



FDC

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FDC Development Links

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Welcome to Issue Four of FDC Development Links

This quarterly publication provides an overview of key readings from a variety of print and online sources across the development sector. These articles are identified by FDC staff as significant and informative readings, providing a summary of topical issues related to FDC initiatives, as well as emerging issues and practice insights in international development.

FDC welcomes your feedback on this publication and its content at info@fdc.org.au.

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International Development - Emerging Issues

1. [Taxing Kenya's M-Pesa Picks the Pockets of the Poor](#)

Kenya has instituted a new tax that affects users of M-Pesa — a widely popular phone-based money transfer service used by more than half of Kenya's adult population.

2. [Social challenges in PNG](#)

Reflections on social challenges in PNG by Serena Sasingian, the Executive Director of The Voice Inc., a youth development organization based in Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea.

3. [Financial Instability as a Threat to Sustainable Development](#)

As seen over and over again during recurrent financial crises in both developing and advanced economies (DEs and AEs), financial instability and boom-bust cycles undermine all three ingredients of sustainable development – economic development, social development and environmental protection.

4. [A Million Hardships in Pakistan's North](#)

More than a million people displaced from the Federally Administered Tribal Areas by growing militancy and military operations are facing severe hardship after losing businesses and work.

5. [Human rights could be fault line in post-2015 development agenda](#)

UK development secretary says too much emphasis on human rights in future development goals might block progress

International Development – Practice Insight

1. [2012 Commitment to Development Index](#)

Which wealthy nations are helping poor ones most? Rich and poor are linked in many ways. Each year, the CDI scores wealthy governments on helping poor countries via 7 linkages: aid, trade, investment, migration, environment, security, and technology. It averages over the 7 for an overall score.

2. [Going local: Lessons from the World Bank](#)

Within the development community, engaging local civil society actors, in designing and implementing projects is seen as one way to ensure maximum benefit and results. But does this method always produce the desired results?

3. [WBCSD Pushes for Collaboration with Business on Sustainable Solutions for Developing Countries](#)

Peter Bakker, incoming President of the World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD) participated today in the 4th High-Level Forum on Aid Effectiveness in Busan, Korea. He addressed the critical role of business in providing sustainable solutions to the challenges of developing countries, including significant contributions to expanding access to goods, services, and livelihood opportunities.



4. How NGOs can best work with corporate partners

Private sector investment in the developing world dwarfs official development assistance and yet nongovernmental organizations have long had a rocky relationship with the corporate sector. But that is changing now as public-private and cross-sector partnerships are becoming more common. However, both sides have yet to still come up with concrete ways on how to create a partnership that works.

5. The 'commercial advantage' of boosting aid transparency

Over time, the U.K. Department for International Development will be requiring all organizations it works with to publish their data to IATI. What would this mean for development consultancies and subcontractors that work with DFID?

6. A Better Way to Deliver Aid

Whether providing relief to farmers in times of drought, delivering resources to rebuild after an earthquake or meeting basic health or education needs, providing timely and flexible support is critical for non-profit organizations to operate effectively.

7. Keep new development goals simple - experts

The Millennium Development Goals may not be perfect but they are simple and straightforward - qualities diplomats and others fear could be lost in the process of crafting new targets to replace the MDGs, which expire in 2015.

Private sector partnerships for sustainable development

1. Studying the Effects of the Private Sector on Pacific Communities

The private sector's role in community development in the Pacific will be the focus of a three-year project led by New Zealand Massey University.

2. Private Investors to Raise Stake in Financing Kenya's Infrastructure

The Government of Kenya is seeking to extend and deepen its partnership with the private sector to raise more private investment and expertise to accelerate infrastructure capital formation.

3. 5 Keys to Effective Partnerships

If the conversation at this month's Business Civic Leadership Center's conference on emerging markets is any judge, partnerships are not only helping drive today's development agenda, but hold the key to scaling the most successful of those projects in the future. "We can't do it alone" was a major theme of the event that brought together corporate foundation heads, implementing agencies, and corporate social responsibility executives.

4. World's Largest Companies Take Action to Conserve Biodiversity in Response to Rapid Decline of Ecosystem Services

According to a recent study by Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu Limited (DTTL) and Deloitte France, a majority of companies in the Fortune Global 50 have reported taking action to reduce or eliminate their impacts on biodiversity.



5. **Development Disrupted: How Business Is Changing the Global Development Landscape**

“If we’re going to succeed in the task of ending extreme poverty and suffering, we will only do so through partnerships with companies like yours,” said Raj Shah, USAID’s administrator, to a room of business executives at last month’s BSR conference in Manhattan.

6. **UNIDO Event Highlights Private Sector Involvement for Sustainable Agriculture**

The UN Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) and partners organized a discussion of how private sector investment can support poorer farmers and producers in promoting sustainable agriculture, at an annual event hosted by the European Commission in Brussels, Belgium, on 17 October 2012.

