



New This Month

From the USAID Knowledge Services Center

NEW THIS MONTH

AID AND DEVELOPMENT

Aid on the edge of chaos. Ramalingam, Ben. New York: Oxford University Press, 2013.

By Request

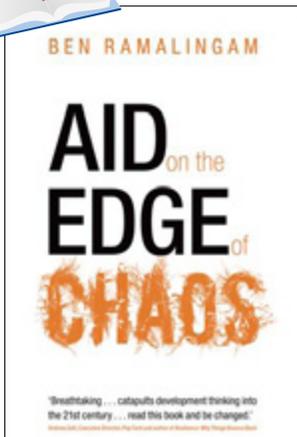


Image from www.aidontheedge.info

Arguing that development assistance systems are complex networks much like ecological systems, the author of this volume contends that international aid practitioners today rely too heavily on century-old paradigms. The aid world needs to come to terms with today's interconnectedness, he urges, and adopt the use of the many new tools available for understanding and working with today's complexities. Quoting USAID's Administrator Rajiv Shah, Ramalingam says that "we will not always have the

control we have grown accustomed to exercising, and we have to get used to that." Ramalingam's primary object lesson is the story of aid for rice cultivation in Bali.

40 Chances: finding hope in a hungry world. Buffett, Howard G. New York: Simon and Schuster, 2013.

Warren Buffett's eldest son, a farmer and philanthropist, focuses on the impact and importance of agriculture – not only to food security, but also to promote peace and stability. He relates stories from 40 hands-on projects from around the world and provides both pragmatic examples of successful endeavors, and cautionary tales from well-meaning failures. The work of USAID is described in a number of chapters.

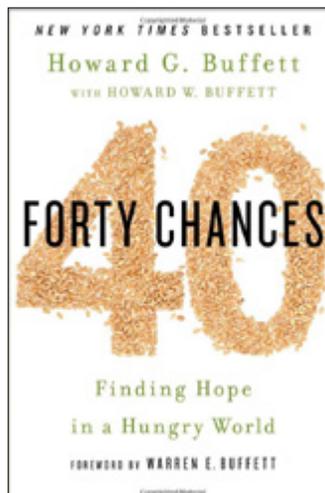


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INSIDE

- Aid & Development
- Agriculture & Environment
- Democracy, Governance & Humanitarian Assistance
- Economic Growth & Trade
- Education
- Gender Equality & Women's Empowerment
- Health, Nutrition & Population
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By Request

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Lessons from Department of Defense disaster relief efforts in the Asia-Pacific region.

Moroney, Jennifer D.P., et al. Santa Monica, CA: The RAND Corporation, 2013.

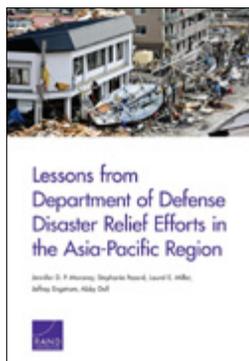


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This report examines the Department of Defense's humanitarian assistance and disaster response operations in four major international disasters occurring between 2008 and 2011. It underlines the key lessons learned from DoD's role

in responding to Cyclone Nargis in Burma, the Padang earthquake in Indonesia, monsoon floods in Pakistan, and the earthquake, tsunami, and nuclear disaster in Japan. Recommendations for enhancing interagency coordination in the future are included.

The solution revolution: how business, government and social enterprises are teaming up to solve society's toughest problems. Eggers, William D. and Paul Macmillan. Boston: Harvard Business Review Press, 2013.

Two Deloitte executives summarize major shifts in accepted models for tackling deep-seated social challenges. They argue that changes in technological tools and finance, along with increased corporate awareness, are fueling the growth in public-private partnerships as new business models, leadership approaches and technologies intersect in the "solution economy." Their survey of such changes includes some discussion of several USAID approaches.

