The Little Data Book on Information and Communication Technology 2007

Corporate Author: World Bank
This new addition to the Little Data Book series presents at-a-glance tables for over 140 economies showing the most recent national data on key indicators of information and communications technology (ICT), including access, quality, affordability, efficiency, sustainability, and applications.

The Africa Multi-Country AIDS Program 2000-2006: Results of the World Bank's Response to a Development Crisis

Corporate Author: World Bank
This study documents the results to which the World Bank's Multi-Country AIDS Program (MAP) financing in Africa has contributed over the last five years ("What has the MAP achieved?"). It uses extensive and detailed data from surveys and national HIV and AIDS programs from 30 MAP countries that are not usually publicly available or captured in routine World Bank reporting systems. It introduces a new Results Scorecard and Framework for better measuring and reporting on results of Bank-financed HIV/AIDS programs in Africa in the future.

The book shows that the MAP has dramatically increased access to HIV prevention, care and treatment across Africa. MAP funding has supported children orphaned by AIDS, prevented mother-to-child transmission, helped countries build capacity for scaled up, more effective national responses to HIV and AIDS, including providing treatment. Regional programs are addressing cross-border issues and countries are sharing knowledge and experiences. A unique feature of the MAP is its emphasis on channeling money to communities, grass-roots initiatives, civil-society organizations and NGOs; [ten/fifteen] personal stories from people and groups in Uganda, Ethiopia and Rwanda offer powerful examples of how the MAP has improved health and lives, reduced stigma, and given new hope to people infected and affected by HIV across the continent.

Angola: Oil, Broad-Based Growth, and Equity

Corporate Author: World Bank
The Angolan economy is now experiencing massive oil windfall gains that are expected to last throughout the next decade. Since oil rents are to a large part concentrated in the public sector, the question of how the oil revenue should be spent and distributed across present and future generations becomes key to any economic development strategy. This study identifies six core areas where a strategic approach for the development of a broad-based growth strategy is required: (i) the incomplete transition to a market economy; (ii) macroeconomic management; (iii) governance and
transparency in the management of the mineral wealth; (iv) the business environment; (v) and (vi) public service delivery to the poor.

**Education Inputs in Uganda: An Analysis of Factors Influencing Learning Achievement in Grade Six**

Corporate Author: World Bank
Author: Harriet Nannyonjo

This report is based on a study prompted by the need for improved effectiveness in the use of education resources in Uganda. Uganda's problem with increasing resource constraints is common in many developing countries and the lessons learned in this study may be of broad interest. Currently, Uganda allocates over 31 percent of its discretionary recurrent expend education and 67 percent of this is allocated to primary education. Given increasing pressures on the budgets, there is need to implement strategies focusing on those inputs most likely to improve student learning. A major impediment to rational decision making in this area is lack of knowledge about what interventions work best and under what circumstances. Without this knowledge, Government may continue spending scarce resources on inputs that may not directly contribute student learning achievement.

**Language, Literacy, and Learning in Primary Schools : Implications for Teacher Development Programs in Nigeria**

Corporate Author: World Bank
Author(S): Olatunde A. Adekola

Language, Literacy, and Learning in Primary Schools is a synthesis of the findings arising from four years of policy research and development in Nigeria's primary schools that focused on the gap between what teachers should know and be able to do, and the realities of teaching and learning in classrooms. It begins by critically examining the outcomes of primary schooling as measured by learning achievement results from national assessments, and by identifying some core learning problems for Nigerian primary school children. It reviews the findings from recent research reports that studied teaching and learning processes in primary school classrooms, and it identifies the pedagogical issues in primary classrooms that contribute to poor learning achievements. This report describes a research and development program that set out to improve teaching and learning in core learning skill areas of the curriculum. This study identifies priority areas for teachers' professional development. It suggests a policy framework for the continuing professional development of primary school teachers, including the initial preparation of teachers and their induction into teaching. It proposes medium and long-term strategies to bring about the desired changes in teaching and learning through school-based approaches to teacher development.
Strategies for Cotton in West and Central Africa: Enhancing Competitiveness in the "Cotton 4"

Corporate Author: World Bank
Author(S): Ilhem Baghdadli, Hela Cheikhrouhou, Gael Raballand

Based on comprehensive empirical studies, the paper identifies key reforms and defines strategies to enhance the competitiveness of the cotton sector in West and Central Africa. Lessons learned from the 1990s suggest that transferring public property to private enterprises is not enough, by itself, to put the sector back on a sustainable path.

