BIBLIOGRAPHY OF USAID AUTHORS
June, 2015

This bibliography, prepared by members of the USAID Alumni Association (UAA) with assistance from the USAID Knowledge Resource Center, contains books written by current and former USAID employees and their family members.

The bibliography will be updated periodically with new titles and will be available on the UAA website and the USAID KSC website. A shelf with hard copies of some of these books is located in the USAID/KSC library (mezzanine level) in the Ronald Reagan building.

The bibliography has been prepared as part of a UAA effort to retain and publicize key elements of USAID’s history and make them available to current USAID staff as well as former USAID officers.

Each entry includes the author’s name, the book title and publisher and, if available, its ISBN (International Standard Book Number) and its call number in the KSC. The book is described in a short paragraph, usually provided on the book jacket or otherwise by the author, along with a brief description of the author’s career with USAID.

The contents are organized in ten categories, following the protocol used in the Foreign Service Journal’s book reviews.

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Readers are encouraged to provide additional entries to this “living” bibliography by contacting Jpielemeie@aol.com and Dcohen@usaidalumni.org.
I. History and Biography


Former U.S. Ambassador to Mongolia Jonathan Addleton seeks to shed light on the little-known history of U.S.-Mongolian relations in this new volume in the ADST-DACOR Diplomats and Diplomacy Series. While the two countries did not formally open embassies until 1987, they have been interacting for more than 150 years.

Nested between Russia and China, Mongolia is often overlooked. But as the author notes, much like the United States, Mongolia was once a great power born out of decisive leadership and the unification of various peoples. For this reason, U.S.-Mongolian relations have grown deep and fruitfully positive.

The author makes use of his extended time and experience in the region to give the book a personal flavor. As a result, it reads more like a historical narrative than a political piece. Readers searching for a simple history of the ties between the two countries, rather than a critique, will enjoy this.

Jonathan S. Addleton, a career USAID FSO, was U.S. ambassador to Mongolia from 2009 to 2012 and USAID country director there from 2001 to 2004. He received the Polar Star, Mongolia’s highest honor for foreign civilians, in 2012 for his work in strengthening ties between the United States and Mongolia. Mr. Addleton is the author of *Undermining the Center* (Oxford University Press, 1992) and *Some Far and Distant Place* (University of Georgia Press, 1997).


To celebrate the 50th anniversary of the founding of the U.S. Agency for International Development, the editors reached out to all agency staff, alumni and administrators to seek their thoughts on serving with USAID. This collection of 115 brief essays submitted in response to that invitation, organized by decade, is a volume in the Association for Diplomatic Studies and Training Memoirs and Occasional Papers Series.


In 1883, the State Department appointed Peter Strickland as U.S. consul in Gorée Island, Senegal. He was the first American diplomat to work in West Africa, a major French colonial area. Strickland would remain in Senegal for more than a quarter of a century. Stephen H. Grant’s interest in Strickland was sparked after purchasing an envelope on eBay that had been sent from Boston via Bordeaux to Strickland at Gorée Island in 1889. Strickland kept meticulously detailed diaries, which help to show how the duties of a 19th-century consular
office differ from today’s. Instead of issuing visas and replacement passports, the main objective of Strickland and his contemporaries was to “monitor and facilitate American shipping abroad and ... to look out for the welfare of American seamen.” Strickland sent 272 dispatches to the State Department in his 23 years as consul, trying to inform the U.S. diplomatic and commercial communities about the benefits of trade with Africa.

Stephen H. Grant served for 25 years with USAID and was posted in the Ivory Coast, El Salvador, Indonesia, Egypt, West Africa and Guinea. He is the author of Peter Strickland: New London Shipmaster, Boston Merchant, First Consul to Senegal (New Academia, 2006), as well as three books that use old picture postcards to recount social history.

Mr. Grant is currently a senior fellow at the Association for Diplomatic Studies and Training. This book is part of the ADST-DACOR Diplomats and Diplomacy Series.


