DESCRIPTION

World Development is a multi-disciplinary monthly journal of development studies. It seeks to explore ways of improving standards of living, and the human condition generally, by examining potential solutions to problems such as: poverty, unemployment, malnutrition, disease, lack of shelter, environmental degradation, inadequate scientific and technological resources, trade and payments imbalances, international debt, gender and ethnic discrimination, militarism and civil conflict, and lack of popular participation in economic and political life.

Contributions offer constructive ideas and analysis, and highlight the lessons to be learned from the experiences of different nations, societies, and economies. World Development recognizes 'development' as a process of change involving nations, economies, political alliances, institutions, groups, and individuals. Development processes occur in different ways and at all levels: inside the family, the firm and the farm; locally, provincially, nationally, and globally. Our goal is to learn from one another, regardless of nation, culture, income, academic discipline, profession or ideology. We hope to set a modest example of enduring global cooperation through maintaining an international dialogue and dismantling barriers to communication.

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Development practitioners, scholars and researchers in the field of development studies, including those in such disciplines as economics, political science, sociology, geography, anthropology, engineering and science policy, management and administration, agronomy, urban and regional planning, medicine and health care.
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INTRODUCTION

World Development is a multi-disciplinary monthly journal of development studies. It seeks to explore ways of improving standards of living, and the human condition generally, by examining potential solutions to problems such as: poverty, unemployment, malnutrition, disease, lack of shelter, environmental degradation, inadequate scientific and technological resources, trade and payments imbalances, international debt, gender and ethnic discrimination, militarism and civil conflict, and lack of popular participation in economic and political life. Contributions offer constructive ideas and analysis, and highlight the lessons to be learned from the experiences of different nations, societies, and economies. World Development recognizes 'development' as a process of change involving nations, economies, political alliances, institutions, groups, and individuals. Development processes occur in different ways and at all levels: inside the family, the firm and the farm; locally, provincially, nationally, and globally. Our goal is to learn from one another, regardless of nation, culture, income, academic discipline, profession or ideology. We hope to set a modest example of enduring global cooperation through maintaining an international dialogue and dismantling barriers to communication.

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Pandemics, COVID19, and Sustainability and Development

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Pandemics affect poverty, sustainability and development in ways that are unsuspected to obvious. The Covid19 pandemic, like the 1918-19 and 1957 flu pandemics has already killed nearly a hundred thousand people and devastated national to household economies around the world. It will kill hundreds of thousands more and will present unprecedented shock to trajectories of development and sustainability for years. Inadequate testing and diagnoses, coupled with thoroughly flawed responses by governments and donors alike, mean that the true scale of its devastation will be known only retrospectively if at all.

This historical moment is as important for sustainability and development as it is incredible - who would have imagined a global lockdown even three months ago?
World Development calls for contributions to a special issue on "Covid19, Pandemics, and Sustainability and Development" in an effort to bring the best thinking and research on the subject to our readers. We expect the Special Issue to cover a broad range of topics. These include themes related to the emergence of pandemics, how they unfold, responses to the multifarious threats they pose, and their immediate to longer-term effects as these concern households, societies, ecosystems, and nation states. We welcome papers that among other topics address questions about political and institutional preparedness and the role of expertise, supply chains and intersectoral impacts, testing, treatment, and vaccine development, employment, recessions, and economic downturns, agriculture, industrial and service professions, and health, educational, and wellbeing outcomes. The themes mentioned here do not exhaust the myriad ways that pandemics affect development and sustainability outcomes. We view them as indicators of how pandemics and public health need far greater attention in contemporary thinking about development and sustainability.

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