



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

# New This Month

April 2016

## AID AND DEVELOPMENT

### City of Thorns: nine lives in the world's largest refugee camp

Rawlence, Ben. New York: Picador, 2016.  
Rawlence combines storytelling with socio-political investigative journalism to illustrate what life is like for those who live in Dadaab, the world's largest refugee camp in Kenya. The stories of nine individuals provide a glimpse into the strange limbo of camp life and the wider political forces that keep the refugees trapped there.

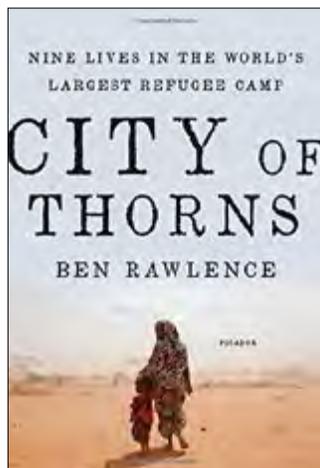


Image: Amazon

### Developmental evaluation exemplars: principles in practice

Patton, Michael Quinn, Kate McKegg and Nan Wehipeihana. New York: The Guilford Press, 2016.  
Developmental Evaluation (DE) has become recognized as a distinct and useful evaluation approach. This book presents the current state of DE by answering practical questions, presenting a synthesis of patterns and themes, and discussing essential practices. At the core of this book are twelve diverse case exemplars that exhibit how to engage real-world complexities and adapt to innovation and change. Chapter 11 discusses adapted developmental evaluation using USAID's People-to-People Reconciliation Fund Program.

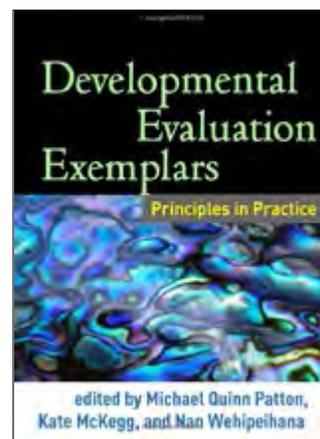


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## Development strategies and inter-group violence: insights on conflict sensitive development.

Ascher, William and Natalia Mirovitskaya. New York: Palgrave Macmillian, 2016.

This final volume in the Politics, Economics and Inclusive Development series uses case studies to assess the immediate reactions and long-term impacts of development strategies in terms of their probability to provoke or prevent intrastate violence. This book references the work of USAID.



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## The outcast majority: war, development, and youth in Africa.

Sommers, Marc. Athens, Georgia: The University of Georgia Press, 2015.

This book investigates youth exclusion and development in war-affected Africa. By discussing and contrasting the forces that shape the lives of African youth with

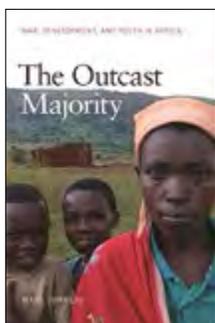


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the forces that shape international development aid enterprises, the author uncovers a large gap in priorities. This gap is addressed by proposing a framework that transforms established practices and empowers youth, thus making aid more inclusive, effective, and relevant. This book references the work of USAID.

## HISTORY AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS

### Africa's long road since independence: the many histories of the continent.

Somerville, Keith. London: Hurst & Co., 2015.

This account of Sub-Saharan Africa studies the histories and relationships involved in the complex development of an independent Africa from pre-colonial societies to the present. Somerville provides a narrative and analysis of political, military, economic, social developments and structures that shaped the continent. Geographical factors at the local, continental, and international levels are examined. The work concludes by drawing together essential themes of the flow of post-colonial African history.

## Georgia: a political history since independence.

Jones, Stephen. New York: I.B.Tauris & Co., 2015.

This thorough treatment of Georgia combines context and history in its exploration of the Georgian identity.

Part one relates the story from 1985 to 1995, and part two chronicles the problems and processes of transition since 1995. The book analyzes socioeconomic changes and policy since independence, and discusses how theoretical literature is connected to Georgia's own experience. It concludes with a discussion of the country's future.

