



New This Month

From the USAID Knowledge Services Center

NEW THIS MONTH

AID AND DEVELOPMENT

The big truck that went by: how the world came to save Haiti and left behind a disaster. Katz, Jonathan M. New York: Palgrave, 2013.

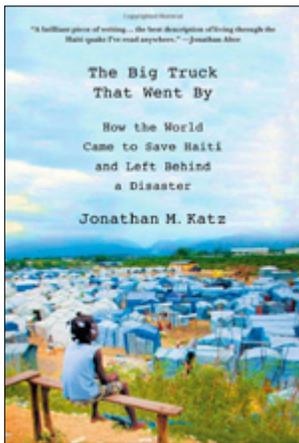


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In this book, Katz, a reporter living in Haiti at the time of the 2010 earthquake, combines personal anecdotes and Haitian history with in-depth reporting to show why, three years later, Haiti has made little progress. He critiques foreign aid and investigates why so little of the millions of dollars pledged have reached the Haitian people. The role of aid organizations like USAID is also explored.

Budget support: conditional results. Dijkstra, Geske, Antonie de Kemp, and Denise Bergkamp. The Hague, Netherlands: Ministry of Foreign Affairs, 2012.

This book evaluates over 10 years of budget support by the Dutch government to 23 developing nations. Authors conclude that budget support has helped improve access to education and health care and that it is an effective instrument if the donor and recipient agree on the main policy and expenditure priorities.

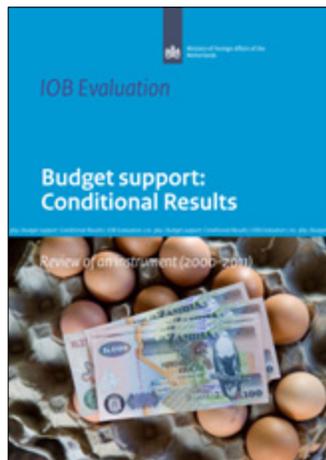


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INSIDE

[Aid and Development](#)

[Agriculture and Environment](#)

[Democracy, Governance & Human Rights](#)

[Economic Growth and Trade](#)

[Education](#)

[Evaluation](#)

[Geo-Spatial Information Systems](#)

[Health, Nutrition and Population](#)



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 emailing KSC@usaid.gov

Development challenges confronting Pakistan.

Weis, Anita and Saba Gul Khattak, editors. Sterling, VA: Kumarian Press, 2013.

This volume investigates the structural barriers that have a negative impact on Pakistan's ability to eliminate poverty, promote social justice, and implement policies to promote equity. Topics include economic growth, the legal and political systems, population policy and security.

Indigenous Peoples, Poverty, and Development.

Hall, Gillette H., and Harry Anthony Patrinos, editors. Cambridge, MA: Cambridge University Press, 2012.

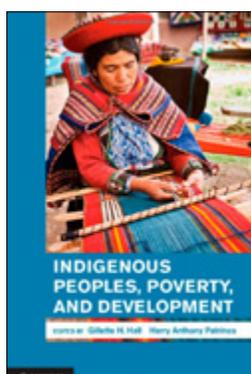


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The book provides a cross-country assessment of poverty and socioeconomic indicators for indigenous peoples in Asia, Africa and Latin America. While there has been some progress in Asia, indigenous peoples worldwide continue to suffer from higher poverty, lower education, and a greater incidence of disease and discrimination than other groups.

The future: six drivers of global change.

Gore, Al. New York: Random House, 2013.

In this volume Gore analyzes six drivers of global change: economic globalization, the digital revolution and the Internet, the shift in the balance of global power, unsustainable growth and consumption, the rise of biotechnology, and climate change. He outlines how these forces are converging and interacting, where they are taking us, and how we can best affect the way these changes unfold.

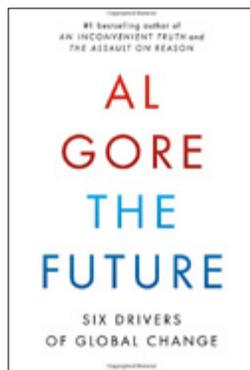


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Time to listen: hearing people on the receiving end of international aid.

Anderson, Mary B., Dayna Brown and Isabella Jean. Cambridge, MA: CDA Collaborative Learning Projects, 2012.



