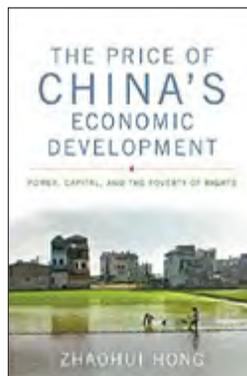


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Hong analyzes the social and cultural consequences of China's economic boom and policy shifts from agrarianism to industrialism and isolationism to internationalism for the majority of the Chinese people. He urges policy makers to measure social progress qualitatively, with fair allocation of resources and opportunity as the main index of success.

EDUCATION

Human rights and universal child primary education.

Muedini, Fait. New York: Palgrave MacMillan, 2015.

Muedini describes the current state of child primary education around the globe and outlines the positive gains that have been made towards the goal of free universal schooling. He also discusses the obstacles that remain at local, state and international levels including costs associated with schooling, a shortage of teachers, inadequate conditions of existing schools, and lack of educational resources. He concludes by suggesting actions that can be implemented to deliver free education to all children.



Image: www.amazon.com

Where have all the textbooks gone?: toward sustainable provision of teaching and learning materials in Sub-Saharan Africa. Read, Tony. Washington, DC: The World Bank, 2015.

The study examines a wide range of issues involving the provision of teaching learning materials (TLM) in Africa including curriculum design, literacy and numeracy, language of instruction policy, procurement and distribution challenges, TLM development and production and their availability, management and usage in schools. It also looks at the role of information and communication technology (ICT) based TLMs and their availability as alternatives to hard copy textbooks. USAID staff may download this e-book from the [World Bank eLibrary](#).

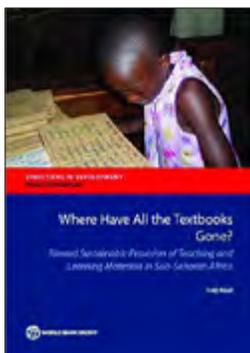


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GENDER EQUALITY AND WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT

No one will let her live: women's struggle for well-being in a Delhi slum. Snell-Rood, Claire. Oakland, CA: University of California Press, 2015.

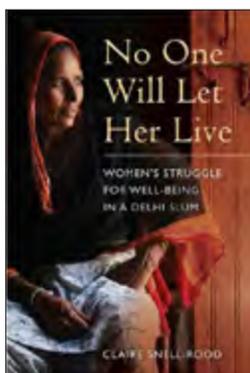


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Based on fieldwork with ten families, Snell-Rood observes how women navigate the inequalities that structure relationships in Delhi's slums. She notes how women foster inner well-being to confront poverty and unstable relationships that pose threats to their health. She also highlights how cultural strategies of resilience buoyed women's mental health and enabled them to set boundaries and maintain their sense of self in spite of their dependencies.

AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT

Environmental security in the Asia-Pacific.

Watson, Iain & Chandra Lal Pandey, editors. New York: Palgrave MacMillan, 2015.



Image: www.amazon.com

Focusing on both North-South and South-South relations, the contributors provide insights into climate change and climate change management issues through an exploration of the Asia Pacific region's environmental security practices. They examine geopolitical and geoeconomic dynamics that affect environmental security.

Case studies include ownership rights in resource-rich Indonesia, contradictory politics in New Zealand, green growth in Korea and Japan, and close examinations of large emitters China and India and small emitter Nepal.

The fight against hunger and malnutrition: the role of food, agriculture, and targeted policies.

Sahn, David E., editor. Oxford, UK: Oxford University Press, 2015.

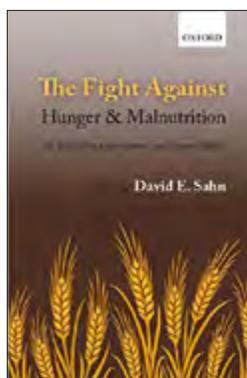


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Sahn offers practical advice on programs that target those at greatest risk of malnutrition and she unveils policies to promote a sustainable food and agricultural system. She addresses the role of smallholder farmers, concerns about genetically modified foods, increasing competition of food and energy sectors for agricultural output, the importance of micronutrient

deficiencies and chronic disease related to obesity, and sustainability of the agricultural system in the face of global warming.

The risk city: cities countering climate change: emerging planning theories and practices around the world. Jabareen, Yosef. New York: Springer, 2015.

