

**Collective for Research and Training on  
Development Action (CRTD-A)  
Independent Resource and Information Services (IRIS)**

**Development e -Brief  
May 14, 2004**

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**EVENTS**

## 1. NGOs:

- **Video Meeting- Including Disabled People in the MDGs:** The Millennium Development Goals has acknowledged that for the MDGs to be achieved, persons with disabilities must be brought into the development mainstream. This is a B-SPAN presentation that will talk about successful policies and practices for inclusion. For a list of upcoming events, <http://www.worldbank.org/events/>
- **Universal Forum of Cultures: Forum Barcelona 2004.** The Universal Forum of Cultures will take place in Barcelona from May 9-Sept 26. The forum is a new and creative space for reflection and experimentation.

## 2. ICT:

- **ESCWA discusses the Role of ICT as an Enabler for Economic Development.** This meeting aimed at drawing a regional initiative involving partnerships amongst stakeholders. ESCWA Weekly News 10/05/04 [www.escwa.org.lb](http://www.escwa.org.lb)

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## NEWS

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## 1. ICT:

- **ESCWA Calls for Fair Participation of Developing Countries in Governance of Internet:** ESCWA emphasized that multilingualisation and decentralization should be strategic aims in achieving regional empowerment and full participation. ESCWA Weekly News 02/02/04: [www.escwa.org.lb](http://www.escwa.org.lb)
- **Petersberg Prize Contest Draws nominees from all Regions:** Finalists will be named by early June, in the contest that will recognize outstanding achievement in the field of information and communication technologies. Over 220 nominations were submitted from all over the world. [www.developmentgateway.org/prize](http://www.developmentgateway.org/prize)
- **The Million Book Digital Library.** The objective of this project is to create a free-to-read searchable collection of one million books. [www.developmentgateway.org/e-learning/dg-contribute/item-detail?item\\_id=400892&version\\_id=244660&from=alert](http://www.developmentgateway.org/e-learning/dg-contribute/item-detail?item_id=400892&version_id=244660&from=alert)

- **InfoDev Project: Networking for Innovation in Technology and Teacher.** This project established a network of countries engaged in innovative approaches to training teachers with the use of technology. [www.developmentgateway.org/e-learning/dg-contribute/item-detail?item\\_id=402420&version\\_id=245697&from=alert](http://www.developmentgateway.org/e-learning/dg-contribute/item-detail?item_id=402420&version_id=245697&from=alert)

## 2. GENDER:

- **A TV host in Saudi Arabia has gone public on domestic abuse.** [www.aviva.org](http://www.aviva.org)
- **Sudan reports mass rape as fighting in the country intensifies.** [www.aviva.org](http://www.aviva.org)

## 3. POVERTY:

- **Global Action against Hunger is Experiencing some Success.** Such as the world's population will be better fed by 2030. However, 100's of millions in the developing world will remain chronically hungry. [www.comminit.com/Baseline2003/sld-7452.html](http://www.comminit.com/Baseline2003/sld-7452.html)
- **The Global Economy has grown and significant Reductions in Absolute Poverty have been Achieved.** According to the UNDP the proportion of the world's people living in extreme poverty fell from 29 per cent in 1990 to 23 per cent in 1999. However, gains have been made in only certain parts of the world. [www.comminit.com/Baseline2003/sld-5602.html](http://www.comminit.com/Baseline2003/sld-5602.html)

## 4. TRADE/ECONOMICS/MICROFINANCE:

- **Lebanese Finance Minister Rips Globalisation.** On April 15, the Lebanese Economic and Trade Minister and ESCWA launched the Annual Review of Developments in Globalisation and Regional Integration in the Arab countries of the ESCWA region. ESCWA Weekly News 02/02/04. [www.escwa.org.lb](http://www.escwa.org.lb)
- **Riyadh Holds New Trade Talks with US.** Saudi Arabia is set to hold a fresh round of WTO talks with the US amid expectations that it could join the WTO by July. **WTO Digest 484.**

