

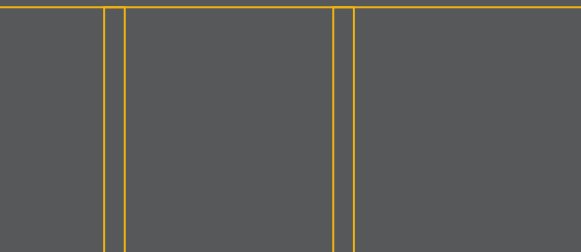
# WBI WITHIN THE KNOWLEDGE BANK

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GLOBALIZATION HAS MADE KNOWLEDGE AND INNOVATION KEY DRIVERS OF COMPETITIVENESS. FOR DEVELOPING COUNTRIES, THE NEED TO ACQUIRE AND APPLY KNOWLEDGE POSES NEW CHALLENGES AND OPENS NEW WINDOWS OF OPPORTUNITY. FORMAL TRAINING, PROFESSIONAL NETWORKS, AND INFORMAL SHARING

OF KNOWLEDGE HELP INDIVIDUALS AND ORGANIZATIONS PLAN, INNOVATE, AND COMPETE, AS WELL AS COPE WITH GLOBAL CHALLENGES SUCH AS CLIMATE CHANGE AND FOOD AND FUEL PRICE INCREASES AND SHORTAGES. BOTH HUMAN AND INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITY ARE CRITICAL TO SOUND DECISION MAKING.



Delivering relevant and timely knowledge and learning is one of the World Bank's strategic priorities. The Bank is renewing its efforts to achieve better outcomes for developing countries by complementing its loans with advisory services and knowledge products—key components of sustainable financial and technical solutions to some of the most challenging development problems.

The World Bank Institute (WBI) is one of the Bank's main instruments for knowledge exchange and dissemination. The Institute works with local training partners, academic institutions, and other centers of excellence to bring global and local knowledge to bear on national and regional development objectives. Through its courses and seminars, professional

networks, and communities of practice, WBI creates opportunities for South-South and North-South knowledge exchange and innovation. For more than 50 years, WBI has influenced half a million public and private sector decision makers around the world, many of whom have become leaders and change agents in their countries.

In the coming year, WBI will be supporting the Bank's renewed efforts to create, share, and apply the best of global knowledge through its core learning programs and by piloting new learning products and services on important topics emerging on the development agenda. I invite you to explore the Institute's recent accomplishments presented in this retrospective review of fiscal 2008.