In Collecting Shakespeare, Stephen H. Grant recounts the American success story of Henry and Emily Folger of Brooklyn. Shortly after marrying in 1885, the Folgers began buying, cataloging and storing all manner of items about the Bard of Avon and his era. Emily earned a master’s degree in Shakespeare studies. The frugal couple financed their hobby with the fortune Henry earned as president of Standard Oil Company of New York, where he was a trusted associate of John D. Rockefeller. While several universities offered to house the couple’s collection, the Folgers wanted to give it to the American people. On Capitol Hill, the Folger Shakespeare Library welcomes more than 100,000 visitors a year and is also a vibrant cultural center for plays, concerts, lectures and poetry readings. The library provided Stephen H. Grant with unprecedented access to the primary sources within the Folger vault. He also drew on interviews with surviving Folger relatives, and visits to 35 related archives in the United States and in Britain.


The New Nicaragua is an intriguing blend of history, political analysis and autobiography covering a turbulent two-year period in modern Nicaraguan history, from June 2005 to June 2007. After three years in Washington, USAID Foreign Service officer Hendrix, a self-described “field type,” headed out to respond to the emerging challenge in Nicaragua. The issues involved corrupt government, undemocratic elections and conniving political leaders. Hendrix arrived just as Daniel Ortega returned to the Nicaraguan presidency and U.S. policy shifted, in Hendrix’s words, “from right versus left to right versus wrong.” As Hendrix describes it, his time in Nicaragua presented a mixed bag of solutions. Though less overtly antagonistic than Ortega had been 25 years earlier, his administration still lacked transparency, and corruption was still a problem. But The New Nicaragua also offers a happier lesson. Hendrix says that he “hopes any reader of this work will see that we did have a major impact in Nicaragua in promoting democracy.” And in difficult circumstances, such as those described in this book, that’s certainly a promising outcome.
ISBN: 978-1481823623

On Aug. 1, 1946, Ben Bernard Lezin was asked by the United States government to defend his loyalty to the country, or face termination from his engineering job with the Navy Department. Born in the Ukraine but a U.S. resident since age 12, Lezin was accused of having anti-American sentiments and of being a member of the Communist Party during the height of McCarthyism and the Red Scare.

As related by his son Arthur, Ben Lezin’s story eloquently represents the struggles of hundreds of other Americans, who were not communist sympathizers, to defend their loyalty to the very government that was feverishly discrediting them. In the end, Lezin would prove his credibility and save his career, but only after an arduous struggle that included intense scrutiny by the Navy Department and the FBI, as well as years of lost salary and work.

ISBN: 978-0815805298

This is the story of a young and novice development professional who leaves the comfort of the US to live and work in the country of Mali, West Africa. Mali is the home of Timbuktu, the mud mosques of Mopti and a fascinating and authentic, unique culture. But is is also the home of the most intractable development problems on the planet and a country still suffering the effects of a recent major drought. Though not overly technical, this book deals with the professional challenges and personal experiences of living and trying to work effectively in one of most challenging and interesting countries on the planet.

Lewis Lucke worked for the US Agency for International Development in ten counties for over 27 years. He was the first head of USAID/Iraq in 2003-1004 and served as US Ambassador to Swaziland from 2004-2006. He is a graduate of the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill and the Thunderbird School of Global Management in Arizona. Amb. Lucke most recently led the US response to the Haiti earthquake in 2010.

ISBN: 978-8129124340

In the early 1800s, the British founded twin hill stations in the Indian towns of Mussoorie and Landour, as refuges from the heat and dust of the country’s summer season. Both sites continue to attract many visitors today, thanks to their salubrious climate and leisurely way of life. While Mussoorie is more “touristy” and bustling, Landour is a quiet getaway for those seeking a break from city life. Much has changed over the years, but both places retain an old-world charm, adding to their appeal. This book takes the reader on a journey through their history, from the late 18th century—when Frederick Young, the founder of Mussoorie and Landour Cantonment, was born in Ireland— up to India’s attainment of independence in 1947. (A brief postscript brings the story up to today.) The authors, a Foreign Service father-daughter team, lived in India in the waning years of the 20th century and the early years of the new
century, where they became acquainted with Mussoorie and Landour. Treasured leisure time there, away from the heat and bustle of New Delhi, combined with an interest in British colonial history, led to this book. A retired FSO with USAID, Virgil Miedema spent more than 30 years in Nepal, Pakistan, Indonesia and India as a teacher, economic development officer and agro-marketing businessman. He is the author of Murree: A Glimpse Through the Forest (Riverby Books, 2003). Stephanie Spaid Miedema, a social science researcher, recently completed several years of United Nations-funded research in the Asia-Pacific region.