Jabareen argues that climate change and its associated risks has created a need to revise current city planning methods. He notes that while many risk cities have produced plans that include social and political practices to reduce risk and risk possibilities, little has been done to assess their actual contributions. This book poses critical questions about the nature, vision, practices, and potential impact of these recent climate change-oriented plans.

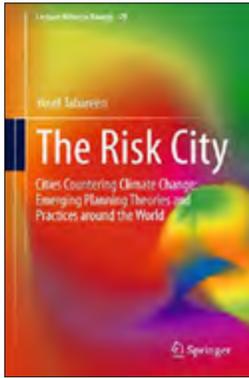


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From infrastructure to services: trends in monitoring sustainable water, sanitation and hygiene services. Schouten, Ton and Stef Smits, editors. Warwickshire, UK: Practical Action Publishing, 2015.

The contributors highlight the current trends and challenges in monitoring rural water and sanitation services. They reveal important breakthroughs such as ICT for monitoring sustainable service delivery, monitoring the finance needed for delivery, and monitoring for sanitation and hygiene. They also question if project monitoring emphasizes donor accountability over user accountability or if it is a necessary step to better national WASH sector monitoring.

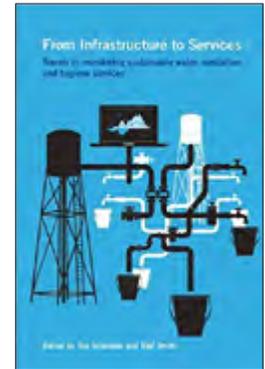


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HEALTH, NUTRITION & POPULATION

Coalitions of the well-being: how electoral rules and ethnic politics shape health policy in developing countries. Selway, Joel Sawat. New York: Cambridge University Press, 2015.

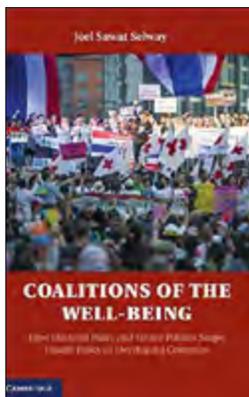


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Selway seeks to answer the question of why some developing countries have more efficient health systems and better health outcomes than others. He contends that in countries where ethnic groups are intermixed, proportional representation rules are worse for health care outcomes. Where ethnic groups are isolated, neither rule is superior. To support his claim he includes case studies from Thailand, Mauritius, Malaysia, Botswana, Burma, and Indonesia.

Maternal mortality, human rights and accountability. Hunt, Paul and Tony Gray, editors. New York: Routledge, 2013.

In context with the UN Human Rights Council maternal mortality and morbidity resolutions and Millennium Development Goal 5, this book identifies the human rights response to maternal mortality in relation to accountability. This includes monitoring, review, and redress at local, national, and international levels. The volume also contains conference papers and additional research publications that address the topic.

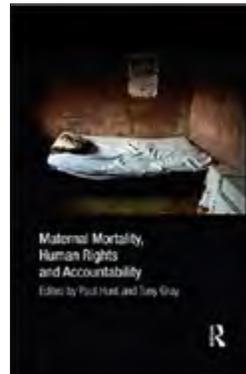


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Toward universal health coverage and equity in Latin America and the Caribbean: evidence from selected countries. Dmytraczenko, Tania and Gisele Almeida, editors. Washington, DC: The World Bank, 2015.

The report provides insights on different approaches and progress made by select LAC countries over the past twenty five years to reduce health inequalities and increase health coverage. It

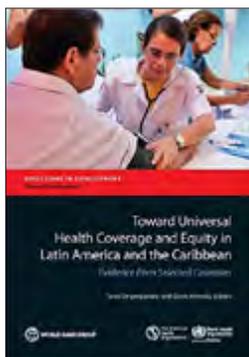


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reveals that countries have made meaningful progress toward universal health coverage, with increases in population coverage and access to health services, rises in public spending on health, and improved financial protections. USAID staff may download this e-book from the [World Bank eLibrary](#).

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

The powerhouse: inside the invention of a battery to save the world. LeVine, Steve. New York: Viking, 2015.

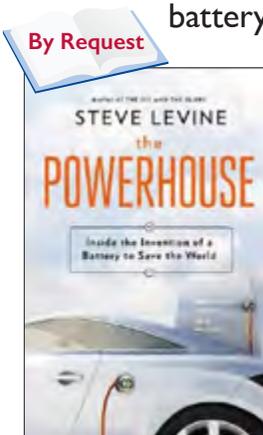


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LeVine, given two years access to the secure federal research facility Argonne National Laboratory, tells the story behind the global race to produce the advanced lithium-ion battery. Researchers from twenty countries are in pursuit of this economic innovation to relieve global warming worldwide and provide great economic growth for the country where the battery is invented.

