Thinking on Development – Resource List

The Politics of Giving: Philanthropy, Aid and Humanitarian Action in Global Development

These reading materials and discussion questions are designed for colleagues who would like to explore development related issues in the classroom. These resources have been collated to accompany the IGD's podcast series, Thinking on Development.

Overview

Who funds development projects and how do development donors interact with local organisations? This module is focussed on exploring some of the questions we are faced with how development is funded. There are significant political and ethical implications for different types of funding, the types of relationships underpinning funded development programs and the changing relationships between donors and recipients. In particular, the impact of COVID-19 on both development programs, the opportunity for localisation and the financial impact to donors is considered.

Podcast Episode

The podcast episode 'The Politics of Giving: Philanthropy, Aid and Humanitarian Action in Global Development' is a core basis for exploring these issues in detail. It is suggested that students listen to this podcast prior to the lesson and come to class with 1- 2 reflections or questions about the content. The podcast can be accessed here.

Suggested Reading and Listening

The readings supplement some of the issues raised in the podcast episode above.

Academic Articles

Adams J (2013) The challenge of aid dependency and economic reform: Africa and the Pacific', Harold Mitchell Development Policy Annual Lecture, Discussion Paper 32, Development Policy Centre, Australian National University, Canberra, 15-16, http://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=2357288

Australian Council for International Development (ACFID)) (2010), 'Aid effectiveness for whom? Why the aid program will fail without embracing civil society', submission to Australian Government's Independent Review of Aid Effectiveness, at http://www.aidreview.gov.au/publications/sub-acfid-brief1.pdf

Czaika, M., Mayer, A.(2011) Refugee Movements and Aid Responsiveness of Bilateral Donors The Journal of Development Studies, 47.3 .

Desai, R and Kharas, H. (2008) 'The California Consensus: Can Private Aid End Global Poverty?' Survival, Vol. 50, No. 4 at http://www.ciaonet.org.wwwproxy1.library.unsw.edu.au/journals/31

Easterly, W (2002) 'The cartel of good intentions: The problem of bureaucracy in foreign aid' The Journal of Policy Reform 5/4

Easterly, W (2006) The White Man's Burden: Why the West's Efforts to Aid the. Rest Have Done So Much Ill and So Little Good, Penguin Press.

Kilby, P (2021) Philanthropic Foundations in International Development, Taylor and Francis: United Kingdom.

Rodrik ,D. Subramanian, A. and Trebbi, F. (2004) 'Institutions Rule: The Primacy Of Institutions Over Geography And Integration In Economic Development', Journal of Economic Growth, 9 at https://www-jstor-org.wwwproxy1.library.unsw.edu.au/journal/jecongrowth

Sachs, J (2005) The End of Poverty (NY: Penguin), Chapter 3. See also Sachs, J. (2015) The Age of Sustainable Development, Columbia University Press, NY.

Zwi, A (2021) 'Development Assistance for Health: Trends and Challenges' in Solomon Benetar & Gillian Brock (eds), '
Global Health: Ethical Challenges, Cambridge University Press: Cambridge.

Media Articles and Blog Posts

Baker, A. (2015) Media portrayals of Africa promote paternalism, *The Washington Post*, 6 March 2015, available at https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/monkey-cage/wp/2015/03/05/media-portrayals-of-africa-promote-paternalism/ [accessed 18 November 2019].

Barder, O. (2011) 'What happens when donors fail to meet their commitments?' Global Development: Views from the Center', Center for Global Development, http://blogs.cgdev.org/globaldevelopment/2011/09/what-happens-when-donors-fail-to-meettheir-commitments.php

Konydyk, J, Saez, P & Worden, R (2020) 'Humanitarian Financing Is Failing the COVID-19 Frontlines', Center for Global Development, available at: https://www.cgdev.org/blog/humanitarian-financing-failing-covid-19-frontlines

Lyons, K. (2019) 'Dereliction of duty': five charts that explain Australia's approach to foreign aid, *The Guardian*, 5 June 2019, available at https://www.theguardian.com/australia-news/2019/jun/05/dereliction-of-duty-five-charts-that-explain-australias-approach-to-foreign-aid [accessed 19 November 2019].

Moores, D. (2018) Why Australia's aid is a key soft-power asset, *The Strategist*, 6 November 2018, available at https://www.aspistrategist.org.au/why-australias-aid-is-a-key-soft-power-asset/.

Moyo, D. 'Why Foreign Aid is Hurting Africa' The Wall Street Journal 21 March 2009, available at: https://www.wsj.com/articles/SB123758895999200083

Discussion Questions

The following questions have been developed to explore some of the issues from the podcast and the readings in more detail.

- What types of organisations fund development and what might their interests be?
- Philanthropy is often considered a form of altruistic giving. How is *philanthrocapitalism* different?
- Drawing on the podcast episode, the readings and your own thoughts, what might be some critiques of "top-down" development funding? How might this affect development outcomes?
- In the podcast, we heard about the role of philanthropic donors, state-based donors and grassroots engagement in development programming. What are the challenges and benefits associated with each? What do you think is the most effective way of funding development?
- How might COVID-19 affect what resourcing is available for development programming? How do you think development can respond flexibly to these changes?
- Do you think it is important that donors are transparent and accountable when funding development programs? Why/why not?
- How might *philanthrocapitalism* relate to humanitarian responses such as vaccine rollouts or infrastructure development in developing countries?