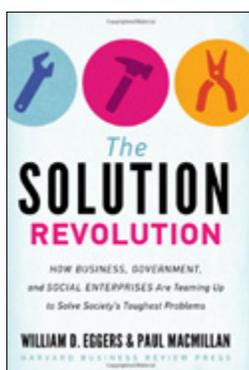


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AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT

Agricultural development and food security in Africa: the impact of Chinese, Indian and Brazilian investments. Cheru, Fantu and Renu Modi, editors. New York: Zed Books, 2013.

This collection of articles by experts from Brazil, China, Ethiopia, India, Russia, Zimbabwe, and other countries examines the surging involvement of three of the BRIC countries in Africa. These experts examined cooperation with South Africa and Ethiopia to improve water and agricultural disease management, build up rural infrastructure, and augment agricultural technology. The authors probe the extent of this South-South cooperation, its impact on crop output and land holdings, and to some degree the impact on the investing countries' economies.

Food security and sociopolitical stability. Barrett, Christopher B., editor. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2013.

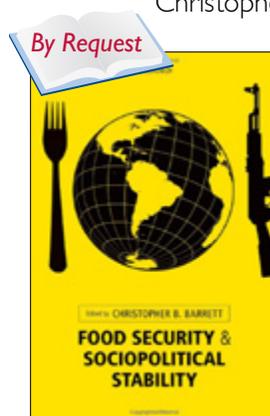


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This hefty volume gathers the work of some of today's most authoritative scholars on food security. Their articles emanate from the spectrum of disciplines that together make up the field of food security and cover each geographic region where food insecurity has a foothold. Climate change, international land grabbing, and food issues

related to the Arab Spring are among topics covered in this collection.

Genetically modified crops in Africa: economic and policy lessons from countries south of the Sahara. Falck-Zepeda, José, Guillaume Gruère, and Idah Sithole-Niang. Washington: Institute for Food Policy Research Institute, 2013.

Drawing on data from the USAID-funded Program for Biosafety Systems, the authors analyzed genetic modification (GM) of crops in South Africa and Uganda, concluding that biotechnology can be an important tool for bringing development to Africa. This book argues for responsive GM regulation that takes into account the social and economic impact of this technology.

Socioeconomic considerations in biosafety decisionmaking: methods and implementation.

Horna, Daniela, Patricia Zambrano, and José Falck-Zepeda. Washington: Institute for Food Policy Research Institute, 2013.

To meaningfully regulate the use of GM crops, the authors argue, policy makers must take into account biotechnology's social impact. To effectively evaluate these outcomes, they suggest identifying appropriate tools, scrutinizing the relevant institutions, and using a variety of techniques to offset the challenges of assessing hard-to-predict factors such as yield, technology efficiency, and prices.

DEMOCRACY, GOVERNANCE AND HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE

Defending democratic norms: international actors and the politics of electoral misconduct.

Donno, Daniela. New York: Oxford University Press, 2013.

Donno argues that enforcement of electoral regulations by international actors can bring accountability to flawed electoral procedures and improve the possibilities for democratization in authoritarian countries.

She offers examples of how international pressure in the face of electoral fraud can have powerful, meaningful impact. Donno analyzed data from 700 elections; this book includes case studies from Armenia, Cambodia, Dominican Republic, Kenya and Serbia.

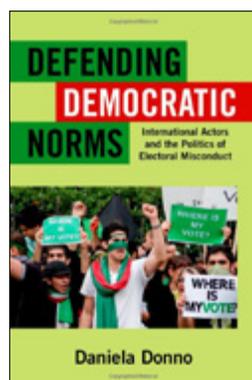


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Democracy's fourth wave?: digital media and the Arab Spring. Howard, Philip N. and Muzammil M. Hussain. New York: Oxford University Press, 2013.



While some are quick to say that social media didn't "cause" the Arab Spring, communications scholars Howard and

Hussain argue that the strategic use of digital tools had a profound impact on popular mobilization. This volume traces the ways in which activists deployed Twitter, Facebook and other social media to change people's consciousness and bring them to the streets.

Neoliberalism, interrupted: social change and contested governance in contemporary Latin America.

Goodale, Mark and Nancy Postero, editors. Stanford: Stanford University Press, 2013.