7. **Does the future of farming in Africa lie in the private sector?**

Could an alliance between big agribusiness and small-scale farmers produce enough food to feed the continent and beyond?

8. **Collaborative Capacities for Sustainable Development: Co-Creation of Value through Partnerships**

Keynote speaker at the UNDP Asia-Pacific Regional Centre event, Richard Hames provides thought-provoking insights.

Local economies, enterprise and livelihoods

1. **World Bank’s China Strategy Outlines Priorities, Funding Predictions**

The World Bank has identified three priorities for its engagement in China for the period 2013-16: green growth, inclusive development and support for South-South cooperation initiatives.

1. **Investments in Disaster Risk Management Essential to Sustaining Growth and Reducing Poverty**

The growing incidence of natural disasters in Asia and the Pacific—where four of five cities globally classified as at extreme risk are located—threatens to undermine seriously rapid economic progress, calling for a much stronger focus among governments on disaster prevention, says a new study from Independent Evaluation at the Asian Development Bank.

2. **Developing Asian Economies Must Focus on Greener, More Inclusive Growth**

While advanced economies gradually rebuild their balance sheets, Asia’s emerging markets need to diversify sources of growth to boost GDP, Asian Development Bank (ADB) President Haruhiko Kuroda said, during an address at the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) Global Dialogue in Phnom Penh, Cambodia.

3. **World Bank Report: Helping the Poor Through Localized Development is Tough, but Essential**

Comprehensive review finds that community-driven projects should pay more attention to local context and put in place effective, honest learning systems.



4. Women's economic empowerment offers a win-win scenario

Not only does gender equality lead to higher economic growth, it is key to ensuring a fairer world for both men and women.

5. Brazil, China, India group harden position ahead of climate talks

Major developing countries China, India, Brazil and South Africa have hardened their joint negotiating position six days before the start of the next summit of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). The group known as BASIC released a joint statement in Beijing at the end of minister-level consultations. They demanded that developed countries take the lead to reduce emissions of greenhouse gases that cause global warming.

6. ADB Aims to Boost Investment, End Boom-Bust in Bangladesh Financial Markets

The Asian Development Bank (ADB) will provide \$300 million to help Bangladesh smooth volatility in its financial markets, making them safer and more attractive places to invest.

7. Launch of Gender Equality Initiative in PNG

Kirapim Wok GESI is led by the Department of Personnel Management in partnership with the AusAID-funded, Coffey-managed Economic and Public Sector Program. The initiative raises awareness of the newly created provisions in the Public Service General Orders act relating to gender equality and social inclusion (GESI) and encourages the public sector to take action within agencies.

Financial inclusion

1. Greater Focus on the Poor Key to Effectiveness of Microfinance in Asia and the Pacific

Microfinance needs to reach more of the poor in Asia and the Pacific, but do so in a financially sustainable way, says a new study from Independent Evaluation at the Asian Development Bank (ADB).

2. Better than Cash

A new initiative launched to accelerate the global shift to electronic payments for the poor.

3. Financial Inclusion in the People's Republic of China

This paper discusses the extent and nature of financial inclusion in the People's Republic of China (PRC) and the size and characteristics of the unbanked and under-banked market. It analyses the effect of policy changes since 2005 on the inclusiveness of PRC's formal financial system.

4. Things CGAP Got Right or Wrong About Financial Access

A CGAP Focus Note containing a rich set of predictions for the future of microfinance – from 2006. These predictions were contained in several sets of scenarios that examined possible futures for financial inclusion. For each topic, CGAP envisioned an optimistic scenario and a pessimistic one.



5. The Implications of Data Tracking on Financial Inclusion

This debate over internet data tracking has important implications for financial inclusion and in particular new channels like mobile banking that are expanding access to finance to consumers in low-access markets. Some see the end business model for these channels as providing low-cost or free services to consumers, making their profits instead by selling their data to companies looking to offer these consumers tailored products

6. How do the poor handle money? What do the financial diaries of char dwellers tell us about financial inclusion?

Gopa Samanta, Kuntala Lahiri-Dutt | Crawford School of Public Policy 09 November, 2012 Derived from livelihoods surveys and ethnographic material about people living on the chars, or river islands, in deltaic lower Bengal, this paper illustrates the complex, diverse and ingenious ways that the poor manage money.

7. Want People to Save More? Send a Text

What is the most effective way to encourage people to save their money? The answer lies in a combination of peer pressure and text messages, according to new research.

8. The New Bottom Billion Update

Most of the world's poor do not live in the world's poorest countries. This matters for how countries and donors fight global poverty. Andy Sumner updates the numbers and forecasts the trend.