This book documents the views of over 6,000 people who have received, provided or observed international assistance in 20 developing countries. It shows that recipients want smarter aid, not necessarily more aid and that in order for aid to work as intended, donor agencies need to understand the local context and involve people whose lives will be affected. USAID staff participated in the project but individuals are not named in the book.

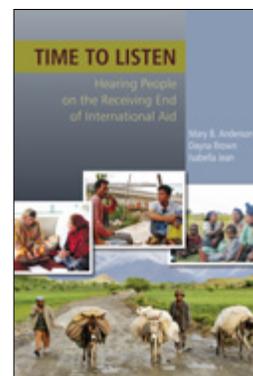


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Treating the field as a lab: a basic guide to conducting economics experiments for policymaking.

Viceisza, Angelino, C.G. Washington, DC: International Food Policy Research Institute, 2012.

This volume presents 19 basic principles for conducting field experiments in developing countries. Viceisza provides examples of lab-like experiments, explains their rationale and methods, and discusses the role of game theory.

AGRICULTURE & ENVIRONMENT

2012 Global food policy report.

Washington, DC: International Food Policy Research Institute, 2013.

This report, published annually by IFPRI, provides an in-depth look at major food policy developments, events and emerging issues. Topics include productivity, sustainable agriculture, the gender gap, employment for youth and subsidies. A number of food policy indicator tables are included.

2012 Global hunger index: the challenge of hunger.

Von Oppeln, Constanze, et al., editors. Washington, DC: International Food Policy Research Institute, 2012.



Image from www.ifpri.org

The Global Hunger Index (GHI), calculated every year by IFPRI, is designed to measure and track hunger globally and by region and country. This report contains the GHI for every developing country as well as a discussion on how to ensure food security under conditions of water, land, and energy stress.

Achieving water security: lessons from research in water supply, sanitation, and hygiene in Ethiopia.

Calow, Roger, Eva Ludi, and Josephine Tucker, editors. Warwickshire, UK: Practical Action Publishing, 2013.

This book is the product of a five year research program on water security in Ethiopia. Authors examine water policy, rural WASH services and the effect of climate change on water management. Contributors conclude that water scarcity in Africa has its root causes in governance, financing, and access, rather than water availability.

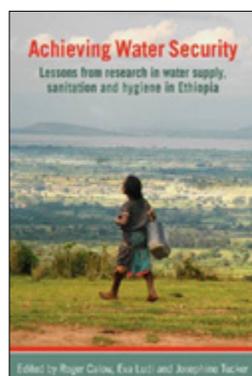


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A review of the national biofuel policy in India: a critique of the need to promote alternative feedstocks.

Basavaraj, G., et al. Patancheru, India: International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics, 2012.

This paper highlights the features of India's National Biofuel Policy and discusses how it influences the economic viability of ethanol production in the country. The option of augmenting bioethanol production using alternative feedstocks is also explored.

Assessing and restoring natural resources in post-conflict peacebuilding.

Jensen, David and Steve Lonergan, editors. New York: Earthscan, 2012.

In this volume contributors evaluate post-conflict environmental assessments and examine the environmental restoration, remediation and reconstruction projects taking place in over twenty countries. A chapter assessing USAID's approach at mitigating the environmental impacts of post-conflict assistance is included.

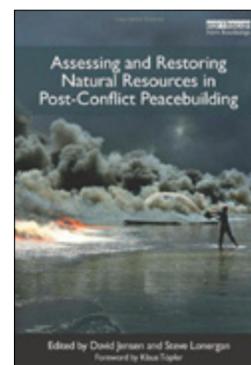


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Conservation planning: shaping the future.

Craighead, F. Lance and Charles L. Convis Jr., editors. Redlands, CA: Esri Press, 2013.

 This volume discusses the steps necessary to create a conservation plan that will maintain or enhance biodiversity and ecosystem structure while accommodating human-oriented land uses. It outlines an approach using easily accessible computer-based tools and procedures, along with guidelines focused on key natural species as indicators of biological integrity and complexity.

The global farms race: land grabs, agricultural investment, and the scramble for food security.

Kugelman, Michael and Susan L. Levenstein, editors. Washington, DC: Island Press, 2013.

This book provides an analysis of the looming food crisis and the implications of large-scale land acquisition on investors, host countries, and the world as a whole. Contributors conclude that while the topic of foreign land investment is polarizing, the developing world is in need of more investment in agriculture to alleviate food insecurity.