- **Lebanon is on Track to Join the WTO.** Lebanon's efforts to join the WTO is moving closer to being realized, as officials are working hard to remove the last few obstacles to accession. **WTO Digest 484**
- **Trust Fund Is to Support Palestine Authority.** The Bank announced a Public Financial Management Reform Trust Fund, designed to support the Palestinian Authority in sustaining public services in the face of a severe fiscal crisis. <http://web.worldbank.org/WBSITE/EXTERNAL/NEWS/0,,contentMDK:2019590~menuPK:34463~pagePK:64003015~piPK:64003012~thesitePK:4607,00.html>
- **Palestinian Consultative Meeting in Ramallah:** In preparation for the Arab International Forum a meeting by various ministries was organized in April. The meeting aimed to initiate an inter-Palestinian dialogue and rehabilitation vision. ([www.escwa.org.lb](http://www.escwa.org.lb))

#### 5. NGOs:

- **Global Fund for Women Grants.** This supports women's groups outside the United States that advance human rights of women and girls by providing small, flexible and timely grants. [www.comminit.com/Scholarships2004/sld-10058.html](http://www.comminit.com/Scholarships2004/sld-10058.html)

#### 6. YOUTH:

- **Youth to evaluate UN Programme of Action.** The UN secretariat is encouraging young people to contribute to evaluation of national youth policies, during two special meetings in the Fall of 2005. [www.un.org/youth](http://www.un.org/youth)
- **Television & Young People (TVYP) at Work.** Places 12 19-21 year old delegates in employment and administers a training and mentoring programme at leading production companies. [www.comminit.com/awards2004/sld-7859.html](http://www.comminit.com/awards2004/sld-7859.html)

## **REPORTS & BOOKS & ARTICLES**

#### 1. POVERTY:

- **Global Spending Priorities do not Prioritize Development Issues.** The world spends nearly \$1,000 billion a year on arms,

300 billion on agricultural subsidies, and \$50 billion on aid.  
[www.comminit.com/Baseline2004/sld-9891.html](http://www.comminit.com/Baseline2004/sld-9891.html)

## 2. TRADE/ECONOMICS/MICROFINANCE:

- **Can Globalisation be made Fair, Inclusive, and Democratic?** This report argues that it can.  
[www.comminit.com/BaseLine2004/sld-9918.html](http://www.comminit.com/BaseLine2004/sld-9918.html)
- **Housing Policies and Real Estate and Housing Ownership in the ESCWA Region.** ESCWA has published a study in Arabic that has taken a new approach to housing policies in countries of the ESCWA region. ESCWA Newsletter: 03/05/04: [www.escwa.org.lb](http://www.escwa.org.lb)
- **World Development Indicators 2004.** The Bank's statistical publication presents the most current and accurate info on global development at both national and global levels.  
<http://publications.worldbank.org/ecommerce/>

## 3. YOUTH:

- **Rutanang: Peer Education as a Rigorous Technology.** .Rutanang is a set of materials and a process communicating an approach to peer education for programmes serving youth in education. [www.comminit.com/africa/ma2004/sld-1469.html](http://www.comminit.com/africa/ma2004/sld-1469.html)
- **“Paupers and Princlings”: Youth Attitudes Toward Gangs, Violence, Rape, Drugs, and Theft.** The report is the result of a study on youth gang culture and youth attitudes that was designed, implemented and undertaken by young people.  
[www.eldis.org/cf/rdr/rdr.cfm?doc=DOC12910](http://www.eldis.org/cf/rdr/rdr.cfm?doc=DOC12910)
- **Adolescent and Youth Reproductive Health.** This paper presents findings of a series of assessments of adolescent and youth reproductive health conducted in 13 countries. Countries include Egypt, Jordan, Morocco and Yemen.  
[www.eldis.org/cf/rdr/rdr.cfm?doc=DOC12986](http://www.eldis.org/cf/rdr/rdr.cfm?doc=DOC12986)
- **Why Banning the Worst Form of Child Labour Would Hurt Poor Countries?** The author of this article brings up a very controversial issue to banning child labour, stating the negative impact it would have on poor families.  
<http://topics.developmentgateway.org/poverty/rc/ItemDetail.do~1000966>