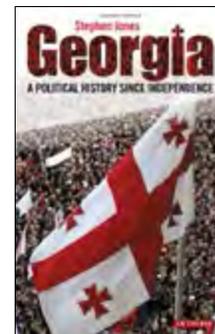


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## DEMOCRACY, HUMAN RIGHTS, AND GOVERNANCE

### Making sense of the Central African Republic.

Carayannis, Tatiana and Louisa Lombard. London: Zed Books, 2015.

This examination of the Central African Republic (CAR) provides an in-depth look into the country's recent turmoil and instability. Relationships and their historical and geographical underpinnings are emphasized. Internal and external dynamics are addressed and several chapters call attention to the structural and situational problems of humanitarianism, peacebuilding, and other diplomatic initiatives. The authors suggest that any endeavor to help the CAR should address the underlying causes of insecurity. This book references the work of USAID.

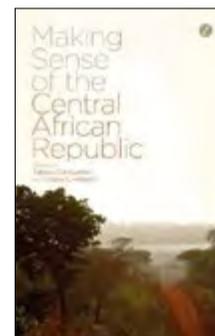


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### The new war on the poor: the production of insecurity in Latin America.

Gledhill, John. London: Zed Books, 2015

This work looks at what states do to people when they define them as a threat to the security of the rest of society. It also discusses why states not only fail to address threats to their citizens, but often compound them. Focusing primarily on Mexico and Brazil, Gledhill offers a critical analysis of the role of state in the production of insecurity and concludes by synthesizing the negative consequences.

## Quality peace: peacebuilding, victory, & world order.

Wallensteen, Peter. New York: Oxford University Press, 2015.

Wallensteen shares his understanding of settling conflicts and peacebuilding gleaned from more than 50 years of experience researching peace. This book deals with three types of post-conflict situations and the issues of security, dignity, and durability which are placed in world order and institutional perspectives. The final chapter draws conclusions for strategic peacebuilding and victory consolidation.

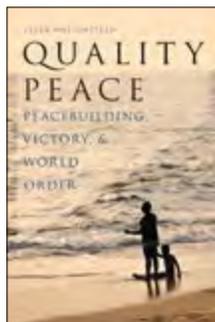


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## State failure in the modern world.

Iqbal, Zaryab and Harvey Starr. Stanford: Stanford University Press, 2016.

Why do states collapse? The authors seek to answer that question by first providing a conceptual and operational definition of state collapse. Next, they analyze the process of failure with special attention paid to causes, duration, recurrent failure, and consequences. The work concludes with implications for policy issues related to political and economic development, international organization intervention, foreign aid, development, and democracy.

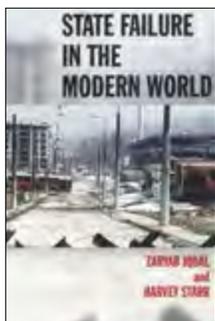


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## ECONOMIC GROWTH AND TRADE

### Can microfinance work? How to improve its ethical balance and effectiveness.

Sherratt, Lesley. New York: Oxford University Press, 2016.

Sherratt presents an ethical assessment of the microfinance industry. Based on this assessment she proposes several recommendations to improve the ethical balance of microfinance's practices by limiting the some of the harms it causes. Sherratt presents mechanisms for the voluntary implementation of these recommendations, but ultimately concludes that external regulation will likely be required. Chapter 6 includes a proposal to "development agencies that have funded microfinance in the past, with USAID and DFID in mind in particular."

## The economics of poverty: history, measurement, and policy.

Ravallion, Martin. New York: Oxford University Press, 2016.

How much poverty is there? Why does it exist? What can be done to eliminate it? Through the lens of economics, Ravallion addresses these questions in three parts. Part one traces the history of thought as it relates to poverty. Part two examines methodological and measurement issues, explaining how best to evaluate well-being, poverty, and inequality. Policy debates are addressed in part three. The book concludes by looking at the past progress and future challenges to reducing inequality and eliminating poverty.

