



FDC

THE FOUNDATION FOR
Development Cooperation

Welcome to the first issue of FDC Development Links

FDC 'Development Links' provides an overview of the latest reports, articles and tools from a variety of sources across the international development sector. This quarterly publication provides readers with a summary of topical issues and latest research arising from the field across FDC's areas of activity, as well as broader emerging issues and practice insights in international development.

For more information on FDC's themes and strategy, [click here](#).

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

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International Development - Emerging Issues

1) **[2011 Human Development Report, United Nations Development Programme](#)**

The *2011 Human Development Report* offers important new contributions to the global dialogue on this challenge, showing how sustainability is inextricably linked to equity.

2) **[The State of Pacific Youth 2011: Opportunities and Obstacles](#)**

Using evidence from official sources, national population surveys and young people themselves, this report shows how young people in the Pacific have fared since 2005 when this report was last completed.

3) **[Key Indicators for Asia and the Pacific 2011, The Asian Development Bank](#)**

This report from the Asian Development Bank presents economic, financial, social, environmental and Millennium Development Goals (MDG) indicators for the 48 members of the Asian Development Bank (ADB), and highlights the crucial role of higher quality employment in economic growth and poverty reduction in a special chapter, 'Toward Higher Quality Employment in Asia'.

4) **[Towards a green economy: pathways to sustainable development and poverty eradication](#)**

Sustainable development is a core component of any effective poverty reduction strategy. The report seeks to motivate policy makers to create the enabling conditions for increased investments in a transition to a green economy.

5) **[Our near abroad: Australia and Pacific islands regionalism](#)**

Although Australia is the largest donor in the Pacific region as well as its most influential political actor, a series of geopolitical shifts have raised serious questions about the contemporary effectiveness of its regional relationships.

6) **[Divided We Stand: Why Inequality Keeps Rising](#)**

This report analyses the major underlying forces behind the widening wage gap and increased household income inequality and the extent to which economic globalisation, skill-based technological progress and institutional and regulatory reforms have had an impact on the distribution of earnings.

7) **[Technology and innovation report 2011: powering development with renewable energy technologies](#)**

The international community needs to place a greater focus on the technological empowerment of developing nations in the area of renewable energy technologies in order to achieve sustainable development.



International Development – Practice Insights

1) [Aid Alert: China Officially Joins the Donor Club](#)

A summary of the key outcomes of the Fourth High-Level Forum on Aid Effectiveness in Busan.

2) [Beyond Paris: 11 innovations in aid effectiveness](#)

This paper highlights some examples of recent innovations in the management and delivery of development aid.

3) [Healthcare can tell us much about the dos and don'ts of aid effectiveness](#)

The health sector is a source of quality evidence on what has and hasn't worked in aid over the past five years.

4) [Informing The Poor](#)

Considers four critiques of the view that people in poverty can be empowered through information.

5) [Mixed Messages: Communicating the Challenges of Development](#)

With greater public scrutiny and expectation of how funding on aid projects is spent, aid organisations should consider carefully how they portray themselves through their communications.



FDC Theme One: Private sector partnerships for sustainable development

1) [Joining the Fight Against Global Poverty: A Menu for Corporate Engagement](#)

This report discusses six approaches for corporations to take part in the fight against global poverty, based on interviews with 15 corporations that have been active in 'development work in poor countries'. These approaches include standards compliance, charitable giving, resource engagement, commercial leverage, development entrepreneurship and policy advocacy.

2) [Filling The Sustainability Innovation Gap](#)

Tomorrow's leading companies will be those that pioneer innovative solutions to match climate change challenges.

3) [Mining Megatrends for Innovation](#)

Innovative companies who identify and meet increasing needs arising from global megatrends in new ways can find major business opportunities.

4) [Social Responsibility in the Mining and Metals Sector in Developing Countries](#)

Drawing on leading practice examples from Australian companies operating both domestically and internationally, this handbook outlines the key considerations for socially responsible mining development.

5) [Public-private sector development policy – what about big business?](#)

Bill Gates' recent presentation to the G20 posed new ideas regarding public and private sector engagement in innovative development approaches and again raised the issue of how the development sector can better engage with corporations to achieve sound development outcomes.

6) [Aid and Oil in Papua New Guinea: Implications for the Financing of Service Delivery](#)

This paper measures the extent to which both donor finance and resource revenues have contributed to higher rates of expenditure in social services and infrastructure in PNG.



FDC Theme Two: Local economies, enterprise and livelihoods

1) [Finding The Pulse Of The Poor](#)

An innovative perspective of development data provides fresh insight into poverty alleviation.

2) [Poverty Reduction Is Not Development](#)

This article challenges the assumption that poverty alleviation and development are the same concept.

3) [The Economic Costs of Gender-Based Violence](#)

Discusses the importance of considering the economic cost of gender-based violence, in addition to the social costs.

4) [Measuring Poverty In The Pacific](#)

This paper takes a practical look at how to measure a conventional indicator of poverty, income (or consumption) poverty and highlights both the limitations of household data sets in the Pacific as well as opportunities to make better use of this untapped and emergent data for poverty analysis.

5) [Poor Evaluation Methods Can Mislead: New Developments in the Millennium Villages Evaluation](#)

Interesting commentary on poor evaluation methods, in reference to evaluations of the successes of the Millennium Villages Project.



FDC Theme Three: Financial inclusion

1) [Latest Findings From Randomised Evaluations of Microfinance](#)

This paper summarises findings from a new body of empirical evidence using randomised evaluations to compare group responses to new financial services and offers key lessons around improved products and delivery approaches.

2) [Advancing Savings Services: An Advance Guide For Funders](#)

This guide summarises the issues that donors and investors should consider when designing, implementing and monitoring programs and investments to improve access to savings services for poor people.

3) [Remittance flows to developing countries exceed \\$350 billion in 2011](#)

Officially recorded remittance flows to developing countries are increasing across all six developing regions.

4) [Government-to-Person: Expanding Financial Inclusion in the Pacific Report](#)

This report focuses on the implementation of government-to-person projects as a mechanism to enhance financial inclusion, as well as a way to provide cost and efficiency savings both to government and to social welfare recipients.



FDC Theme Four: Incomes from ecosystems

1) [Cambodia: Forestry and Development, It's Not Always Clear Cut](#)

This article discusses the complicated dilemma of forestry and development in Cambodia.

2) [Durban Climate Deal: What a Great Result This Would Have Been Some Ten Years Ago!](#)

A summary of the outcomes of the United Nations Climate Change Conference in Durban.

3) [Richer but resented: What do cash transfers do to social relations and does it matter?](#)

This paper suggests conceptualising cash transfers as ongoing processes of intervention in a complex system of social relations. It provides evidence that cash transfers tend to have positive effects on social relations, and therefore larger positive impact than current evaluations suggest, due to these indirect effects.

4) [Guidance for DFID country offices on measuring and maximising value for money in cash transfer programmes](#)

The paper provides guidance on measuring and maximising value for money in supporting cash transfer programmes.

5) [Compensation for ecosystem services: Directions, potentials and pitfalls for rural communities](#)

This policy brief provides an overview of the different conceptual frameworks for PES, how poverty alleviation might fit in, and relative strengths and weaknesses of the different approaches.

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