



Researchers Alliance for Development

Researchers Alliance for Development (RAD) Newsletter, May-June 2007

NEWS

RAD Steering Committee renewal

In spring 2007 the RAD Secretariat made a call for applications to the RAD Steering Committee, the governing body of the network. We thank all the members who submitted their applications. The new Steering Committee was selected during the RAD Annual Meeting held in Bled, Slovenia, on May 16, 2007. [RAD Steering Committee 2007](#)

[Read the RAD Annual Report 2006-2007!](#)

Contribute to the RAD Work Plan 2007-2008!

Send your suggestions to the [RAD Secretariat](#).

EVENTS

Latest:

[Annual Bank Conference on Development Economics \(ABCDE\), Slovenia, May 17-18](#)

Overarching Theme: Development and the Private Sector



Opening session of the ABCDE, with Slovenian Prime Minister, Janez Jansa

[Read plenary and parallel session papers and presentations!](#) [Watch the conference online!](#)
[Read the wrap-up story](#)

The RAD organized 4 parallel sessions at ABCDE Slovenia:

1. 'Taxation and state-building' (Odd-Helge Fjeldstad)
2. 'Inclusive research in development' (Diane Stone)
3. 'Banking for Development' (Javier Santiso)
4. 'Private Sector Contributions to Development through Core Labor Standards in World Bank Lending and Procurement' (Kristian Weise)

[View conference papers and presentations](#)

RAD Annual Meeting, Bled, Slovenia, May 16, 2007

The RAD Annual Meeting 2007 took place in Slovenia, back to back with the ABCDE conference. It gathered about 50 participants, RAD members and newcomers who have joined the network.



RAD Annual Meeting 2007

PhD Workshop on the World Bank, Bled, Slovenia, May 16, 2007

The 3rd Doctoral Workshop on the World Bank took place at the occasion of the ABCDE conference, bringing together PhD students whose major area of research is the World Bank, to discuss their work with relevant World Bank staff and other academics. The workshop was co-funded by the [Economic and Social Research Council \(ESRC\)](#).

[See the program](#)



PhD students present their research on the World Bank

Visit of Heads of International Academic Networks to World Bank Headquarters, Washington D.C., June 11-12, 2007

Diane Stone of Central European University/ Warwick University, the new Chair of the RAD; and Kristian Weise of International Trade Union Confederation, RAD Steering Committee member, participated in a Visit of Academic Networks to the World Bank, organized by the World Bank and co-funded by the [Economic and Social Research Council \(ESRC\)](#).

The meeting brought together 12 senior representatives of international academic organizations for a two-day series of discussions with World Bank staff from various units.



Representatives of academic networks at the World Bank Office in Washington D.C.

Finals of the International Essay Competition 2007, Slovenia, May 17, 2007

Each year, the RAD partners with the World Bank on the organization of the essay competition for youth aged 18-25. In the year 2007, 2240 young people from 130 countries submitted their essays on the topic:

1. How does corruption affect your life?
2. What can you do to fight the corruption that you face?

Finalists were invited to present their papers at the Final Jury that took place during the ABCDE conference in Slovenia.

[Watch the Award Ceremony online!](#) [Read the winning essays](#)



Finalists of the Essay Competition 2007

PUBLICATIONS

[Research Highlights 2006](#)



On June 1, 2007, the World Bank's principal research unit, the Development Research Group (DECRG), published *Research Highlights 2006*, the second in an annual series that describes the major research themes and highlights of the year and provides a complete list of the unit's published output.

[New World Bank Report: From Red to Gray: The Third Transition of Aging Populations of Europe and Central Asia](#)

Lead Authors: Mukesh Chawla, Gordon Betcherman, Arup Banerji



The countries of Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union are experiencing a third transition, a transition that overlaps with their recent political and economic transitions. In 2025, more than one in five Bulgarians will be more than 65 years old - up from just 13 percent in 1990. Ukraine's population will shrink by a fifth between the years 2000 and 2025. And the average Slovene will be 47.4 years old in 2025 - among the oldest in the world.

Read the Overview in [Russian](#) or [English](#)

[Read the full report](#)

[New World Bank Report: Global Development Finance 2007: *The Globalization of Corporate Finance in Developing Countries.*](#)



Net private capital flows to developing countries reached a record \$647 billion in 2006, although the rate of growth of these flows slowed from 34 percent in 2005 to 17 percent in 2006. Emerging Europe attracted an increasing share of the overall flows and equity financing grew much faster than debt, says **Global Development Finance 2007**. Despite commitments made by donors, aid flows were disappointing, and the shift from official to private sources of finance continued.

Read the [overview](#) and [full report](#)

COMPETITIONS

[IFC Financial Times Essay Competition](#)

Topic: "Private Sector Development: Creating Markets, Transforming Lives."

Awards of 20,000 USD, 10,000 USD and 5,000 USD.

Deadline: September 30