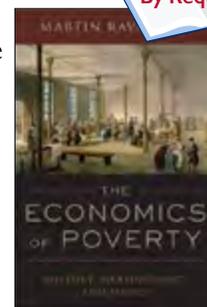


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## EDUCATION

### Education in a new South Africa: crisis and change.

Balfour, Robert J. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2015.

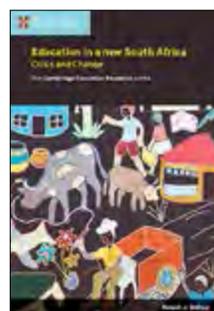


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Charting over twenty years of reforms in South Africa, Balfour describes the dilemmas and challenges affecting education. The author discusses impact of policy change and reform on schools, colleges, and universities, with particular emphasis places on gender, language, diversity, and funding.

### Low-performing students: why they fall behind and how to help them succeed.

PISA. Paris: OECD Publishing, 2016.

Poor performance at school has long-term consequences for both the individual and society. This book examines the phenomenon of low performance at both the individual and institutional level. The evidence provided can be used by policy makers, educators, parents, and students to take action and promote success. USAID staff can download the book from the [OECD iLibrary](#).



Image: OECD



## GENDER EQUALITY AND WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT

**Gender, development, and globalization: economics as if all people mattered.** Benería, Lourdes; Günseli Berik, and Maria S. Floro. New York, Routledge, 2016.

Written from a feminist economic perspective, this volume presents a theoretical, empirical, and historical analysis of the multiple gender dimensions of development, globalization, labor markets, and women's work since the 1970s. Different chapters emphasize the ways in which globalization and neoliberal policies have been shaping many aspects of development, the progress made in the field of gender and development, and the problems still remaining or unfolding anew.



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## AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT

**Adapting to climate uncertainty in African agriculture: narratives and knowledge politics.** Whitfield, Stephen. New York: Routledge, 2016.

Looking at developments that target smallholder agriculture in Africa, this book broadly attempts to question how different knowledge bases and narratives of change are constructed and win out over others. A variety of contrasting and contested narratives across knowledge systems are reviewed with a focus placed on social context and the evidence, values, assumptions, and politics that underpin them.

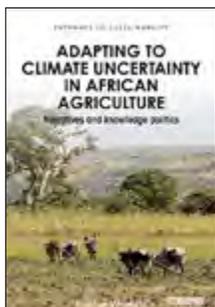


Image: OECD iLibrary

**Farm management practices to foster green growth(e-book from the OECD iLibrary).** OECD. Paris: OECD Publishing, 2016.

The efficient use of resources is at the heart of green growth strategies, which are needed to meet the global food demand in a sustainable way. Farm management practices with green growth potential are provided in this comprehensive review that includes technology and innovation led by both farmers and the scientific community. This book is available for download by USAID staff from the [OECD iLibrary](#).

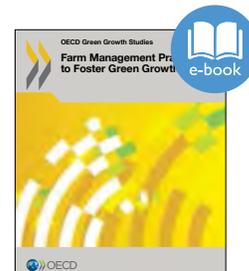


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**Inequality, democracy, and the environment.** Downey, Liam. New York: New York University Press, 2015.



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Downey uses case studies to support his argument that the world's social and environmental crises are a product of, and shaped by, organizational, institutional, and network-based inequality (OINB inequality) and elite-controlled organizational networks.

**Will Africa feed China?** Brautigam, Deborah. New York: Oxford University Press, 2015.

Deborah Brautigam challenges widely held beliefs about Chinese agricultural engagement in Africa exploring the evidence for and against these beliefs. Drawing on multiple methods of research, the author makes several key arguments regarding Chinese agricultural investments, and discusses lessons, rumors, and challenges in this field.



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## HEALTH, NUTRITION & POPULATION

### The health of populations: beyond medicine.

James, Jack E. London: Academic Press, 2016.

Focusing on the science of health, the harm of medicine, and how to achieve health, Jack James provides a synopsis of the challenges facing the health of populations. James argues that biomedicine needs to shift from being the primary approach in healthcare to a secondary or tertiary level approach behind that of preventative options. This book references the work of USAID.