The cotton sector in most West and Central African countries is critical in terms of its contribution to GDP and exports as well as poverty reduction. Until recently, the cotton sector was characterized by a vertically integrated monopolistic structure, whereby all transactions in the chain including, ginning, transportation and input supply were handled by the State Owned cotton company. However during the late 1990s, a number of internal and external factors created the need to reassess the structure of the cotton industries in the region. This assessment revealed that, in this new context, vertically integrated monopolies were too costly to ensure vertical coordination of the cotton supply chain.

Performance Accountability and Combating Corruption

Corporate Author: World Bank
Edited by: Anwar Shah

This volume provides an analytical framework and operational approaches needed for the implementation of results-based accountability. The volume makes a major contribution to the literature on public management and evaluation. Major subject areas covered in this book include: performance based accountability, e-government, legal and institutional framework to hold government to account; fighting corruption; external accountability and the role of supreme audit institutions on detecting fraud and corruption.

The Little Data Book on External Debt

Corporate Author: World Bank

The Little Book on External Debt provides a quick reference for users interested in external debt stocks and flows, major economic aggregates, key debt ratios, and the currency composition of long-term debt for all countries reporting through the Debtor Reporting system. A pocket edition of the Global Development Finance 2007, Volume II: Summary and Country Tables, it contains statistical tables for 135 countries as well as summary tables for regional and income groups.
Enhancing China's Competitiveness through Lifelong Learning

Corporate Author: World Bank Institution
Author(S): Carl Dahlman, Douglas Zhuhua Zeng, Shulilin Wang

This book discusses the issues and steps involved in building a lifelong learning system in China, including: a coherent policy framework, a sound incentive and institutional framework, a sound regulatory environment, a coordinated governance process, a timely and reliable management information system, a dynamic link with the evolving global system, and the optimal use of limited resources.

Establishing Private Health Care Facilities in Developing Countries: A Guide for Medical Entrepreneurs

Corporate Author: World Bank Institute
Author(S): Seung-Hee Nah and Egbe Osifo-Dawodu

This book is a practical guide for medical professionals with little or no business experience who are interested in establishing health care facilities in developing countries. It is an introduction to the kinds of basic research and planning required identifying viable solutions and reducing the risk of failure.

Review of Risk Mitigation Instruments for Infrastructure Financing and Recent Trends and Developments

Corporate Author: World Bank
Author(S): Tomoko Matsukawa, Odo Habeck

This book summarizes existing risk mitigation instruments - primarily focusing on those offered by multilateral and bilateral official agencies - and presents recent trends and developments that make these guarantee and insurance products valuable in securing financing for infrastructure projects in developing countries. Topics covered include: descriptions of different types of risk mitigation instruments, characteristics of multilateral, bilateral, and private providers of risk mitigation, instruments and compatibility of instruments, recent developments and innovative applications of risk mitigation instruments through case transactions and areas that pose challenges to the use of risk mitigation instruments as catalysts of infrastructure development. This book will be of particular interest to readers working in business and finance, law and regulation, and infrastructure projects and finance.
Land Reform and Farm Restructuring in Transition Countries: The Experience of Bulgaria, Moldova, Azerbaijan, and Kazakhstan

Corporate Author: World Bank
Author(S): Nora Dudwick, Karin Fock, David Sedik

In the past fifteen years, most countries of Central and Eastern Europe and the Commonwealth of Independent States have shifted from predominantly collective to more individualized agriculture. These years also have witnessed the largest fall in agricultural production, yields, and rural employment on record, while the deterioration and dissolution of collective and state farms have been accompanied by a significant drop in rural public services. Land Reform and Farm Restructuring provides a structured and comparative review of important aspects of land reform and documents important differences in policies between countries to examine why the reforms have not yet lived up to their potential. It is based on data from farm and household surveys and interviews conducted in 2003 and 2004. Case studies from Bulgaria, Moldova, Azerbaijan, and Kazakhstan - countries that have had particular difficulties in land reform, farm restructuring, farm performance, or rural poverty - each highlight a central conundrum about land reform and farm restructuring. The paper concludes with some implications for policy.