The politics of land and food scarcity. De Castro, Paolo, editor. New York: Earthscan, 2013.

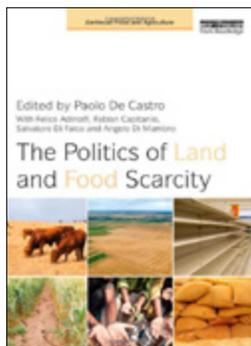


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The contributors to this volume propose that decreasing farm productivity, increasing population and new dietary styles have led to a new era of food scarcity. Topics discussed include the new strategic value of land as a resource, land-grabbing and the far-reaching changes affecting the structure of food markets.

Restoration agriculture: real-world permaculture for farmers. Shepard, Mark. Austin, TX: Acres USA: 2013.

Most people in the world obtain the majority of their calories as a direct result of “annual” agriculture – the cultivation of plants that are grown for one season, produce seeds and then die. In this volume Shepard outlines systems that can be used to sustainably produce staple crops using perennial agricultural methods that improve the quality of the environment.

The state of the world’s land and water resources for food and agriculture: managing systems at risk. Food and Agriculture Organization. New York: Earthscan, 2012.



This report from the FAO focuses on the topic of

land and water for crops and the production responses needed to meet demand. It assesses the potential of the world’s land and water resources to increase productivity and examines the risks and tradeoffs of a number of options to manage these resources without harming the environment.

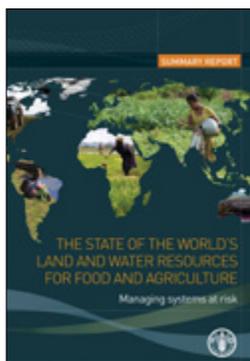


Image from www.fao.org

Strategies and priorities for African agriculture: economywide perspectives from country studies. Thurlow, James, Samuel Benin, Shenggen Fan and Xinshen Diao, editors. Washington, DC: International Food Policy Research Institute, 2012.

Based on 10 country studies, this book examines the potential of agriculture to contribute to national growth and poverty reduction and evaluates the costs of accelerating agricultural growth. Findings indicate that improving agriculture’s performance is essential to achieving pro-poor growth and this growth will be difficult to achieve without expanding staple food crop and livestock production.

Zimbabwe takes back its land. Hanlon, Joseph, Jeannette Manjengwa, and Teresa Smart. Sterling, VA: Kumarian Press, 2013.

Essays in this volume discuss the history of land reform in Zimbabwe and the ideologically-driven, and sometimes racist, myths concerning the ability of the black community to farm and manage restituted land efficiently. An assessment of the economic and social policy implications of the new smaller farms owned by the black community is also presented.

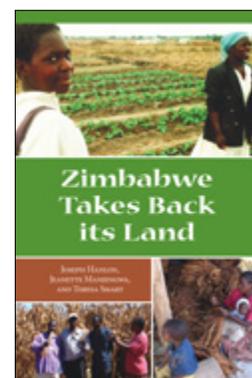


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DEMOCRACY, GOVERNANCE & HUMAN RIGHTS

Attacks on the press: journalism on the world’s front lines. Committee to Protect Journalists. Hoboken, N.J.: Wiley, 2013.

This annual report provides a global assessment of press freedoms, anti-press violations and emerging threats to journalists. Regional data and snapshots of over 50 countries plus thematic essays by leading journalists are included.

A culture of corruption: everyday deception and popular discontent in Nigeria. Jordan Smith, Daniel. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press, 2007.



In this book Smith, who spent a decade of living and working in Nigeria, discusses the relationship between culture and corruption in Africa's most populous country. He answers the question of how ordinary Nigerians, who see corruption at work in every aspect of daily life, can be active participants as well as principal critics of the practice.

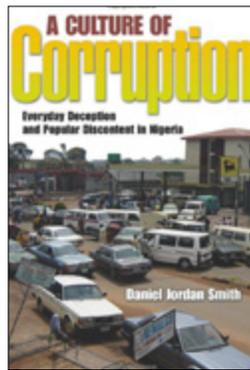


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In the wake of war: democratization and internal armed conflict in Latin America. Arnson, Cynthia J., editor. Washington, DC: Woodrow Wilson Center Press, 2012.



Essays in this volume address internal armed conflict and its relationship to postwar democratization in Latin America with a focus on Colombia, El Salvador, Guatemala, Haiti, Mexico, Nicaragua and Peru. Contributors conclude that a history of political exclusion motivated armed actors and fueled wars that, in turn, limited the ability of the government to deliver basic services and weakened state institutions.