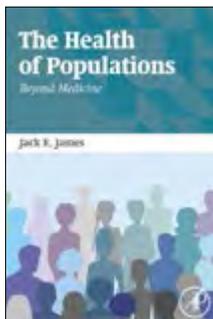


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### Healthcare policy in Africa: institutions and politics from colonialism to the present.

Gros, Jean-Germain. Lanham, Maryland: Rowman & Littlefield, 2016.

Using a variety of methods, this book analyzes healthcare markets and related policies in contemporary Africa,

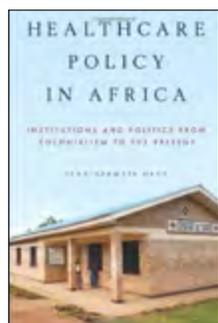


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discussing narratives, explications, intended and unintended outcomes, and providing critiques and recommendations. The author argues that certain conditions will have to be met in order for sustainable healthcare markets to exist in Africa. The work of USAID is referenced.

### Power, suffering and the struggle for dignity: human rights frameworks for health and why they matter.

Ely Yamin, Alicia. Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 2016.

The author aims to illustrate how human rights frameworks are relevant to decision makers and how human rights strategies can be adapted and expanded to produce social change and advance health. Using theory and personal examples the author analyzes the successes and challenges of using human rights frameworks for health. Demonstrating what can be learned from conceptualization to operation, the author presents recommendations about what is needed to effect transformative social change.

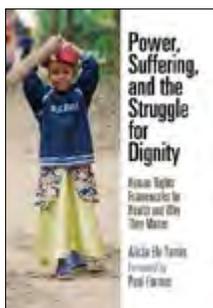


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## SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

### Storytelling with data: a data visualization guide for business professionals.

Nussbaumer Knaflic, Cole. Hoboken, New Jersey: John Wiley & Sons, Inc., 2015.

Grounded in theory and made accessible through real world examples *Storytelling with Data* goes beyond conventional tools teaching readers how to use data to create a narrative.

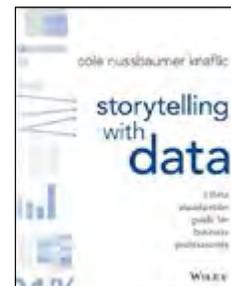


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## AFRICA

### Hiding in plain sight.

Farah, Nuruddin. New York: Penguin Books, 2014.

Dahaba and Salif are orphaned after their father, Aar, is killed in Mogadishu. Their Aunt Bella, a noted fashion photographer, leaves behind her life in Europe and

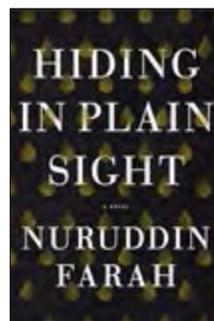


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resettles in Kenya to care for the children. Their mother, Valerie, who disappeared years ago, resurfaces to stake her claim on the children. Chaos and confusion ensues as these complex personalities intersect against a wider backdrop of religious, cultural, social, political disruption.

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## ASIA

### The narrow road the deep north.

Flanagan, Richard. New York: Vintage Books, 2013.

This work of historical fiction traces the life of 77-year-old Dorrigo Evans, an Australian surgeon, from World War II to the present. As a Japanese POW he struggled to save the men under his command as they worked on the Thai-Burma Death Railway. Asked to write an introduction to a collection of sketches by a fellow service member, Dorrigo reflects on his own life with stories of war, death, guilt, transcendence, family, and love.

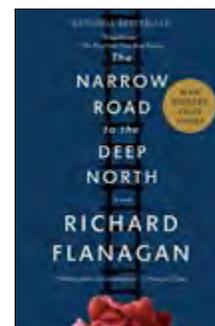


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## MIDDLE EAST

**Street of thieves.** Mathias, Énard. New York: Open Letter, 2014

Set against the backdrop of Arab Spring and the collapse of the European economy this coming-of-age tale about a young man looking for a home explores politics, freedom, and ideology. Lakhdar, the narrator, has been exiled from his family in Morocco and eventually finds himself on the streets of Barcelona. After reuniting with a childhood friend, Bassam, Lakhdar's concern for him eventually leads to tragedy.