- **Child Labour and Access to Basic Services.** This is a critique regarding the analyses of the determinants of child labour and how they have ignored the role of access to basic services. This report analyses what role services have on a Child's life. Evidence from Morocco and Yemen included. [www.eldis.org](http://www.eldis.org)

#### 4. NGOs:

- **How to lobby at Intergovernmental Meetings.** This book is written for all those involved in international meetings, including NGOs, who are trying to influence the agendas of international agencies and meetings. [www.comminit.com/linksnegos/sld-9847.html](http://www.comminit.com/linksnegos/sld-9847.html)
- **Using Cultural Resources to provide an Alternative to Mainstream Perceptions of Human Rights.** The Cairo Institute of Human Rights Studies in Egypt uses the arts and literature to engage people in the human rights debate and demonstrate that human rights are celebrated in Arab cultures. [www.comminit.com/pds42004/sld-9938.html](http://www.comminit.com/pds42004/sld-9938.html)

#### 5. GENDER:

- **Guy-to Guy Project-Brazil:** The Brazil based NGO Instituto Promundo is working to engage young men as change agents in gender based violence prevention and the promotion of sexual and reproductive health. [www.comminit.com/pds22004/sld-9780.html](http://www.comminit.com/pds22004/sld-9780.html)
- **It is reported that 70 percent of the world's poor are women.** Even after years of supposed progress, women make up two thirds of the world's 880 million illiterates, and approximately seventy per cent of its poorest citizens. [www.aviva.org/newsinex.htm](http://www.aviva.org/newsinex.htm)
- **Yemen Parliamentary poll is model for the region.** Article on the 2003 elections. [www.undp.org/dpa/frontpagearchive/2003/may/21may03/](http://www.undp.org/dpa/frontpagearchive/2003/may/21may03/)

#### 6. ICT:

- **EIU The e-readiness rankings.** A study carried out by IBM and The Economist journal found that Scandinavian countries and the UK are the world's most Internet-friendly nations.

<http://topics.developmentgateway.org/ict/rc/ItemDetail.do~1000239>

## **WEBSITES**

### **1. NGOs:**

- **HURISEARCH.** This is a multi-lingual tool that directly searches over 1300 human rights NGO sites in approximately 60 languages. [www.comminit.com/linksgos/sld-9847.html](http://www.comminit.com/linksgos/sld-9847.html)

### **2. YOUTH:**

- **Global March against Child Labour:** This is the web site of the Global March, a movement against child labour. The site contains documents and campaigns on child labour. <http://topics.developmentgateway.org/poverty/rc/ItemDetail.do~1000200>
- **Talking with Kids.** This is an interactive English and Spanish site that features resources, tips, as well as strategies for talking with children about certain issues. [www.comminit.com/linksgos/sld-9797.html](http://www.comminit.com/linksgos/sld-9797.html)

### **3. ICT:**

- **Tunisia-Information and communications.** [http://www-wds.worldbank.org/servlet/WDS\\_IBank\\_Servlet?pcont=details&eid=000012009\\_20040423145534](http://www-wds.worldbank.org/servlet/WDS_IBank_Servlet?pcont=details&eid=000012009_20040423145534)
- **Online Computer Library Centre (OCLC).** This is a non-profit, membership, computer library service and research organization. <http://topics.developmentgateway.org/knowledge/rc/ItemDetail.do~403232>

### **4. TRADE/ECONOMICS/MICROFINANCE:**

- **Amman, Jordan Development Corridor.** [http://www-wds.worldbank.org/servlet/WDS\\_IBank\\_Servlet?pcont=details&eid=000090341\\_20040421140748](http://www-wds.worldbank.org/servlet/WDS_IBank_Servlet?pcont=details&eid=000090341_20040421140748)

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