The World Bank Group is a unique institution of knowledge and learning. Delivering, expanding, and testing this learning—in tandem with financing or separately—is the most important part of our work.

—Robert B. Zoellick, President

The World Bank Group


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ABOUT

THE WORLD BANK INSTITUTE

The World Bank Group is a vital source of financial and technical assistance to developing countries around the world. The World Bank Institute (WBI) is one of the Bank’s main instruments for developing individual, organizational, and institutional capacity through the exchange of knowledge among those countries.

WBI designs and delivers learning programs that create opportunities for development stakeholders to acquire, share, and apply global and local knowledge and experiences.

WORKING WITH DEVELOPMENT STAKEHOLDERS

WBI works with policymakers, civil servants, technical experts, business and community leaders, parliamentarians, civil society stakeholders, as well as other learning institutions such as universities and local training institutes to foster the analytical, technical, and networking skills that support effective socioeconomic programs and public policy formulation. In fiscal 2008, WBI reached some 39,500 participants, 50 percent of whom were government officials, 30 percent were from Sub-Saharan Africa, and 34 percent were women.
CUTTING-EDGE COURSES AND PEER-TO-PEER DIALOGUE

WBI supports the World Bank Group’s six strategic priorities, namely the poorest countries, fragile states, global public goods, middle-income countries, the Arab World, and knowledge and learning.

The Institute designs and delivers courses and seminars, provides policy advice, and helps identify the individual skills and institutional and organizational capabilities needed to achieve development objectives. Activities are carried out face-to-face in classrooms in Washington, DC and abroad, and at a distance using two-way videoconferencing and the Internet. Combinations of printed course materials, textbooks, instructional video, CD-ROMs, interactive multimedia, facilitated online courses, Web forums, radio, online communities of practice, and e-mail lists support these activities.

WBI facilitates peer-to-peer exchanges of experience and expertise among developing country participants and with international experts. It emphasizes leadership training and action learning during which teams from participating countries address actual issues and prepare action plans for their return home. WBI also provides advice and support to World Bank staff on pedagogical design, training techniques, facilitation of distance learning activities, design and implementation of online discussions, and the design of e-learning. See WBI Learning Design: www.worldbank.org/learningdesign; and Capacity Development Resource Center: www.worldbank.org/capacity.

WBI devotes 75 percent of its program budget to topics of regional and global interest and 25 percent to those of country-specific relevance. The Institute places a heavy emphasis on global and regional public goods and cross-border issues, such as water and environmental management, climate change, and trade; and has recently shifted the balance of its work program in favor of longer, more in-depth courses for mid-career decision makers.

WBI’S THEMATIC PROGRAMS

The Institute addresses those development topics supported by the World Bank, including: human development, poverty reduction and economic management, sustainable development,
and finance and private sector development. WBI’s courses and other learning products and activities are organized around 14 thematic programs, including:

- Business, Competitiveness, and Development
- Education
- Climate Change, Environment, and Natural Resources
- Financial Sector
- Governance and Anti-Corruption
- Health and Aids
- Investment Climate Capacity Enhancement
- Knowledge for Development (K4D)
- Poverty and Growth
- Public Private Partnerships in Infrastructure
- Social Protection and Risk Management
- Trade
- Urban and Local Government, and
- Water

See page 13 for program descriptions and contact information.
THE BUSINESS MODEL

WBI’s business model is built on three elements designed to increase the Institute’s reach and effectiveness:
- leveraging financial resources through bilateral donor trust funds, and cost recovery from participants, and by selling WBI’s services to other World Bank units,
- networking with training partners to help deliver activities, thereby reducing costs, increasing the number of events, contributing to the capacity-building skills of local organizations, and fostering the exchange of knowledge and expertise among countries,
- capitalizing on the use of interactive technologies as well as blended applications of new and traditional educational methods, such as, videoconferencing, radio, and the Internet, to reach a greater number of clients more rapidly and more efficiently, and to facilitate professional networking among participants.

