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Abstract

Who is the development community? What are they doing? What are their roles in addressing the Global South's development issues? Why are many foreign aid projects found to be ineffective? How achievable and sustainable are the global development goals? To what extent has development work improved the rights of the poor?

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The Tyranny of Experts, William Easterly provides an excellent historical and contemporary account of the causes of poverty in the developing world, and proposes some fundamental principles that should guide any solutions to alleviate the problems faced by the poorest on this planet. While Easterly would argue that any aid project that respects the rights of the poor will have dramatically better outcomes, this book is not about providing a silver bullet solution. It is about trying to open eyes and persuade those who believe that abstract development goals are more important than the rights of poor people. Easterly has attempted to open "development experts" to new ideas by establishing the importance of rights and decentralised solutions.

Easterly (Economics/New York Univ.; The White Man's Burden: Why the West's Efforts to Aid the Rest Have Done So Much Ill and So Little Good, 2006, etc.) delivers a scathing assault on the anti-poverty programs associated with both the United Nations and its political and private sector supporters. Pre-publication book reviews and features keeping readers and industry influencers in the know since 1933. Current Issue Special Issues All Issues Manage Subscription Subscribe. Writers' Center. Economists, dictators, and the forgotten rights of the poor. by William Easterly