ISBN: 978-1440833090

Here is a highly readable account of the evolution of economic thinking, as the subtitle states, from Adam Smith to Joseph Schumpeter. The focus is on the assumptions that economists make about the nature of markets and economies and their behavior through different eras as they attempt to identify the drivers of economic change. The book assesses the legacies of major economists, including Adam Smith, Thomas Malthus, David Ricardo, Alfred Marshall, John Maynard Keynes, Karl Marx, Thorstein Veblen and Joseph Schumpeter. Each chapter covers the major economic, political and social challenges of the day to establish a realistic context for economists’ efforts to explain and predict contemporary economic developments. It also documents the differences between, as well as interaction among, the various schools of thought and models, and discusses the implications of this history for economics and the policy sciences in the decades ahead. Robert Mitchell retired in 1995 from the USAID Foreign Service following long-term postings in Egypt, Yemen and Guinea-Bissau. Prior to his diplomatic career, Mitchell directed two survey research centers and two long-term task forces for the Florida governor and state legislature, and served as the U.S. member on a United Nations special committee on planning for urban areas. He lives in Brookline, Massachusetts.

ISBN: 978-1456830519

The mountains of Northern Thailand hold a culture of their own, characterized by personal strength, will power, tradition and navigating the land. As Chanu Hkeh, the subject of this biography, muses: “Run for the hills. That was something that would come up again and again in my life.” The Lahu name Chanu Hkeh means “Mr. Wild Cattle Dung” in English. After spontaneously giving birth to him under a crabapple tree in the wilderness of the mountains, Chanu Hkeh’s mother chose that name deliberately. In Lahu tribal culture, the uglier the name, the safer the child will be from evil. The spell held for 52 years, until Chanu Hkeh’s tragic death in a car accident. During those years, he lived a life of adventure, danger and joy in the corrupt opium-trading society of the Golden Triangle of Southeast Asia. But whether as a hunter, smuggler, bandit or prisoner, he never stopped running back periodically into the cover and comfort of the mountains. While working with Chanu Hkeh, Gordon Young spent long sessions around camp fires and the two formed a 15-year bond. In Run for the Mountains, Young tells the life story of his uniquely adventurous friend.
Gordon Young spent childhood years in Burma and North India, with World War II impacting heavily on his adventures and travels. Later he served the U.S. Army in Korea, obtained a B.S. at Cal Poly San Luis Obispo, then moved to Chiang Mai, Thailand to work for the USAID. There he also did field collecting for museums, founded the now famous Chiang Mai Zoo with his father, and compiled the first significant informal ethnographic study of Thailand’s northern hill tribe peoples.

II. Policy and Issues


Building Resilience highlights the critical role of social capital in the ability of a community to withstand disaster and rebuild both the infrastructure and the ties that are at the foundation of any community. Dr. Aldrich is an Associate Professor at Purdue University and was a AAAs Science and Technology Fellow with USAID.


David Bathrick was a USAID FSO Agriculture Officer.


An insider’s account of how constitutional struggles between the executive and legislative branches interact with budgetary mechanisms to affect the implementation of U.S. foreign policy.

In this first in-depth study of the process by which U.S. foreign policy is funded, William Bacchus draws on more than twenty years’ experience in government to analyze the uneasy interplay between the executive and legislative branches as decisions about priorities and policies are made. He begins by examining historical trends in foreign affairs budgeting, then shows how budget proposals are originated in the Executive branch and how they are affected by the complexities of congressional appropriation and authorization, and concludes with a look at “myths” about budgeting and suggestions for improving the system.

Bacchus supports his analysis with case studies that link constitutional issues with the everyday governmental activity of matching limited resources to policy priorities. He reviews not only difficulties of coordination faced by the Executive branch but also Congress’s bid for a greater voice.
in foreign policy, ranging from the Contra Aid hearings to the 1995 confrontations over funding levels and reorganization of executive agencies.