DONOR AND DELIVERY PARTNERS

WBI has formal agreements with some 20 bilateral donor agencies, and works with many more in-country delivery partners that mobilize local resources and knowledge, and help strengthen local ownership. The Institute also delivers programs with leading universities on topics of mutual interest. In fiscal 2008, nearly two-thirds of WBI’s activities were delivered jointly with partners, and almost 60 percent of the Institute’s direct activity costs were funded by trust funds.

The Institute is developing new partnerships with universities for joint research and executive training courses. WBI has had relationships with Harvard’s School of Public Health, the Wharton School, New York University, and others. (www.worldbank.org/wbi/partnerships)

GOVERNANCE AND LEADERSHIP

As part of the World Bank’s Governance and Anti-Corruption agenda WBI delivers courses on anticorruption and public sector governance, maintains the Worldwide Governance Indicators database (quantitative evaluation of the business climate in more than 100 countries are based on surveys of more
than 10,000 firms), provides in-depth governance diagnostic surveys for countries, and customized capacity building based on participant action plans.

In 2008, WBI and the World Bank’s Development Economics group published the seventh update of these indicators which track changes and trends in performance on six dimension of governance. The indicators help reformers in government and civil society to obtain consensus for change among their constituents.

WBI also works with leadership teams in the public sector to improve the culture of results in their organizations. It also offers programs for the private sector on corporate social responsibility and doing business in emerging markets; and with nongovernmental organizations on reducing corruption and developing demand for good governance.

The Institute has helped cabinets and newly appointed leaders in Indonesia, Madagascar, Senegal, Tajikistan, and Turkey stay abreast of issues such as globalization and trade, achieve strategic objectives through action planning and results based management, and to work across multidisciplinary and inter ministerial teams.

INCUBATING INNOVATION: NEW PRODUCTS AND SERVICES

Within the World Bank Group, WBI provides a space to explore, design, and pilot new products and services on emerging topics on the international development agenda. This includes working with new categories of clients, countries, or themes that could later be mainstreamed into World Bank operations.

WBI’s track record of successful incubation projects includes the following.


The Worldwide Governance Indicators are drawn from 35 data sources for 212 countries and territories based on aggregate
and individual indicators of six dimensions of governance: Voice and accountability, Political stability and absence of violence, Government effectiveness, Regulatory quality, Rule of law, and Control of corruption.
(http://info.worldbank.org/governance/wgi)

The Knowledge Assessment Methodology is an interactive benchmarking tool that allows policy makers to pinpoint where policy attention or investments may be required to help their countries transition to a knowledge-based economy (KAM, www.worldbank.org/kam). WBI’s Knowledge for Development Program assesses countries’ preparedness for competing in today’s global knowledge economy, and offers advice on how to access and use knowledge and innovation to increase economic competitiveness and social well-being.

Fighting Corruption through Collective Action is a step-by-step guide that helps businesses navigate through high-risk environments and limit opportunities for corruption. (www.fightingcorruption.org)

SCHOLARSHIPS FOR GRADUATE STUDY

For more than 20 years WBI has managed the Joint Japan/World Bank Scholarship Program and the Robert S. McNamara Scholarship Program which, in 2008, made awards to 278 developing-country scholars for graduate-level study abroad. Since its inception, the program has processed more than 56,000 applications and awarded 4,001 scholarships to mid-career professionals to pursue graduate studies leading to master’s degrees in development-related fields.

The Japan-Indonesia Presidential Scholarship (JIPS) program contributes to the Indonesian Ministry of National Education’s Presidential Scholars Program, which helps strengthen the qualifications and experience of staff, attract new talent to careers in higher education, and foster foreign and domestic academic partnerships. Launched in 2008, the JIPS is funded by a grant from the government of Japan to support doctoral study for some 40 scholars. Eleven scholarships were awarded for the 2008/09 academic year. (www.worldbank.org/wbi/scholarships)
THE GLOBAL DEVELOPMENT LEARNING NETWORK (GDLN)

WBI manages a small secretariat for the Global Development Learning Network (www.gdln.org) which is part of the World Bank’s strategy to increase its effectiveness through technology-enabled learning and information exchange. Located in more than 80 countries, 120 GDLN partners, or Network Affiliates, use advanced distance learning technologies to connect development practitioners around the world, thereby bridging geographical distances cost-effectively.