Quality Systems and Standards for a Competitive Edge

Corporate Author: World Bank
Author(S): Makhtar Diop, Jose Luis Guasch, Jean-Louis Racine, Isabel Sanchez

This book provides a comprehensive evaluation and blueprint for implementing quality systems for private sector development and trade and competition initiatives. By thoroughly analyzing the diversity of institutions, linkages, and arrangements involved in quality systems and by identifying success factors in country quality strategies, this book provides a clear methodology on how to implement effective demand-driven national quality systems. It describes the necessary institutions and jurisdictions, the structure of required services and appropriate programs, the procedures and processes to be followed, the financing requirements and responsibilities, the incentive structure, and the relative roles of the public and private sector. With rich examples and case studies drawing best practices and lessons from around the world, this book will be invaluable to policy makers and development, trade, and competitiveness practitioners confronted with the challenge of building trade competitiveness in the new global economy.

Environmental Priorities and Poverty Reduction: A Country Environmental Analysis for Colombia

Corporate Author: World Bank
Author(S): Ernesto Sanchez-Triana, Kulsum Ahmed, and Yewande Awepe

A Country Environmental Analysis for Colombia proposes cost-effective policy and technical interventions aimed at abating the cost of environmental degradation and supporting more equitable and sustainable economic growth.
Environmental degradation is associated with increased morbidity and mortality and decreased productivity. Urban and indoor air pollution; inadequate water supply, sanitation, and hygiene; natural disasters (mainly floods and landslides); and land degradation are the environmental problems associated with the highest social and economic costs, falling most heavily on vulnerable people, especially poor children under five years old.

The Global Family Planning Revolution: Three Decades of Population Policies and Programs
Edited by Warren C. Robinson, John A. Ross

The striking upsurge in population growth rates in developing countries at the close of World War II gained force during the next decade. From the 1950s to the 1970s, scholars and advocacy groups publicized the trend and drew troubling conclusions about its economic and ecological implications. Private educational and philanthropic organizations, government, and international organizations joined in the struggle to reduce fertility. Three decades later this movement has seen changes beyond anyone's most optimistic dreams, and global demographic stabilization is expected in this century. The Global Family Planning Revolution preserves the remarkable record of this success. Its editors and authors offer more than a historical record. They discuss important lessons for current and future initiatives of the international community. Some programs succeeded while others initially failed, and the analyses provide valuable guidance for emerging health-related policy objectives and responses to global challenges.

by World Bank

The World Bank Group is a vital source of financial and technical assistance to developing countries around the world. Its focus is on helping the poorest people in the poorest countries by using its financial resources, staff, and extensive experience to aid countries in reducing poverty, increasing economic growth, and improving quality of life. In partnership with more than 100 developing countries, the Bank Group is striving to improve health and education, fight corruption, boost agricultural support, build roads and ports, and protect the environment. Other projects are aimed at rebuilding war-torn countries or regions, providing basic services such as access to clean water, and encouraging investments that create jobs. In addition to this critical groundwork around the world, various parts of the World Bank Group are involved in activities ranging from conducting economic research and analysis to providing financial and advisory services to governments and private enterprises. These activities reflect the emphasis the institution places on sharing development knowledge, which is gleaned not only from decades of experience.
This completely revised and updated second edition provides an accessible and straightforward overview of the World Bank Group's history, organization, mission, and purpose. Additionally, for those wishing to delve further into subjects of particular interest, the book guides readers to sources containing more detailed information, including annual reports, Web sites, publications, and e-mail addresses for various departments. It also provides information on how to work for or do business with the World Bank.

A good introduction for anyone interested in understanding what the World Bank Group does and how it does it, this book shows readers who want to learn more where to begin.

Expanding Access to Finance: Good Practices and Policies for Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises

Mohini Malhotra, Yann Chen, Alberto Criscuolo, Qimiao Fan, Iva Ilieva Hamel

This book's prime audience is government policy-makers. It provides a policy framework for governments to increase micro, small and medium enterprises' access to financial services - one which is based on empirical evidence from around the world. Financial sector policies in many developing countries often work against the ability of commercial financial institutions to serve this market segment, albeit, often unintentionally. The framework guides governments on how to best focus scarce resources on three things: developing an inclusive financial sector policy; building healthy financial institutions; and investing in information infrastructure such as credit bureaus and accounting standards. The book provides examples and case studies of how such a strategy has helped to build more inclusive financial institutions and systems in many countries.