The Price of American Foreign Policy provides a better understanding of the budget process as it affects our ability to carry out an effective foreign policy and demonstrates the need for enhanced mutual trust between the branches of government if our national interests are to be protected.

Bill Bacchus was a FSO who was instrumental in drafting the 1980 Foreign Service Act and did a study called State 2000 between the administrations of George H.W. Bush and Bill Clinton. He spent his working life in the D.C. area, moved to management positions at USAID in 1993 including Executive Director of USAID’s Quality Council. He retired in 2001.


Alan Berg, who recently celebrated his 80th birthday, is internationally acknowledged as the person most responsible for placing nutrition on the international development agenda and for having it solidly ensconced in the programs of the US government and the World Bank. His seminal 1973 book The Nutrition Factor, written while a Senior Fellow at the Brookings Institution, was nominated for the National Book Award. Berg worked during the Kennedy and Johnson years at The White House where he co-chaired a White House Task Force on Nutrition, was active in expanding the scope of the US government’s Food for Peace program, served in India where (serving with USAID) he headed the US government’s first international nutrition program, and served from 1973 to 1995 as the senior nutrition officer of the World Bank, where he was called ‘the conscience of the Bank on hunger issues’. In 2008, Berg was honored as one of the first recipients of the UN Achievement Award for Lifelong Service to Nutrition, being introduced then as ‘a global giant in nutrition history’.


This study is comprised by a number of analyses of factors affecting the demand of labor in Latin America. The focus is on the interaction between changes in labor productivity, the sectoral and firm size structure of Latin American economies, industrial concentration, and technological changes on the one hand and labor demand on the other. The study applied relatively new methodologies to the analysis of the dynamics of technological change and the generation of productive employment. The study was a joint product of the effort of analysts in diverse research centers throughout the Americas.

Juan J Buttari is a former Foreign Service economist having served in posts in Central America, Haiti and Washington D.C. His last position with USAID was as Chief Economist for Africa. Prior to his service with USAID he had held positions with the Brookings Institution, the United Nations Development Program and the International Labor Office. He has provided consulting services in economics, among others, to the World Bank and the Organization of American States and a number of private firms. Mr. Buttari has taught at Georgetown and American Universities and holds a Ph.D. and M.A. in economics from Georgetown University and B.A. from the University of Puerto Rico.

This work provides an overview of the labor markets in Latin American countries and analyses of factors affecting their change over time. It thus deals with issues such as population and labor force characteristics, migration flows, sectorial distribution of product and employment, differentials in labor productivity, levels of unemployment and characteristics of the unemployed. The study was in response to concerns widely held at the time that countries in Latin America were not being able to sustain productive employment generation in support of rising standards of living. The effort linked the contributions of economic analysts throughout the Americas.


Wages and labor costs were adjusted to the individuals’ skills required for well defined occupations – experience, education, degree of initiative -- as well as for institutional variables such as industry, firm size, and degree of unionization in eleven Latin American countries. The studies were thus able to assess the relative importance of various factors in the determination of payment for labor and rely on net wage differences in assessing wage structures.


ISBN: 978-0313319105

The first comprehensive account of U.S. development assistance policies and their implementation in Africa, Asia and Latin America, this book is a singular contribution to the literature on so-called Third World development. The book traces the changes in U.S. aid strategy and policies over the decades following President Truman’s groundbreaking Point Four program initiative in 1949, assessing both the achievements and challenges.

Sam Butterfield served with USAID in Tanganyika, Sudan and Tanzania before being appointed Nepal mission director from 1975-80. He retired to his hometown of Moscow, Idaho where he taught at the University of Idaho before returning to overseas work in Botswana and Nepal. He passed away in Idaho in 2008.


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taught at the University of Idaho before returning to overseas work in Botswana and Nepal. He passed away in Idaho in 2008.