This makes GDLN a powerful tool for just-in-time consultation and dialogue on emerging issues in development. WBI works with GDLN to maximize its potential to provide well-designed learning events and cutting-edge content in addition to worldwide connectivity.

Network Affiliates manage centers equipped with interactive technologies and computers with high-speed internet access. The Affiliates offer a range of services and techniques that enable
organizations and individuals to share knowledge and learn from each others’ development experiences.

GDLN clients include, for example, academic institutions that offer distance learning courses on development issues; government officials discussing trade policies with their counterparts in other countries; health professionals sharing information on fighting HIV/AIDS; and development agencies entering into dialogue with key partners across the globe. GDLN is expanding its reach through partnerships with in-country networks in Brazil, China, India, Indonesia, Pakistan, and Russia—it has access to well over a thousand sites in some 80 countries.

BUILDING EVALUATION CAPACITY

WBI’s Evaluation Group offers courses and technical-advisory clinics for World Bank staff and clients on topics ranging from the fundamentals of monitoring and evaluation (such as indicator development and data collection) to specialized topics, such as reconstructing baseline data and approaches to impact evaluation; as well as needs assessment methods. (www.worldbank.org/wbi/evaluation)

DEVELOPMENT OUTREACH MAGAZINE

Development Outreach magazine, published three times a year, presents the views of expert authors from around the world on current topics in development. Articles on complex issues are written in a transparent language accessible to the general reader. The magazine is designed to occupy a middle ground between the scholarly journal and the general interest magazine. With a circulation of more than 25,000, the magazine is widely disseminated to WBI alumni and other stakeholders and serves as a basis for policy-oriented videoconference discussions that involve influential decision makers in the public and private sectors. (www.worldbank.org/devoutreach)
LEARNING FOR DEVELOPMENT

Helping clients acquire the knowledge and skills they need to improve government performance and service delivery, promote economic growth, and sustain poverty reduction programs are core functions of the World Bank Group.

In today’s world, where financial shocks and resource shortages threaten the hard-earned economic gains of developing countries, knowledge and information sharing—just in time, and just enough—is perhaps more important than ever.

Empowering clients through access to knowledge, developing communities of learners, building strong knowledge partnerships, and promoting knowledge flows are integral components of the Bank’s mission to reduce poverty. WBI offers its experience and the know-how to deliver on that promise.
THEMATIC LEARNING PROGRAMS (2008-2009)

BUSINESS, COMPETITIVENESS, AND DEVELOPMENT

Because the private sector is a crucial partner in development, WBI’s Business, Competitiveness, and Development program works with business, government, and other key stakeholders to facilitate private sector contributions on issues ranging from fighting malnutrition to reducing bribery. Responsive to client demands, the program offers a range of services related to inclusive and sustainable business, and to the role of the private sector in fighting corruption. The program partners with public and private organizations to integrate social and environmental responsibility, good governance, accountability, and engagement with the poor as vital components of corporate strategy. The program provides client-specific training, technical assistance, and knowledge exchange, including case study development, business advocacy, and dialogue. It helps build effective and sustainable partnerships and networks across sectors and regions to address development challenges that affect business and the poor alike.

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Inclusive & Sustainable Business. The World Bank Group’s strategy supports a more inclusive and sustainable globalization by helping to reduce poverty, enhancing growth with care for the environment, and creating individual opportunity. Today’s business community recognizes that the interconnected issues of gender equality, job creation, and climate change are affecting business operations. The program helps businesses and organizations working in emerging markets to understand the crucial linkages between corporate strategy and development, and to implement innovative business models and sustainable strategies that fight poverty while delivering profits. Core activities include executive development programs, research, and partnerships with the private sector to increase its engagement in addressing such issues as health, environment, and creating economic opportunities for the poor.