Life and death matters: human rights, environment, and social justice, 2nd edition. Johnston, Barbara Rose, editor. Walnut Creek, CA: Left Coast Press, 2011.



This book examines human rights abuses and social injustices that have originated from biological, geographical, sociological and nuclear environmental disasters. It presents 18 case studies based on field research in the Americas, Europe, Asia, and Africa.

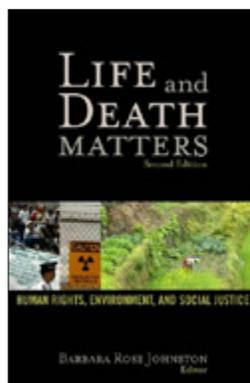


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Opting out of war: strategies to prevent violent conflict. Anderson, Mary B. and Marshall Wallace. Boulder, CO: Lynne Rienner Publishers, 2013.

The authors examine how communities in the midst of war develop strategies to avoid participation in surrounding violence. They present 13 case studies of communities around the world who decided to avoid conflict and exempt themselves from war.

Pakistan on the brink: the future of America, Pakistan, and Afghanistan. Rashid, Ahmed. New York: Viking, 2012.

Rashid examines the future of Pakistan and depicts a nation in crisis led by political and military leaders that have shown neither the courage nor the will to carry out major reforms. He asserts that there is a complex syndicate of jihadi terrorists operating today in Pakistan and Afghanistan and that the Obama administration has been ineffective in the region.

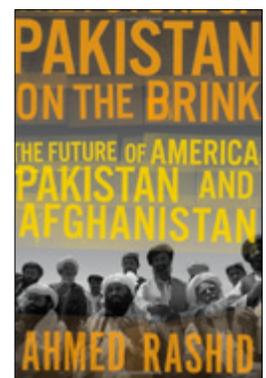


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The performance of nations. Kugler, Jacek and Ronald L. Tammen, editors. Lanham, MD: Rowman & Littlefield, 2012.



This book, the result of a five year effort by a number of scholars, attempts to create an indicator that measures the effectiveness of political systems on a national, subnational and local level. The effect of political performance on conflict, European integration, migration and oil economies is explored.

ECONOMIC GROWTH AND TRADE

Globalization from below: the world's other economy.

Mathews, Gordon, Gustavo Lins Ribeiro, Carlos Alba Vega, editors. New York: Routledge, 2012.

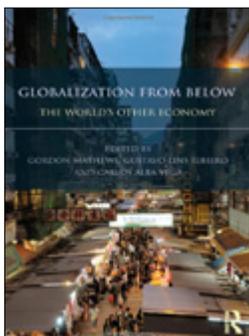


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This book explores “globalization from below,” the transnational flow of people and goods involving relatively small amounts of capital and informal transactions often associated with the developing world.

Authors examine the new Silk Road, street hawking in Calcutta and the pirating of CDs in Mexico.

Macroeconomics and the environment: essays on green accounting.

El Serafy, Salah. Northampton, MA: Edward Elgar, 2013.



In this volume El Serafy argues the case for greening the conventional estimates of national income with the aim of obtaining more meaningful measurements for monitoring economic performance and guiding economic policy. Chapters provide a history of green accounting and describe methodological tools including the “El Serafy Method.”

Making breakthrough innovation happen: how 11 Indians pulled off the impossible.

Munshi, Porus. Noida, Uttar Pradesh, India: Collins Business, 2009.

This book is the result of a six year project with the aim of identifying breakthrough innovations within Indian companies and organizations and uncovering cutting-edge insights into what these innovators did differently to make the impossible happen. Eleven case studies from among a number of industries are included.



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Small boats, weak states, dirty money: piracy and maritime terrorism in the modern world.

Murphy, Martin N. New York: Columbia University Press, 2010.

This volume investigates piracy, smuggling, maritime robbery, and maritime terrorism in the modern age. Murphy argues that poverty alone cannot create piracy and that maritime piracy tends to increase as the interest and capability of local states to police their areas decreases. He concludes that while piracy is an irritant to international trade it is a much greater threat to the stability of the states and regions that it afflicts.

Reforming the unreformable: lessons from Nigeria.

Okonjo-Iweala, Ngozi. Cambridge, MA: MIT Press, 2012.