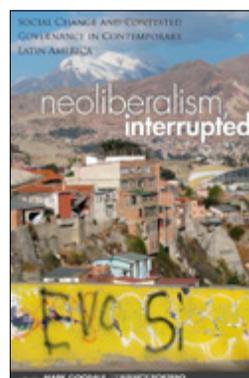


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Bolivia is the primary area of interest for the editors of this book, but Colombia, Ecuador, El Salvador, and Mexico are also among the nine countries covered here. The contributors, whose articles are rooted in anthropology, sociology and political science, discuss changes in political and social consciousness in Latin America and how these changes are

shaping responses to structural adjustment programs and widespread privatization.

This immoral trade: slavery in the 21st century.

2nd ed. Cox, Caroline, Lydia Tanner, Mal Egner. Grand Rapids: Monarch Books, 2013.

This is an updated version of a book first published in 2006. It is part manifesto, part primer on contemporary slavery and the antislavery movement, and part testimonial from people who have been enslaved in India, Indonesia, Sudan, and Uganda.

The terrorist's dilemma: managing violent covert organizations.

Shapiro, Jacob N. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2013.

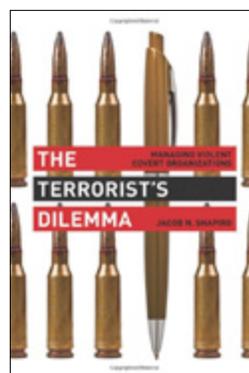


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Shapiro delves into the day-to-day operational challenges of terrorist organizations – paying their rank and file, determining a chain of command, taking care of family members. Shapiro presents case studies on Al Qa'ida in Iraq, Fatah, and Hamas, among other groups, and provides an extensive annotated bibliography.

War by other means: aftermath in post-genocide Guatemala. McAllister, Carlota and Diane M. Nelson, editors. Durham: Duke University Press, 2013.

A collection of essays from Guatemala scholars, this book includes reflections on a host of post-war issues – many of them far from resolution – confronting the country. Articles touch on Mayan rights, ongoing violence, repatriation of refugees, continuing land conflicts, class stratification, and more.

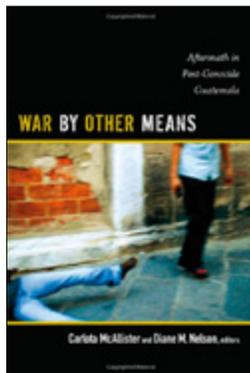


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Reducing urban poverty in the global South. Satterthwaite, David and Diana Mitlin. New York: Routledge, 2014.

While noting a general lack of official aid agency interest in urban poverty concerns, the authors summarize the predominant approaches to poverty reduction in developing country cities and write that grassroots mobilization of low-income people to help shape national policies provides the key to success. By working together and learning from one another, Satterthwaite and Mitlin say, poor urban dwellers gain credibility and knowledge that can have a significant impact when such groups work in partnership with local and national governments.

ECONOMIC GROWTH AND TRADE

Globalization and money: a global South perspective. Singh, Supriya. Lanham, MD: Rowman & Littlefield, 2013.

Information and communication technologies (ICTs) are sparking a revolution in the way people use money, including how they transfer remittances, utilize credit and view insurance. Traditional banking is a thing of the past (or a never-was) for millions of people. Singh examines money flows in India, Kenya, Malaysia and the Pacific Islands.

Planet entrepreneur: the World Entrepreneurship Forum's guide to business success around the world.

Strauss, Steven D. Hoboken: John Wiley & Sons, 2014.

This collection includes advice on how to take a business global, use social media and other tools to advance entrepreneurial endeavors, involve formerly marginalized communities in entrepreneurship, protect the environment, and other topics.

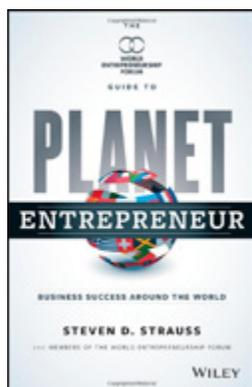


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EDUCATION

Education for civic and political participation. Hedke, Reinhold and Tatiana Zimenkova. New York: Routledge, 2013.