Private Sector Roles in Fighting Corruption. Many companies operating in weak rule-of-law countries and competing against companies with low governance standards face the dilemma of either paying bribes to win business or withdrawing from these high-risk markets. This program provides capacity building for country- and sector-specific business-led initiatives that seek to minimize bribery in specific commercial projects, promote long-term reforms to strengthen institutions and regulatory systems, or raise awareness about private sector roles in fighting corruption. The program also acts as a knowledge center, collecting, summarizing, and analyzing data on the successes and failures of business efforts to combat corruption, and developing practical implementation resources for business and its key stakeholders.

Climate Change, Environment, and Natural Resources

This program helps client countries manage natural resources and environmental public goods responsibly. It explores the linkages among the economy, ecosystems, and society, and helps strengthen institutional capacities to manage the urban environment for better health and quality of life; manage natural assets that sustain economic growth, development, and poverty reduction; conserve ecosystem features, including biodiversity; and mitigate and adapt to climate change. Specific topics include climate change; carbon finance assistance; sustaining natural capital; environmental economics and market-based environmental policies; strategic environmental assessment; environmental law,
compliance, and enforcement; the Clean Air Initiative; solid waste management; urban environment; and decentralized natural resources management.

www.worldbank.org/wbi/sdenvmanagement
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EDUCATION

This program contributes to enhancing quality, efficiency, and equity in education—a cornerstone for the successful pursuit of national productivity, competitiveness, economic growth, social development, and poverty reduction. Using face-to-face and distance-learning methods, the program shares current knowledge about global educational reform and maintains an international professional network to exchange reform experiences systematically among client countries. Special attention is given to countries at high risk of not achieving the Millennium Development Goal of universal primary completion by 2015, and, increasingly, those needing postbasic education reforms to strengthen skills and enhance the competitiveness of labor markets, including postconflict countries. The program also provides tools and skills for policy makers and schools to help them integrate information and communication technologies into national education systems as vehicles for expanding access and enhancing the quality of teaching and learning outcomes.

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FINANCIAL SECTOR

This program helps countries build a firm foundation for a healthy and diversified financial system. Topics include capital markets, nonbank financial institutions, banking systems, and access to financial services. Program activities cover risk management and contingency planning in banking and capital markets, access to risk transfer markets, financial sector policy, contractual savings, and small- and medium-enterprise finance. Activities—designed for financial sector policy makers, regulators, finance industry professionals, private sector practitioners, and academics—take
the form of technical training courses, conferences, regional and global workshops, videoconferences, and Web-based courses. The program aims to help financial industry professionals in developing countries access and adapt contemporary methods of risk management and financial engineering to their business and operating environments.

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GOVERNANCE AND ANTICORRUPTION

A well-functioning public sector delivers good public services consistent with citizen preferences, and fosters private market-led growth while managing fiscal resources prudently. The governance program helps administrators and academics share experiences and practices that promote public governance that is responsive (matching public services with citizens’ preferences), responsible (efficiency and equity in service provision without undue fiscal and social risk), and accountable (to citizens for all actions). The program delivers activities in partnership with other networks and organizations, and with stakeholders in client countries. The program moves beyond conventional training to knowledge dissemination, policy discussion based on the latest research and operational findings, and participatory and consensus-building activities. In some events, countries are encouraged to formulate action plans and take part in a set of learning programs tailored to their needs. The draft action plan is first presented and discussed in large
national or regional workshops led by the World Bank’s country team, with WBI support. Follow-up and specialized learning programs are carried out during implementation of the action plan.

www.worldbank.org/wbi/governance
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**SUBPROGRAMS**

**The Public Sector Governance Program** offers guidance on practices that promote responsive, responsible, and accountable public governance in developing countries. It does this through multiyear learning programs that support World Bank operations. The main themes include public management; parliamentary strengthening; governance and anticorruption at the sectoral level; judicial reform; and media information and governance. The program’s objectives are to support country assistance strategies for governance reforms; help implement the World Bank’s governance and anti-corruption strategy; facilitate national, regional, and global dialogues on policy and institutional reforms to improve service delivery performance and accountability; contribute to consensus and coalition building for reform; strengthen demand for good governance and government accountability; and enhance skills for improved public governance through specialized courses.

