



## International Development Program

# Fall 2007 Development Roundtable

All events are free and open to the public.

**Sept. 28 - Carol Lancaster** **12:30 - 1:30**  
***US Foreign Aid and the Bush Administration***  
 Rome, 200

A twentieth-century innovation, foreign aid has become a normal and accepted component of US foreign policy. Yet the purpose of foreign aid and the mechanisms that govern it are matters of great controversy and debate. They have only become more so in recent years with the War on Terror, the inauguration of the Millennium Challenge Corporation and the subjection of USAID to the rule of the State Department. **Carol Lancaster**, currently a professor at Georgetown and formerly a deputy administrator of USAID, will discuss the politics that drive foreign aid and illuminate the radical changes in the foreign aid agenda that have occurred during the Bush presidency.

**Oct. 12 - Tim Carrington** **12:30 - 1:30**  
***The Media's Role in Development***  
 Nitze, 417

The existence of a free and functioning media, long associated with any successful democracy, turns out to have equally strong links with market economies capable of growth, job creation, and poverty alleviation. If a flourishing press seems to go hand-in-hand with better economic outcomes - including measures such as lower child mortality - then the multilateral institutions must begin to support media development as one of the contributing elements in a broader economic and social development. However, the interaction between the media and the surrounding economy isn't simple or straightforward. Drawing on his recent work in Eastern Europe and Africa, **Timothy Carrington, manager of the World Bank Institute's global training program in Economics and Business Journalism**, will explain the complex interactions that exist between the media and economic development.

**Oct. 19 - Bob Bestani** **12:30 - 1:30**  
***The Future of the Multilateral Development Banks***  
 Rome, 203

The multinational development banks are facing a sort of identity-crisis. They are still needed and relevant, but not in the same ways they once were. The Asian Development Bank has found a new formula that works - and the other MDBs have now started to notice. **Robert Bestani is the Director General of the Private Sector Finance Department at the Asia Development Bank.** He also served in the first Bush Administration as Deputy Assistant Secretary for International Monetary and Financial Policy at the U.S. Department of the Treasury. He will be explaining the changing role of the IFIs and elucidating the ADB's winning strategy for staying relevant in the new millennium.

**Oct. 26 - Elizabeth Littlefield** **12:30 - 1:30**  
***Microfinance and the Quest for Universal Access***  
 Rome, 200

Microfinance is a hot topic these days. It appeals to both Left and Right, bureaucrats and businessmen, university students and corporate CEOs. What started out several decades ago as a niche movement in just one corner of the developing world has gradually moved into the mainstream financial markets in poor countries and the mainstream consciousness of the developed world. Yet the future of microfinance is not at all clear. How will demographic shifts in the developing world alter the dynamics of microfinance? Will the rise of China, India, and other emerging market significantly alter the field? What sorts of impacts will advances in communications technology have upon access to microfinance? How will the entrance of new donors and investors shift priorities? **Elizabeth Littlefield, Chief Executive Officer of the Consultative Group to Assist the Poorest (CGAP)**, will shed light on all of these questions.

**Nov. 2 - Kemal Dervis** **12:30 - 1:30**  
***Development, Conflict and Governance: The Key Issues***  
 Rome, Auditorium

At one point in time, development was understood to be solely a function of the resources available to a society. Most development practitioners now accept that the key element in development is not the level of available resources, but the degree to which a society is able to organize its political and economic institutions to be accountable, so that resources are utilized in the best manner possible. In the same way that development was once equated with the availability of resources, many analysts now link conflict to poverty or a lack of resources. However, new schools of thought are emerging that see violent conflict as having less to do with resources, and more to do with the ability of a society to organize itself on the basis of consensus and inclusion. **Kemal Dervis, head of the United Nations Development Programme and Chair of the United Nations Development Group**, will discuss the many parallels and linkages that are emerging between development strategy and conflict resolution strategy.

**Nov. 16 - Maya Ajmera** **12:30 - 1:30**  
***Small is Beautiful: New Ways of Funding Sustainable Development***  
 Rome, 200

**Maya Ajmera, Founder and President**, will discuss her experience as a social entrepreneur in founding **The Global Fund for Children** which supports and strengthens community-based organization that reach and serve the world's most vulnerable children. This model of grant support, capacity-building and organizational development assistance at the community level is defining a new paradigm in sustainable international development. **Victoria Dunning, Vice President of the Grants Program**, will join Ms. Ajmera in a discussion how this "small is beautiful" approach complements macro development initiatives, the demonstration of strong and more effective program models, as well the amplification of visibility, attention and prioritization of community-based organizations in the international development dialogue.