



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

NEW THIS MONTH

NOVEMBER 2010

INSIDE NTM

- Aid and Development
- Agriculture and Environment
- Democracy and Governance
- Economic Growth and Trade
- Health, Nutrition, and Population

NEW FROM THE LEARNING RESOURCES CENTER



New travel, cultural, and management materials



By request books are titles which USAID employees have suggested for purchase. Want to see a particular item at the library? Let us know by e-mailing ksc@usaid.gov.

NEW TITLES IN THE USAID KNOWLEDGE SERVICES CENTER

AID AND DEVELOPMENT

Breaking the poverty cycle: the human basis for sustainable development. Pick, Susan and Jenna Sirkin. New York: Oxford University Press, 2010.

The authors use the civil society organization Mexican Institute of Family and Population Research (IMIFAP) as an example of how development on an individual level contributes to sustainable development at the larger level. IMIFAP is described as being based on Amartya Sen's theories of human development. The authors examine the context, framework, and strategies of the IMIFAP program.

The crisis caravan: what's wrong with humanitarian aid? Polman, Linda. New York: Metropolitan Books, 2010.

Polman bases this account of problems in international humanitarian aid on her field journalism. She investigates unintended consequences of aid, claiming that warlords manipulate situations for their own gain. Polman also says that neutrality of humanitarian organizations (especially NGOs) can sometimes fuel conflicts and make conditions worse for those in need.

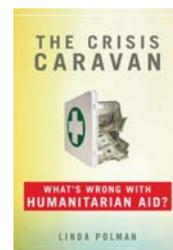


Image from www.amazon.com

Delivering aid differently: lessons from the field. Fengler, Wolfgang and Homi Kharas, editors. Washington, DC: Brookings Institution Press, 2010.

This work uses case studies to examine lessons learned in aid and development. The authors, who are citizens of the countries about which they write, suggest how aid may be more effectively managed by recipient countries. Case studies about Pakistan, Indonesia, Tajikistan, Ethiopia, and Kenya are included.

DISCLAIMER

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Diaspora, development and democracy. Kapur, Devesh. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2010.

Kapur examines the political, economic, and social impacts of emigration on India. He uses empirical data to depict the migration of skilled workers from India and issues such as education, mobility, and remittances.

AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT



Governing Africa's forests in a globalized world. German, Laura, Alain Karsenty, and Anne-Marie Tiani, editors. Sterling, VA: Earthscan, 2010.

This volume addresses decentralization of forest governance in Africa. Authors discuss the impact of such decentralization on livelihoods, sustainable management, international trade, and governance reforms.

Water wisdom: preparing the groundwork for cooperative and sustainable water management in the Middle East. Tal, Alon and Alfred Rabbo, editors. New Brunswick, NJ: Rutgers University Press, 2010.

The essays in this volume stem from a 2008 conference which brought together Israeli and Palestinian water experts to discuss possible consensus on water conflicts. Essays from both viewpoints are presented for a number of water-related topics such as: groundwater management, drinking water standards, legislation, and cooperative water management strategies. Each section includes an editor's summary which further analyzes the issue.

DEMOCRACY AND GOVERNANCE



Crescent and dove: peace and conflict resolution in Islam. Huda, Qamar-ul, editor. Washington, DC: United States Institute of Peace Press, 2010.

This collection of essays revolves around Muslim peacebuilding in historical and contemporary contexts. The authors examine elements which contribute to successful conflict resolution between Islamic parties, emphasizing that mitigation should incorporate Muslim leaders and take place within an Islamic structure.



The dilemmas of statebuilding: confronting the contradictions of postwar peace operations. Paris, Roland and Timothy Sisk, editors. New York: Routledge, 2009.

The essays in this volume explore contradictions and problems in post-conflict statebuilding. The volume is divided into sections about security, political economy, institutional design, and autonomy. Case studies from countries like Afghanistan, Iraq, Kosovo, and Cambodia are included.

Statebuilding and justice reform: post-conflict reconstruction in Afghanistan. Tondini, Matteo. New York: Routledge, 2010.

Tondini discusses justice reform in Afghanistan since 2001. The author begins by providing an overview of justice sector reform in post-conflict societies. He discusses Afghanistan's justice system before the U.S. intervention in 2001 and then delves into issues of reform.