**Parliamentary Strengthening** helps improve government accountability through parliamentary oversight, principally through parliaments’ involvement in the budget process and through more effective parliamentary committees. The program strengthens parliamentary leadership on poverty reduction, curbing corruption, mainstreaming gender issues in development, and improving parliamentary administration. The program’s learning activities aim to strengthen the capacity of parliaments to oversee the allocation and use of public funds, and help parliaments better represent the interest of citizens in the policy process, especially in the context of country Poverty Reduction Strategies; strengthen the capacity of professional parliamentary staff; support parliamentary learning networks on key policy issues related to development; and encourage and promote action research on the role of parliaments. Emphasis is placed on the role of parliament in conflict-affected countries, the promotion of gender awareness within parliaments, and development of parliamentary benchmarks.

**Leadership Services.** It takes good leadership to achieve lasting results in economic growth and poverty reduction. Support to leaders and their teams can make an important difference in the vision, pace, and effectiveness with which a country’s development agenda is implemented. In response to growing demand for leadership support services, this program works with top-level leaders (national and sub-national), including political, government, private sector, and civil society leaders, to help
medium entrepreneurship development. It is designed for policy makers,
and national issues in regulatory reform, innovation, and small and
medium enterprises. The program partners with relevant
implementing partners to offer multiyear programs that address global, regional,
and sector-specific issues. It works closely with governments and
non-governmental organizations to design, implement, and sustain
entrepreneurial activities that are conducive to private sector-led growth. It does this through
formulating and implementing investment climate policies and reforms
that are compatible with national and sectoral policies.

**ENHANCEMENT OF INVESTMENT CLIMATE CAPACITY**

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www.worldbank.org/wbi/healthnutritionandpopulation

The program helps clients develop the capacity to analyze,
polices to reduce gender-based inequalities in health,
the performance and determines the kinds of reforms needed to improve
health services, and to achieve critical health, nutrition, and population outcomes that
are conducive to private sector-led growth. It works closely with
governments and non-governmental organizations to design,
formulate and implement investment climate policies and reforms
that are compatible with national and sectoral policies.

**HEALTH AND AIDS**

The Health and AIDS program complements World Bank lending by
strengthening the capacity of client countries, World Bank staff, and
staff from other development agencies to combat HIV/AIDS and to
achieve critical health, nutrition, and population outcomes that
are conducive to private sector-led growth. It works closely with
governments and non-governmental organizations to design,
formulate and implement investment climate policies and reforms
that are compatible with national and sectoral policies.

www.worldbank.org/wbi/healthnutritionandpopulation

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governments and non-governmental organizations to design,
formulate and implement investment climate policies and reforms
that are compatible with national and sectoral policies.
practitioners, trainers, academics, and policy researchers in World Bank client countries, and for representatives from the international donor community.

