

Tony Addison

Development Economics over 30+ Years



Overview of the Development Debate across 30+ years

- 1980s: Contesting ideologies. Orthodoxies v Heterodoxies. Market Liberalism.
 Globalization. Macro-Economic Crises: Development Macroeconomics.
- 1990s (early-mid): Recovery & Growth but State Disintegration & Formation (conflict economics). Economic Transition (Institutions!) Trade & Growth (State's role). Environment.
- 1990s (mid-late). Return to Poverty Reduction & Human Development => MDGs (2000). Crises (Asian). Institutions.
- **2000s**: Delivering in education, health (Aid, MDGs). Rise of Evaluation (RCT etc). Philanthropy. Rise (& fall?) of micro-finance. Climate change. Financial crisis (again!)
- **2010 onwards:** Jobs (Livelihoods) + Gender equality. SDGs (2015). Structural transformation (back again!). What else? "Peak RCT?'.



Summing Up

- What's going right:
- data on households, enterprises, public finances (transparency agenda) ... but not enough panels
- Focus on absolute poverty reduction, now matched by attention to inequality (inc. gender equality) ... but not enough spatial/geographical focus
- More evaluation evidence what works. But the overconfidence of the Randomistas
- More fiscal incidence knowledge & new focus (though late in the day) on Tax Policy
- Concerns:
- The cross-over of political & economic power (& associated inequality).
- Growth but not enough transformation (jobs: millions not thousands). Finance & Macro-Economic Crises.
- The resource base of continued prosperity (stress). Extractive industries (oil, gas, mining) opportunities/risks.



EXTRACTIVE INDUSTRIES

THE MANAGEMENT OF RESOURCES AS A DRIVER OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Edited by Tony Addison and Alan Roe

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Helsinki, Finland