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He especially focuses on the role of international actors and their interaction with local stakeholders.



The ultimate weapon is no weapon: human security and the new rules of war and peace.

Beebe, Shannon and Mary Kaldor. New York: Public Affairs, 2010.

The authors claim that traditional military tactics do not effectively achieve security. They describe their notion of human security—which involves attention to the fundamental needs of all citizens—and propose that military, civilian, and NGO organizations overhaul their practices in order to better meet the needs of the people they aim to protect. Recent conflicts in Africa, Afghanistan, and Iraq are used as case studies to prove the authors' thesis.

ECONOMIC GROWTH AND TRADE

Artisans and fair trade: crafting development. Littrell, Mary and Marsha Dickson. Sterling, VA: Kumarian Press, 2010.

This is a quantitative and qualitative study of an apparel group called “Marketplace: Handwork of India.” The authors use the group to examine how fair trade artisans contribute to sustainable development.



Sovereign wealth funds: threat or salvation? Truman, Edwin M. Washington, DC: Petersen Institute for International Economics, 2010.

The author of this report describes sovereign wealth funds (SWFs) as sizeable pools of government-owned funds which often stem from excess foreign exchange reserves or natural resource exports. He examines the sources of SWFs and then delves into issues pertaining to their growth, regulations, and policies in the global market.

HEALTH, NUTRITION, AND POPULATION

The fever: how malaria has ruled humankind for 500,000 years. Shah, Sonia. New York: Sarah Crichton Books, 2010.

Journalist Sonia Shah investigates the history of malaria and initiatives to stop its spread. She questions why, considering scientific advances, the disease continues to strike millions of people per year. She also seeks to find out why there are not more efforts to eradicate malaria.



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Turning the world upside down: the search for global health in the 21st century. Crisp, Nigel. London: The Royal Society of Medicine Press, 2010.

Crisp proposes a new paradigm of cooperation for global health. He claims that health workers, their knowledge, and ideas often migrate from poorer to richer countries. In order to best facilitate global health, he proposes that there should be a more even exchange between Western medicine and the practices and innovation of those in developing countries.

NEW @ THE KSC

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LEARNING RESOURCES CENTER

Travel, Cultural, and Management
Materials Available from

Office of Human Resources OHR/TE

AFRICA

Swallow: a novel. Atta, Sefi. Northampton, MA: Interlink Books, 2010.

Roommates Tolani and Rose struggle with supporting themselves in 1980's Nigeria. They have difficulty keeping legitimate employment during the government's anticorruption campaign, referred to as the "War Against Indiscipline." Tolani, who works as a secretary in the government, is tempted by Rose to become involved in drug trafficking. She weighs the benefits of a handsome income with her morality.

ASIA

The Naga's journey: a novel. Bunnag, Tew. Bangkok: Orchid Press, 2007.

Three people from very different backgrounds become connected due to their relationships with a recently deceased public figure in Bangkok. Their new connection forces each person to confront his or her issues with the dead man. The mythical Naga creature, symbolizing the powerful and potentially destructive nature of water, runs throughout the story. The novel addresses issues in Thailand like environment and corruption.

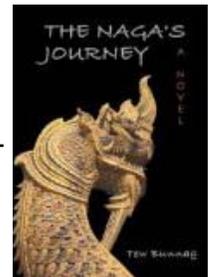


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No space for further burials. Gauhar, Feryal Ali. New York: Akashic Books, 2010.

This novel is narrated by a captured member of the U.S. Army in Afghanistan. She is thrown into an asylum and is forced to deal with various patients and outcasts as war continues outside the compound's walls. The novel addresses Afghanistan's history of war and attempts to convey the hardships of war on the people of Afghanistan.

When things get dark: a Mongolian winter's tale. Davis, Matthew. New York: St. Martin's Press, 2010.

Davis intertwines Mongolian history with his own experiences living and teaching in the country. Staying in a Mongolian ger, or tent, the author came to know the local culture through observing and listening to stories. He recounts the mood induced by dark, seven-month winters, which propelled him into a world of alcoholism and violence—behavior he claims is prevalent on the steppe.