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KNOWLEDGE FOR DEVELOPMENT

The Knowledge for Development program builds the capacity of client countries to access and use knowledge and innovation to strengthen their competitiveness and increase economic and social well-being. It provides services in the form of individual country assessments or multicountry policy forums and helps countries evaluate how they compare with others in their ability to compete in the global knowledge economy. It offers recommendations for policy reform, accompanied by complementary advice on what the country needs to do to develop the capacity to deliver on these policies, namely, the people and organizations with appropriate skills and abilities to lead the necessary process of reform and development. The main audiences for the program are policy makers, senior government officials, private sector executives, civil society leaders, academics, and media representatives involved in developing and implementing broad national strategies for the effective use of knowledge in their countries.

www.worldbank.org/wbi/k4d  
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SUBPROGRAMS

Knowledge Economy Assessments. These assessments help clients evaluate how they compare with other economies in their ability to compete in the knowledge economy (KE). Three levels of policy service assessments are offered: benchmarking assessments based mainly on the Knowledge Assessment Methodology (KAM); enhanced knowledge economy assessments (detailed analyses of a particular sector, for example, education or innovation for a particular country); and comprehensive knowledge economy assessments that report on how clients can make an effective transition to the knowledge economy, including how they can develop the capacity for successful implementation of policies and strategies.

Human Capital Dimension of the Knowledge Economy. A flexible education system underpins the knowledge economy. This program analyzes the impact of the knowledge revolution on the education pillar of the KE. It examines the importance of a responsive and flexible post-basic and higher education, core competencies and skills for the KE, strong school-to-work linkages, and public-private partnerships; work on lifelong learning that extends from early childhood to retirement; and how diaspora networks of the highly skilled that can be a source of knowledge, capital, and creative collaboration.

Innovation Dimension of the Knowledge Economy. K4D’s work on innovation focuses on the acquisition, dissemination, and adaptation of global knowledge in the local context. This work includes participating in a new generation of World Bank loans for innovation (for example, through early-stage venture-capital networks, expatriate diaspora networks, and technology parks); and developing learning products on innovation policy.

POVERTY AND GROWTH

This program helps develop the capacity of poor countries to design, implement, monitor, and evaluate effective growth and poverty reduction strategies. A comprehensive package of learning products on macro-fiscal-monetary policy and capital flows management, project analysis and management, poverty data and measurement, including gender statistics and analysis, are designed for people who formulate and implement growth and poverty reduction strategies. These include government officials from ministries of finance and planning, statistical agencies and sectoral ministries; representatives from central banks, civil society organizations, research, and policy institutes; and staff from donor agencies. To ensure activities are tailored to country and regional
circumstances, the program partners with local growth and poverty reduction strategy teams, local training centers, the World Bank’s country teams and regional poverty coordinators, and numerous regional and global institutions. The program helps strengthen the skills of individual policy analysts and policy makers, and the capacity of institutions and organizations to formulate and implement policy changes, share knowledge, and build networks. It helps support the creation of communities of practice by linking expert bodies within and across regions.

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PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS IN INFRASTRUCTURE

This program helps client country governments foster a conducive environment for successful and sustainable public-private partnerships in infrastructure. It addresses cross-sectoral issues in the design and implementation of economic infrastructure (mainly transport and utilities) and social sector programs (mainly education and health). Target audiences include top policy makers, staff from public-private partnership units and agencies, regulators, consumer groups, and other stakeholders at the national and subnational levels. The program helps disseminate country-specific experiences and good practices while nurturing a global knowledge exchange among practitioners. Topics include prioritization and selection of public-private partnership projects; institutional
SOcial proteCtion

As an investment in human capital, social protection is intended to provide security to vulnerable groups in support of the Millennium Development Goals. This learning program supports the World Bank’s mission to help countries alleviate poverty and promote equitable and sustainable growth by expanding opportunities in the labor market, managing the social and economic risks associated with vulnerable groups, and providing effective social safety nets to improve equity and help eradicate extreme poverty. The program offers action-oriented and team-based learning initiatives for World Bank staff and their counterparts in client countries in the following areas: social safety nets, labor market policies, and pension reform.

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sUbproGraMS

Labor Market Policies is designed to provide a unique and comprehensive learning experience on how employment is being transformed in today’s rapidly globalizing world and what policy makers should be doing about it. The program builds on the lessons learned from the World Bank’s unique global experience and engagement with countries all over the world on labor market and employment-related challenges. It offers the distinct advantage of placing labor market issues and policy interventions within the context of overall economic and social development goals. The program addresses the challenges facing labor market policy makers and people concerned with how to become prosperous in a globalizing world.