National education systems usually purport to provide students with the tools for active participation in the civic and political life of their communities and countries. But how well do these pedagogical approaches succeed? In this e-book, comparative education scholars offer a variety of views on these questions in this collection of 12 articles. USAID staff may download the book from Taylor and Francis E-Books.

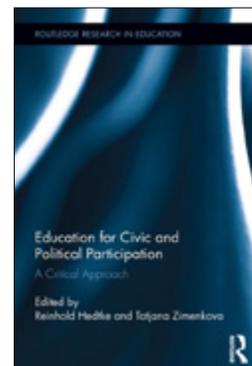


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Education in a digital world: global perspectives on technology and education. Selwyn, Neil. New York: Routledge, 2013.

In arguing for a balanced, analytical approach to contemporary educational transformations, Selwyn writes that the deployment of information and communication technology (ICT) in the educational sphere goes far beyond “one laptop one child.” The author probes how educational technologies are linked to global economics, affected by national policies, accelerate the commercialization and commodification of education, and bring about shifts in the culture of education.

Globalization and international education.

Shields, Robin. New York: Bloomsbury Academic, 2013.

Shields confronts and sharply critiques a variety of widely held notions and practices pertaining to the relationship of education to development. Brief case studies focus on Bangladesh, Nepal, and Zambia. As part of a series on critical topics in education studies, Shields's book has been crafted with education students in mind.

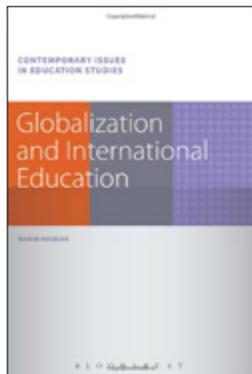


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GENDER EQUALITY & WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT

Sex and the citadel: intimate life in a changing Arab world. El Feki, Shereen. New York, Pantheon Books, 2013.

El Feki, a journalist with a medical background, believes that sexuality mirrors societal changes, so she set about exploring sexual attitudes and practices in Egypt. El Feki discusses sex education, contemporary marriage arrangements, medical practices such as FGM, family planning and other issues. Changes in Egyptian society, she argues, will soon bring profound changes in the bedroom.

Women navigating globalization: feminist approaches to development. Everett, Jana and Sue Ellen M. Charlton. Lanham, MD: Rowman and Littlefield, 2014.

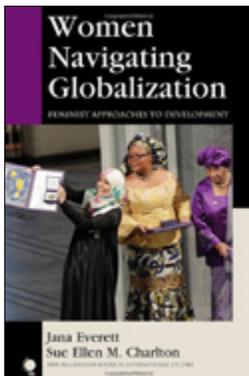


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Everett and Charlton argue that without feminist analysis, our understanding of both globalization and development is incomplete. They provide an introduction to the topic of women in development and illustrate women's struggles within and against globalization through four case studies on

global sex trafficking, water, work, and health. They conclude that collective action offers the greatest potential for increased women's empowerment.

Women, work, and globalization: challenges and opportunities. Sherif Trask, Bahira. New York: Routledge, 2014.

This volume examines the wide-ranging social, political, and economic implications of women's increasing labor force participation worldwide. The author presents an overview of the scholarship on the study of gender in the industrialized and developing world, looks at issues related to women and globalization, and concludes by detailing programs and policies that have effectively assisted girls and women in attaining skills and education.

HEALTH, NUTRITION & POPULATION

Global health in Africa. Giles-Vernick and James L. A. Webb, Jr., eds. Athens, Ohio: Ohio University Press, 2013.

The many campaigns for disease eradication in Africa have been neglected among scholars of the history of medicine. As a beginning corrective, this book offers articles on malaria control in the mid-20th century, anti-smallpox campaigns, the struggle against heroin trafficking and addiction, and many other topics. Cameroon, Egypt, Liberia, Tanzania and Uganda are some of the countries featured in these accounts.



Image from www.amazon.com

Health communication: strategies for developing global health programs. Kim, Do Kyun, Arvind Singhal, and Gary L Kreps, editors. New York, Peter Lang, 2014.