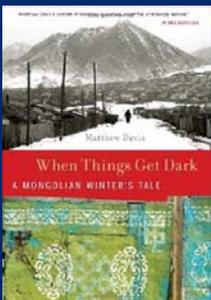


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EUROPE AND EURASIA

The Caucasus: an introduction. De Waal, Thomas. New York: Oxford University Press, 2010.

This volume introduces the South Caucasus—Armenia, Azerbaijan, and Georgia. The author particularly focuses on events and local dynamics in the region from the fall of the Soviet Union to 2008. Topics include energy politics and Russia's role in the South Caucasus.

The colour revolutions in the former Soviet Republics: successes and failures. Ó Beacháin, Donnacha and Abel Polese, 2010. New York: Routledge, 2010.

As the editors describe, the color revolutions were nonviolent protests which were geared towards overthrowing authoritarian regimes in the former Soviet Republics. The essays in this collection examine why some revolutions were successful—like the Orange Revolution in the Ukraine and the Rose Revolution in Georgia—while other movements were not. They analyze the implications of revolutions across the region and speculate why a revolution did not occur in Russia.



Image from
www.amazon.com

The House of Attila. Hasler, Ernie. Brighton: The Book Guild, 2010.

Orphaned and displaced siblings Nico and Maria are Serbian teenagers in the midst of the 1992 Balkan conflict. They are separated by traffickers and forced to work for local gang enterprises. Despite their conditions, Nico and Maria do not stop believing that they will someday find each other in a peaceful Serbia.

LATIN AMERICA AND CARIBBEAN

The Eastern stars: how baseball changed the Dominican town of San Pedro de Macorís. Kurlansky, Mark. New York: Riverhead Books, 2010.

The author claims that one in six major league baseball players in the United States is from San Pedro. He examines culture and poverty in San Pedro, pointing out that the town's livelihood is mostly reliant on baseball and the sugar industry. He discusses the dream of "making it big" in baseball, what the quest entails, and what success in the major leagues means for athletes and their relatives in the Dominican Republic.



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No place for heroes: a novel. Restrepo, Laura. Ernesto Mestre-Reed, trans. New York: Doubleday, 2010.

Lorenza falls in love with a fellow rebel during Argentina's "Dirty War" and has a child. After living in Colombia for twenty years, she returns to Buenos Aires with her son, Mateo, to search for his father. Lorenza and Mateo, divided by generational differences, drive each other crazy during the adventure. They eventually come to understand one another.

MIDDLE EAST

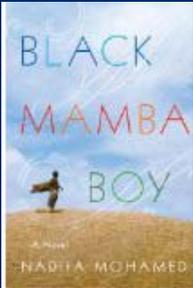


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Black mamba boy: a novel. Mohamed, Nadifa. New York: Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 2010.

Jama is a market boy in 1930s Yemen. Although he must sometimes scavenge for food, Jama and his friends find life in the town to be exciting. His world changes upon the unexpected death of his mother. He takes his mother's small life savings and embarks on an adventurous journey through Eritrea, Sudan, Egypt, Somalia, and Palestine to find his father.

Children of jihad: a young American's travels among the youth of the Middle East. Cohen, Jared. New York: Gotham Books, 2007.

Cohen explains his travels in the Middle East to research the lives of Middle Eastern youth. He tells about his trips to Iran, Lebanon, Syria, Iraq, and what he discovered about youth perspectives, concerns, and attitudes in the region. The author portrays young people's viewpoints on topics such as fundamentalism, technology, and the West.

Leila: the weighted silence of memory. Neff, Heather. Charleston, SC: Booksurge, 2009.

Twelve-year-old Leila lives with her family in Morocco's Atlas Mountains. She envisions adulthood and hopes to marry well within her village. Leila is taken one night as payment for her father's debts and sold into a brothel. After being exploited for several years, she meets two women who encourage her to escape.

Zubaida's window: a novel of Iraqi exile. Al-Qazwini, Iqbal. Azza El Kholy and Amira Nowaira, trans. New York: Feminist Press, 2008.

Zubaida, who currently lives in Berlin, watches the events of the U.S. "shock and awe" invasion of her native Baghdad on television. The events, surreal and horrifying, propel her into a state of nostalgia and longing for the Iraq she knows and loves.