Key issues addressed include: How can labor market policies enhance the investment climate and create jobs? Is the informal sector a source of poverty and insecurity for workers or can it be an engine for growth? How can labor market and social insurance programs most effectively help the unemployed return to work? What can be done to help vulnerable groups find employment? How can labor market regulation adequately protect
What is the role of international labor standards in averting a “race to the bottom” in a global economy?

**Pension Reform** is about protecting family incomes from the risks of old age, disability, and death of workers. The program focuses on sustainability issues faced by pension systems because of aging populations and the break down of family support systems, and how some countries have been reforming their systems to cope with these problems. The program delivers a series of inter-linked activities designed to address a wide range of issues such as the basic design of social security systems, common problems with existing systems in terms of adequacy, affordability and sustainability, alternative measures to increase the level of coverage of the system, its impact on the broader economy, the relationship between pension reform and financial market development on one hand and labor markets on the other hand, alternative options for reform, and social security system administration and regulation. It also addresses gender issues related to differences in contributions and coverage as well as life expectancy.

**Social Safety Nets** are mechanisms that mitigate the effects of poverty and other risks on vulnerable households to protect them from income risk and to ensure access to essential social services. The program provides an in-depth understanding of the conceptual and practical issues involved in the development of individual safety net programs and full safety net systems that are adequate, equitable, cost-effective, appropriate, incentive compatible, and sustainable.

The program provides detailed information on the principal types of safety net interventions, including cash and in-kind transfers, income-generating schemes and conditional cash transfers, along with practical tools to handle targeting mechanisms, monitoring and evaluation systems, and making informed policy choices. It also addresses the role of social safety nets within the broader context of equitable economic development, public expenditure, and budget constraints. The appropriateness of safety nets interventions are evaluated based on different country contexts such as the type of economy or conflicts, disasters and post-crisis situations.

**TRADE**

This program enhances the capacity of developing countries to put in place sound national trade policies and institutions that enable them to take advantage of the world trading system and participate effectively in international trade arrangements and negotiations. Focusing on the development economics aspects of trade, the program is designed to complement other trade
learning programs offered by international, regional, and academic institutions that concentrate on the legal dimensions of trade agreements and their implementation. Drawing on the knowledge base of the World Bank’s International Trade Department, program activities address the effects of trade on development and the economic policies related to trade integration and negotiations. Participants include policy makers, trade negotiators, and researchers involved in trade analysis and the provision of policy advice.

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URBAN AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT

With current trends toward decentralization, democratization, and globalization, cities must now finance and deliver more services to households, commerce, and industry. Cities have become engines of national economic growth as well as destinations for rural migration. This rapid urban expansion requires attention not only to urban services but also to a new and growing agenda of climate change. In this complex setting, WBI’s Urban and Local Government program helps improve the quality of professional service in key management posts in cities throughout the world. It establishes partnerships with international organizations, local institutions, and national and regional intermediaries to facilitate the establishment of an urban learning and knowledge-exchange infrastructure. It helps city officials explore key aspects of urban management in detail through four subprograms: Urban Services to the Poor, which focuses on slum upgrading; Urban Planning and Management; Demand-Side Governance; and Disaster Risk Management. The program serves city officials, national and regional officials in ministries, members of legislative bodies, lawmakers, and leaders in academic and civic organizations.

www.worldbank.org/wbi/urban
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The goal of the water program is to be an effective partner for learning and capacity building on water issues in client countries, and to help achieve the relevant indicators of the Millennium Development Goals. The program addresses two main themes: improvement of water supply and sanitation services for the poor; and integrated water resource management. It helps develop client skills and strengthen institutions in these areas by delivering learning activities on specific aspects of water management, by leveraging the knowledge and resources of partners, and by extending the program’s reach using distance-learning technology.

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