CENTER FOR PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

ASIA

The Frangipani Hotel: fiction. Kupersmith, Violet. New York: Spiegel & Grau, 2014.

This collection of short stories has roots in the traditional Vietnamese folk tales told to the author by her grandmother. Through the narratives tied together by the lingering ghost of the Vietnam War, Kupersmith provides an exploration of Vietnamese culture, reflecting the immigrant experience as well as the lives of those who remained in the country.



Image: www.amazon.com

EUROPE & EURASIA

Havel: a life. Zantovsky, Michael. New York: Grove Press, 2014.

Zantovsky, Havel's former advisor and friend, documents Václav Havel's life on his journey from the theatrical stage to the world stage as political dissident, first president of the Czech Republic, and human rights activist. Zantovsky details Havel's lifelong perspective as an outcast beginning with his childhood in Prague, his career as a dramatist, his involvement in the Prague Spring, his leadership of Charter 77 and belief in the power of the powerless, and his role as a leader of the Velvet Revolution in 1989.

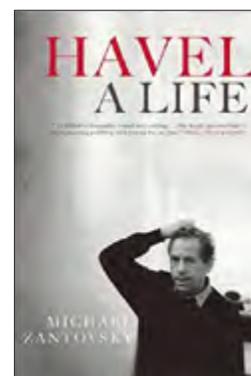


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MIDDLE EAST

The penguin's song. Daoud, Hassan. Booth, Marilyn, translator. San Francisco: City Life Books, 2014.

War has pushed the residents of the old city of Beirut to the surrounding hillsides. A physically deformed man, "The Penguin," lives with his mother and father in one of the "temporary" apartment buildings. His father longs for the shop he was forced to leave, while both he and The Penguin's mother worry about the future for their son who spends his time lost in old books and fantasizing about a young girl in the apartment below.



Image: www.amazon.com

Leaders eat last: why some teams pull together and others don't. Sinek, Simon. New York: Portfolio/Penguin, 2014.

Based on the biological principle that humans evolved to find food shelter, mates, and safety and that we thrived when we felt safe among our group, Sinek contends that this still holds true today in our modern environments. Using examples from the military, manufacturing, government, and investment banking, among others, Sinek contends that great organizations foster trust and cooperation because leaders build a sense of security within the team, distancing them from outside challenges.

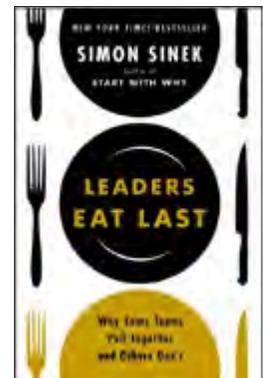


Image: www.amazon.com

MANAGEMENT AND CAREER DEVELOPMENT

Agile innovation: the revolutionary approach to accelerate success, inspire engagement, and ignite creativity. Morris, Langdon, Moses Ma, and Po Chi Wu, PhD. Hoboken, NJ: Wiley, 2014.

This book provides a toolkit of practical methods, case studies, and techniques to help build an innovative business culture. The authors detail how to accelerate the speed of the innovation process to achieve maximum results in as little time as possible, how to reduce innovation risk, and how to increase collaboration and engagement throughout an organization. They also provide insights into the creative processes behind break-through ideas and becoming an effective leader.

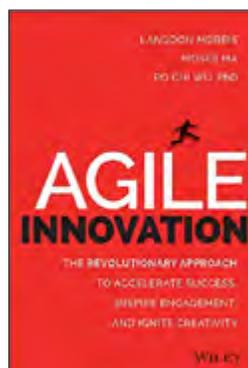


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USAID Library Electronic Resource Update

Columbia International Affairs Online (CIAO) is new and improved!

This comprehensive source for theory and research in international affairs contains a wide range of scholarship from 1991 onward that includes working papers from university research institutes, occasional papers series from NGOs, foundation-funded research projects, proceedings from conferences, books, journals and policy briefs.

In addition to a redesigned interface, some of the new features and additional content you will find on CIAO include:

- Improved search refinement features
- More video content and a CIAO YouTube page
- Live Twitter feed
- Full text e-books and many new contributors



<https://www.ciaonet.org>

For a current list of the USAID Library's Electronic Resources, visit:
<http://kscguides.usaid.gov>.

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

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