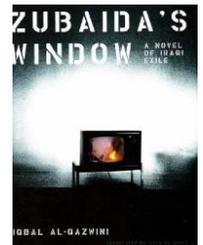


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INNOVATION

Business innovation for dummies. Hiam, Alexander. Hoboken, NJ: Wiley, 2010.

This volume about innovation in organizations emphasizes creativity as the driver of change. The author describes how to go about harnessing creativity and implementing new ideas to improve the operations and successes of institutions.

The jazz process: collaboration, innovation, and agility. Cho, Adrian. Upper Saddle River, NJ: Addison-Wesley, 2010.

The author uses the collaboration of jazz musicians to demonstrate how cooperation can bring about meaningful change. He emphasizes how teams may work together to plan and execute innovation. The book presents principles of teamwork and a framework for execution.

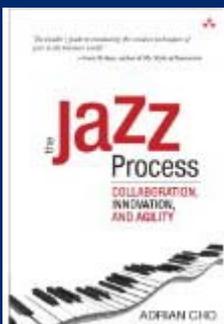


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The power of unreasonable people: how social entrepreneurs create markets that change the world. Elkington, John and Pamela Hartigan. Boston: Harvard University Press, 2008.

This book discusses how social entrepreneurs use innovative business practices to change markets and therefore improve the lives of people across the globe. The authors describe why and how “pioneers” go about revolutionizing value chains and business designs. Social enterprises like Brazil’s Social Stock Exchange, One Laptop for Child in the U.S., and the Aravind Eye Care System in India are discussed.

Stoking your innovation bonfire: a roadmap to a sustainable culture of ingenuity and purpose. Kelley, Braden. Hoboken, NJ: Wiley, 2010.

Kelley identifies common roadblocks to innovation and explains how to identify and overcome such barriers. He explains how aspects of an organization—like its vision, strategy, and organizational culture—get in the way of creativity and implementing new practices.



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KNOWLEDGE MANAGEMENT

The spatial humanities: GIS and the future of humanities scholarship. Bodenhamer, David, John Corrigan, and Trevor Harris, editors. Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 2010.

This volume explores how geographic information systems (GIS) may be applied to scholarship in the humanities. The papers included discuss current use of the “spatial humanities” and speculate about how to develop future applications. Technology like animated maps, multimedia GIS, and the Geospatial Semantic Web are discussed.



Congo in four acts. Icarus Films, 2009.

This DVD includes four short documentaries about different issues in the DRC. Topics address violence against women, the hospital system, inadequate infrastructure in Kinshasa, and a town dealing with the toxic aftermath of a mine.

Disco and atomic war. Icarus Films, 2009.

People in 1980’s Estonia are not exposed to outside media or ideas, as the country is still under the control of the Soviet Union. Life changes for those living in the capital of Tallinn when a Finland television signal reaches across the border. Western culture seeps into everyday Tallinn life when citizens begin to adopt what they see on TV; they begin to act and dress differently, and they discover disco.

For the best and for the onion! Icarus Films, 2008.

The livelihoods of many in Galmi, Niger rely on their prized onions. This documentary follows a harvest season and the story of an engaged couple whose wedding depends on a lucrative harvest. Salamatou wishes to marry Adamou, however her father continues to push the wedding back because he cannot afford to fund an appropriate event. The couple comes up with a plan to expedite their wedding.



Image from
www.icarusfilms.com

The Koran: the origins of the book. Icarus Films, 2009.

The filmmaker examines the history of the Koran, especially recent scientific discoveries regarding different versions of the Koran and its age. The film also addresses Muslim tradition.

Song of the soul: stories of hospice in South Africa. Icarus Films, 2010.

Five women provide hospice care in a handful of South African villages. The documentary depicts compassion and hope, as well as problems of poverty, causes of death in South Africa, and the many ways in which communities are affected by the deaths of their members.



Image from
www.hbo.com

Which way home. Bullfrog Films, 2009.

This documentary about international migration follows children as they single-handedly try to migrate from Mexico to the United States. Their journeys rely on a freight train dubbed “The Beast.”

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Travel Guides	4 weeks	10 weeks
Language Materials	4 weeks	10 weeks
Management Training Materials	4 weeks	10 weeks

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