This collection of essays presents a strategic framework for guiding global and local health practice by describing and analyzing a wide variety of health communication interventions in diverse cultural contexts. Essay topics include: using mass and online media, mobile health, applications, digital games, entertainment education, and communication network analysis. Practical guidelines about how to design, implement and evaluate health communication interventions are provided.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Digital Interactions in developing countries.

James, Jeffrey. New York: Routledge, 2013.

In this e-book, James takes an economist's approach to examining the parameters of the digital divide. He then digs beneath the surface to understand how Internet technology availability and usage affect (and are affected

by) poverty, and tackles the economies of mobile phones, technology usage, bandwidth concerns, and other topics. He studies the value and effectiveness of existing strategies and suggests forging ultra-low-cost ways to combine, for instance, community radio and the Internet in order to better serve rural communities. USAID staff may download the book from [Taylor and Francis E-Books](#).

LEARNING RESOURCES CENTER

Travel, Cultural, and Management Materials from the Office of Human Resources (HR/TE)

AFRICA

There was a country: a personal history of Biafra.

Achebe, Chinua. New York: Penguin Press, 2012.

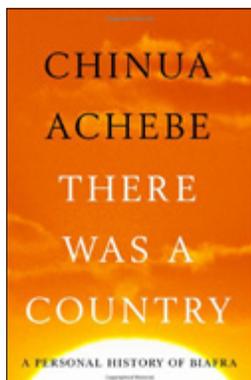


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In the last of his books to be published before his death, Achebe revisits the important years of the late 1960s when he aligned himself with the people of Biafra in the Nigerian Civil War that is said to have cost 2 million lives. Achebe intertwines his personal memories with a less intimate account of political and historical aspects of the Biafran War. He seems to be

attempting to come to terms with an outcome that, he believes, set Nigeria on a contemporary course filled with shortcomings and disappointments.

The lower river.

Theroux, Paul. New York: Mariner Books, 2013.

In this rending story of Ellis Hock, Theroux carves up the romantic, nostalgic African memories common among many Americans who have had a youthful sojourn on the continent. Like Theroux, Hock is a returned Peace Corps volunteer who worked in Malawi decades ago. Hock opts to visit the village where he once worked and comes face to face with the Malawians' rage and antagonism, crushing his hopes for an idyllic, restorative return.

ASIA

Bangkok bound.

Boccuzzi, Ellen. Thailand: Silkworm Books, 2012.

Boccuzzi offers in this book an examination of literary representations of Thai migration from rural areas to the capital. Boccuzzi's study analyzes the depictions of people's relationships to animals, stories of "reverse migration," and motifs such as railroad trains, among other topics, contributing to the sparse body of English-language scholarship on Thailand's literary arts.

Wave.

Deraniyagala, Sonali. New York: Knopf, 2013.

Deraniyagalal and her husband, parents and two sons were vacationing in Sri Lanka when the 2004 tsunami hit. In this memoir she recounts the horror and despair of learning that she is her family's only survivor. After being taken away to her aunt's house in Colombo, she becomes determined to kill herself and turns to alcohol. She visits and revisits the site of the hotel where she was staying when the wave struck and slowly finds the strength to carry on.



Image from www.amazon.com

EUROPE AND EURASIA

A constellation of vital phenomena. Marra, Anthony. London: Hogarth, 2013.

The novel spans the two wars that ravaged Muslim Chechnya from 1994 to 1996 and again from 1999 to 2004. In a Chechen village, a failed physician named Akhmed watches as his friend Dokka is removed by Russian forces, the house where he once sheltered refugees burned to the ground. Fearing for the safety of Dokka's 8-year-old daughter, Akhmed spirits the girl to a nearby hospital where he hopes to entrust her to the care of its legendary female surgeon. When Sonja Andreyevana, an ethnic Russian and the last of a staff of 500, balks at his request, Akhmed volunteers to stay and work for her.

The hired man. Forna, Aminatta. New York: Atlantic Monthly Press, 2013.