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## MANAGEMENT AND CAREER DEVELOPMENT

**The culture engine: a framework for driving results, inspiring your employees, and transforming your workplace.** Edmonds, S. Chris. Hoboken: John Wiley & Sons, 2014.

Culture drives every aspect of an organization's day-to-day affairs and is linked to performance outcomes. Edmonds shows how to develop a high-performing, value-aligned culture through the creation and implementation of an organizational constitution, a formal document that states the guiding principles and behaviors of an institution. This book defines the framework, provides instructions for developing the document, and concludes with several chapters addressing implementation, feedback, and management.

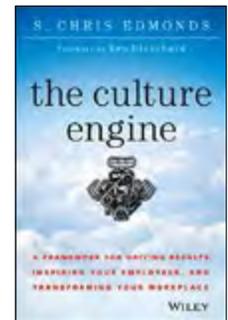


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**The Gen Z effect: the six forces shaping the future of business.** Koulopoulos, Thomas and Dan Keldsen. Brookline, Massachusetts: Bibliomotion, Inc., 2014.

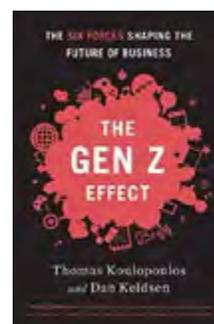


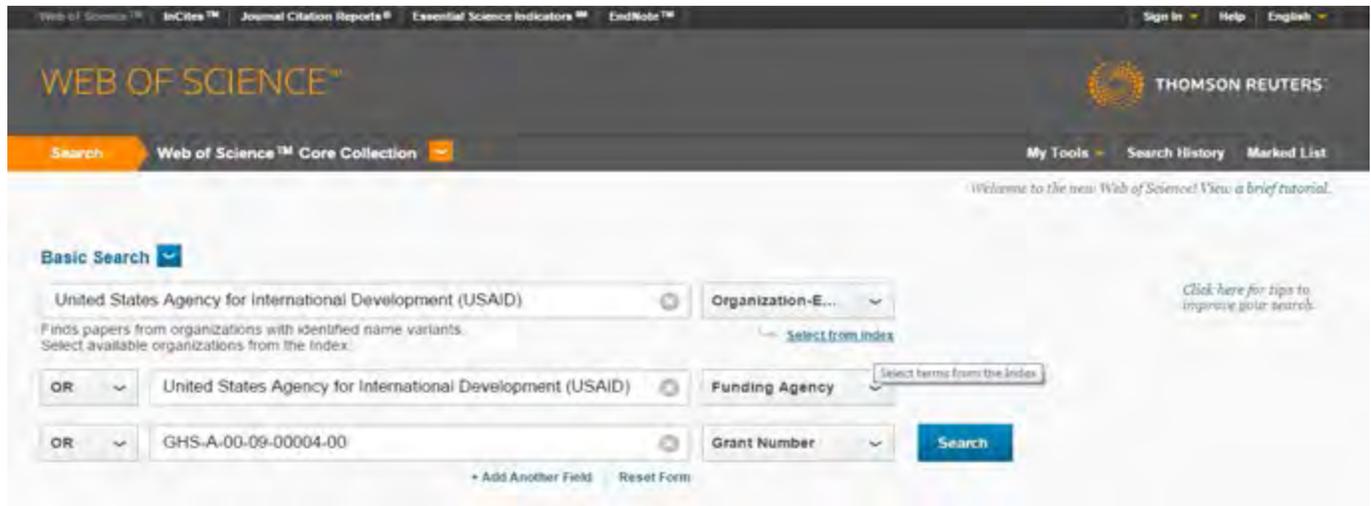
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The purpose of the Gen Z effect is to describe the various forces shaping the future, in order to understand them and their impacts. Koulopoulos and Keldsen provide insights and frameworks for leveraging these forces to build more successful organizations.



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