In this volume Okonjo-Iweala, a critical player in the Nigerian government in the early 2000s, outlines how Nigeria's economic team instituted a series of reforms to reduce macroeconomic volatility and fight corruption.

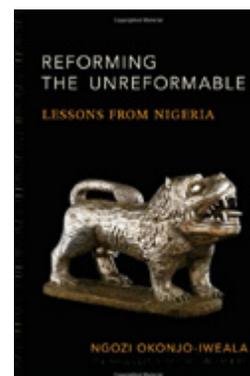


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A swamp full of dollars: pipelines and paramilitaries at Nigeria's oil frontier.

Peel, Michael. Chicago: Lawrence Hill Books, 2010.



In this book Peel, a journalist who lived in Nigeria a number of years, examines how the country has been shaped by giant oil companies, foreign investment, conflict and greed. An overview of the history of the country, a discussion of the oil industry and a look at corruption is also included.

EDUCATION

Handbook of early literacy research, Volume 3.

Neuman, Susan B. and David K. Dickinson, editors. New York: The Guilford Press, 2011.

This volume contains essays by leading experts on the literacy development of young children. The contributors examine the factors that shape learning in and out of the classroom and explore the impact of early literacy experiences on later achievement. Topics include family and sociocultural contexts of emergent literacy, literacy development in English language learners, and professional development for early childhood educators.

EVALUATION

Governance by evaluation for sustainable development: institutional capacities and learning.

Sedlacko, Michal and Andre Marinuzzi, editors. Northampton, MA: Edward Elgar, 2012.



This volume reviews the recent European

experience with evaluation at the EU, national, regional and local levels. Contributors present lessons on how evaluation studies and evaluation systems advance the agendas of sustainable development and good governance, by opening up decision-making processes to stakeholders and supporting evidence-based decision making, learning and capacity building.

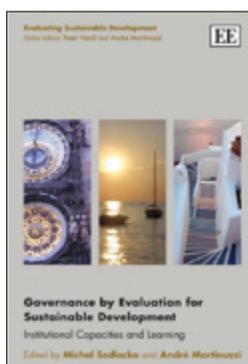


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GEO-SPATIAL INFORMATION SYSTEMS

Python Scripting for ArcGIS. Zandbergen, Paul A. Redlands, CA: Esri Press, 2013.



This book is an introduction to Python scripting for experienced users of ArcGIS.

Python scripting is a free and open source programming language that automates tasks in ArcGIS without using the cumbersome menu-driven interface. A DVD containing exercises and data is included.

HEALTH, POPULATION & NUTRITION

Innovative health partnerships: the diplomacy of diversity.

Low-Beer, Daniel, editor. Singapore: World Scientific Publishing Company, 2012.



Health partnerships have become

more diverse over the past decade. Private foundations, NGOs, celebrities and private companies have all become stakeholders in global health.

This volume reviews these new partnerships and assesses how they work together globally and on the national and community levels.



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Turning a right into practice: impact evaluation of the Ixchen Centre for Women cervical cancer programme in Nicaragua (2005-2009).

Ormel, Hermen, et al. The Hague, Netherlands: Ministry of Foreign Affairs, 2012.

This study reviews the results of a program instituted by the Dutch government to address the prevention and treatment of cervical cancer in remote rural areas of Nicaragua. Results confirmed that the interventions for screening and treating the disease yielded substantial results even while knowledge levels remained low.

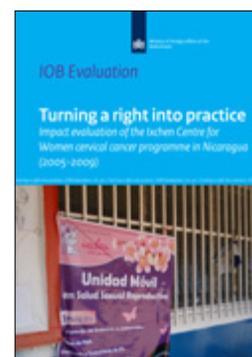


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USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

The KSC celebrates Earth Day all year round!

USAID

Earth Day comes around once a year, but USAID works daily to combat the negative effects of climate change and protect the environment for future generations. The Knowledge Services Center offers a number of environmental and climate change resources to support USAID staff in these efforts.

Resources like **GREENR** (<http://find.galegroup.com/grnr/start.do?prodId=GRNR&userGroupName=wash38782&finalAuth=true>) and **ScienceDirect** (www.sciencedirect.com) keep you up to date on the most cutting edge and recent developments in the climate change, environmental protection, and agricultural fields so you can effectively complete USAID's mission.

Questions? Comments?
Email the USAID Knowledge Services Center at ksc@usaid.gov today!

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