

Chapter 8: International Economic Inequality

http://www.afdb.org/portal/page?_pageid=473,1&_dad=portal&_schema=PORTAL

The African Development Bank is owned by its shareholders, which include 53 African countries, and 24 non-African countries. The Bank tries to promote sustainable economic growth and poverty reduction strategies. To this end, it funds a variety of development projects, including public sector loans, capital investment, and emergency grants.

<http://www.adb.org/default.asp>

The Asian Development Bank tries to improve the living standards of people living in Asia and the Pacific. Owned collectively by its member countries, it is a multilateral development institution which works towards reducing poverty and improving quality of life through policy dialogue, loans, and grants.

<http://www.undp.org/>

The United Nations Development Programme works with nations to promote development in 166 of the world's nations. Working to achieve the Millennium Development Goals, the organization has webpages devoted to each of their national projects. These pages contain detailed program information, country profiles, and an extensive list of publications. There are several interwoven focus areas that the UNDP has written extensively on, including poverty reduction, democratic governance, crisis prevention and recovery, energy and the environment, and HIV/AIDS.

<http://www.weforum.org/en/index.htm>

The World Economic Forum is "an independent international organization committed to improving the state of the world by engaging leaders in partnerships to shape global, regional and industry agendas." Highly business-focused in its view of development, the website's 'knowledge navigator' section contains brief and useful summaries of a large range of issues discussed at the Forum. Their 'initiatives' section contains information about its various development projects, which are markedly different in focus from those of the UNDP.

<http://www.oxfam.org/en/index.htm>

Oxfam International, an independent non-government organization, works to find sustainable solutions to poverty and injustice. The organization is a confederation of 13 different affiliates, who promote globally focused citizenship and try to shift public priorities towards equity in conjunction with economic growth. The 'policy and analysis' section of their webpage is especially useful, containing papers which range in topic from regulating global trade to effective disaster relief.

<http://econ.worldbank.org/>

Not a bank in the traditional sense, the World Bank consists of two development institutions, which are owned by 184 member countries. The International Bank for Reconstruction and Development works with middle income countries, while the International Development Association's focus is the poorest and least developed countries. The website is marked by an extensive data and research section, with over 15,000 downloadable publications arranged thematically.

<http://www.ifad.org/>

The International Fund for Agricultural Development is a UN agency established to help eradicate rural poverty in developing countries. The Fund centrally recognizes that causes of famine were related not to food production, but "structural problems relating to poverty." Their Rural Poverty Knowledgebase focuses on transforming experience into systematic and practical policies.

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http://www.idrc.ca/en/ev-1-201-1-DO_TOPIC.html

The International Development Research Centre is a Canadian public corporation with a mandate to “help developing countries use science and technology to find practical, long-term solutions to the social, economic, and environmental problems they face.” Their research themes include environment and natural resource management, information and communication technologies for development.

<http://www.icrw.org/index.html>

Dedicated to improving the lives of women living in poverty, the International Centre for Research on Women uses “focused, evidence-based, action-oriented research.” Their research and capacity building programs focus on improving women’s health, economic, and social status in under-developed countries.

<http://pgpblog.worldbank.org/>

Written by the staff of the World Bank Institute’s Poverty and Growth Program, the Poverty and Growth Blog’s aim is “to share knowledge and improve our common understanding of the challenges of reducing poverty and accelerating growth.” The site’s contributors are all World Bank Institute’s Poverty and Growth Program staff, with occasional guest contributors. The blog also aims to contribute “timely news, resources, tools, ideas and commentary on poverty related issues.”