As the book opens in 2007, a Croatian man named Duro Kolak meets Laura, an Englishwoman who has arrived in his small village to start a new life with her family. He offers her his assistance as a handyman, even as other locals are less than pleased to have the newcomers around. As the narrative continues, the area's painful history of conflict resurfaces as Laura slowly realizes the town is not what it seems.

LATIN AMERICA

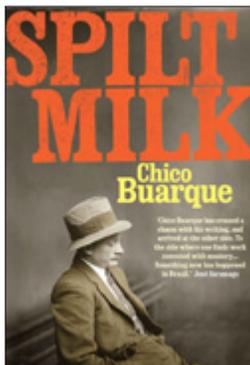


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Spilt milk. Buarque, Chico. New York: Grove Press, 2012.

The story centers on a centenarian and aristocrat who lies dying in a decrepit Brazilian public hospital. Hungry to tell his story, he speaks of his misspent life to his visiting daughter, nurses or anyone else who will listen to his ramblings. On his deathbed he recalls his life: the opulent

mansion in the Copacabana section of Rio de Janeiro where he grew up; a senator father and fashionable mother; meeting and then losing his wife, and the economic difficulties that have made his current situation nowhere near as grand as his past.

This is how you lose her. Díaz, Junot. New York: Riverhead, 2012.

Díaz explores the punishing landscape of male-female relationships in these nine linked short stories. Yuniors seems to make one wrong turn after another, but each misstep can be seen as a byproduct of his deep-seated family and cultural issues.

MANAGEMENT AND CAREER DEVELOPMENT

The 5 elements of effective thinking. Burger, Edward B. and Michael Starbird. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press, 2012.

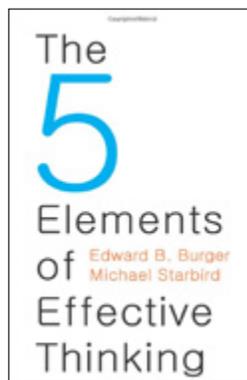


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The authors present techniques individuals can use to become more successful through better thinking. They discuss how to become more probing, analytical thinkers by understanding more deeply, making mistakes, raising questions, following the flow of ideas, and engaging change.

Real-life stories, action items, and motivational quotations are included.

Managing people and performance: fast track to success. Ross, David. Upper Saddle River, NJ: FT Press, 2012.

This book provides practical techniques to help managers get the best performance out of every member of their team. After providing an introduction to performance management, the author looks at using technology effectively, coaching, developing talent, implementing change, and succession planning.

Straight to yes: asking with confidence and getting what you want. Imam, Haider. Chichester, UK: Capstone, 2013.

This introductory book is for those who want to be more persuasive and assertive in business and personal situations. Imam provides numerous proven techniques based on psychological principles and science that will get you to 'yes'. Sprinkled throughout the book are 'Try it' tips readers can use to improve their results.



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE



The Development Experience Clearinghouse (DEC) relaunched the DEC Express this month in a new clickable PDF format!

The DEC Express highlights new and notable additions to the DEC repository from the past month.

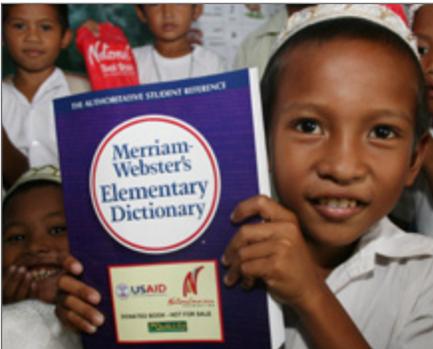
If you missed this month's edition, send us an email at decexpress@usaid.gov indicating you would like to receive a copy.

We'll send it your way and add you to the mailing list.

EDUCATION

Nigeria DHS EdData survey 2010 : education data for decision-making

Nigeria DHS EdData profile 1990, 2003, and 2008 : education data for decision-making



ECONOMIC GROWTH & TRADE

Microenterprise results reporting : annual report to Congress, fiscal year 2012

Standards and practices report for electronic and mobile payments

USAID PLANNING & MANAGEMENT

Haiti reconstruction : USAID infrastructure projects have had mixed results ...

ADS chapter 201 : planning

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