International Migration, Economic Development & Policy

Edited by Maurice Schiff, Caglar Ozden

International migration has become a central element of international relations and global integration due to its rapidly increasing economic, social, and cultural impact in both source and destination countries. This book provides new evidence on the impact of migration and remittances on several development indicators, including innovative thinking about the nexus between migration and birth rates. In addition, the book identifies the effect of host country policies on migration flows, examines the determinants of return and repeat migration, and explores the degree of success of return migrants upon return to their country of origin.
Social Health Insurance for Developing Nations

Corporate Author: World Bank
Edited by: William Hsiao, R. Paul Shaw

Specialist groups have often advised health ministers and other decision makers in developing countries on the use of social health insurance (SHI) as a way of mobilizing revenue for health, reforming health sector performance, and providing universal coverage. This book reviews the specific design and implementation challenges facing SHI in low- and middle-income countries and presents case studies on Ghana, Kenya, Philippines, Colombia, and Thailand.

Investor Protection and Corporate Governance: Firm-level Evidence Across Latin America

Edited by Alberto Chong, Florencio Lopez de Silanes
Investor Protection and Corporate Governance analyzes the impact of corporate governance on firm performance and valuation. Using unique datasets gathered at the firm-level - the first such data in the region - and results from a homogeneous corporate governance questionnaire, the book examines corporate governance characteristics, ownership structures, dividend policies, and performance measures. The book's analysis reveals the very high levels of ownership and voting rights concentrations and monolithic governance structures in the largest samples of Latin American companies up to now, and new data emphasize the importance of specific characteristics of the investor protection regimes in several Latin American countries. By and large, those firms with better governance measures across several dimensions are granted higher valuations and thus lower cost of capital.

This title will be useful to researchers, policy makers, government officials, and other professionals involved in corporate governance, economic policy, and business finance, law, and management.

Structured Finance in Latin America: Channeling Pension Funds to Housing, Infrastructure, and Small Businesses

by Hela Cheikhrouhou, Emanuel Salinas, Sophie Sirtaine, Dimitri Vittas, W. Britt Gwinner

Structured Finance in Latin America explores how structured finance mechanisms can channel pension savings to support projects in underserved sectors, deepen capital markets, and contribute to investment and economic growth.

Private pension funds have been accumulating assets rapidly in the wake of pension system reforms in many Latin American countries. Strict investment regulations to protect workers' savings have limited their investment in highly creditworthy domestic securities, yet pension fund demand for new securities has outstripped issuance of eligible traditional
corporate debt instruments. This has contributed to a high concentration of pension fund assets in public debt.

Innovative structured finance mechanisms can help bring to the market a new set of creditworthy securities backed by pools of loans to small borrowers, mortgage loans or the expected proceeds of large infrastructure projects. These mechanisms create new investment opportunities for pension funds, while establishing additional sources of funding for underserved market segments. Policy makers and regulatory authorities have a catalytic role to play in the development of structured finance securities by establishing a conducive legal, regulatory, and tax framework.

Structured Finance in Latin America serves as a practical guide for development practitioners, policy makers, and others working in government, international or nongovernmental organizations, and financial institutions, who focus on finance and investment; infrastructure, transport, and urban development; housing finance; small and medium-sized enterprise development; and pension reform.

1 World Manga: Passages

by Annette Roman

A collection of all six 1 World Manga titles in one comprehensive volume, Passages follows the adventures of Rei as he falls in love, gets attacked by a shark, rides an elephant, watches a man dig up a skeleton, solves the mystery of a lagoon with vanishing fish, is kidnapped by brutal mercenaries, exposes corrupt public officials, and even transforms into a girl-ewww! And, in the course of this graphic novel, Rei and his animal spirit guide encounter the depths of poverty, disease, global warming, warfare, discrimination, and corruption. But through courage, compassion, and their indomitable human spirit, he and his friends take on life's challenges in places where the odds are stacked against them - yet leave the world better off for having passed through it.