It is increasingly difficult to find developing countries whose leaders have not debated or implemented some type of decentralization reform. But has decentralization worked? Does it actually help a country to deepen democratic governance, promote economic development, or enhance public security? Under what conditions does it justify the enthusiasm of those who have pushed so successfully for its adoption? The authors of this volume sift through the accumulating evidence to assess how well decentralization has fared. Focusing on consequences rather than causes, their goal is to inform future interventions in support of decentralized governance by showcasing some of the important trade-offs that it has generated so far. Ed Connerley is senior adviser for decentralization and local governance in the USAID Office of Democracy and Governance, providing technical leadership and field support for AID missions around the world.


This study reviews the experience of the Club du Sahel set up in 1976 under the joint aegis of the Sahel countries and the OECD to support the Permanent Interstate Committee for Drought Control in the Sahel (known by its French acronym - CILSS). In that role the Club du Sahel addressed the damage from half a decade of drought in this sub-region of West Africa and promoted concerted action by the Sahel countries and donors for its long-term development. The authors assess results to date (to 1984) and reflect on lessons of the Club du Sahel experience for international development cooperation. Anne de Lattre was director of the Club du Sahel Secretariat from its inception in 1976 and Arthur M. Fell was Advisor in the Secretariat 1978-1984 detached from USAID.

Arthur M. Fell joined USAID’s Office of the General Council (Africa Bureau) in 1969 after practicing law in New York City. His USAID assignments were: Attorney-Advisor, Africa Bureau, General Council/USAID; Advisor, African Development Bank/Abidjan, Côte d’Ivoire; Deputy Regional Development Officer, Cameroon; Deputy USAID Director, Senegal; Club du Sahel Secretariat; Mission Director, Regional Economic Development Services Office/Nairobi; and Mission Director, Regional Development Services Office/Abidjan, Côte d’Ivoire. After USAID from 1990-2000 he was Principal Administrator/Chief of Section, Peer Review and Policy Monitoring Division, Development Co-operation Directorate, OECD which is Secretariat to the Development Assistance Committee (DAC)/OECD.


This study describes the aid management systems of DAC Members, analyses and compares the architecture of those systems and provides specific examples how functions and issues are treated in various systems. It also presents the main themes of reflection within the DAC and key policy statements as of 1999.

Arthur M. Fell was Principal Administrator/Chief of Section, Peer Review and Policy Monitoring Division, Development Co-operation Directorate, OECD.

In 1986, while working as an in-house consultant for USAID/Peru (in theory a break from university teaching), volunteered to design a new judicial reform project, and once immersed in the topic, Linn never looked back. After 12 more years as a USAID consultant managing their Latin American projects in the field, Linn went back to Washington on a USAID fellowship to write up the experience and got hooked on the writing as well. Many years later, 10 of them with the World Bank, she is again consulting and writing and still learning the issues.


*The Politics of Justice and Justice Reform in Latin America* offers an introduction to the traditional roles and operations of Latin American justice systems and the origins, objectives, and potential of contemporary reform efforts. Its detailed focus on the Peruvian experience is complemented by shorter case studies on Colombia, El Salvador, and Costa Rica and comparative examples from numerous other countries. It views justice reform as both a technical and political process, demonstrating how evolving understandings in both areas have increased conflicts over the limits and direction of future change. The book has special relevance for Peruvianists, but its unique comparative overview of Latin America’s orphan branch of government make it a valuable addition to courses on Latin American and comparative politics. Its emphasis on the broader dilemmas posed by sector reform and its analysis of the evolution of reform policy and politics will be of interest to students of comparative legal systems, public policy, and political change in both developed and developing regions.


Judicial reform became an important part of the agenda for development in Latin America early in the 1980s, when countries in the region started the process of democratization. Although considerable progress has been made already in strengthening the judiciary and its supporting infrastructure (police, prosecutors, public defense counsel, the private bar, law schools, and the like), much remains to be done. Linn Hammergren’s book aims to turn the spotlight on the problems in the movement toward judicial reform in Latin America over the past two decades and to suggest ways to keep the movement on track toward achieving its multiple, though often conflicting, goals.

This book explores the objectives pursued in donor programs, the methods used to advance them, and the underlying assumptions and strategies. It emphasizes the unexpected and sometimes unpleasant consequences of ignoring not only political and societal constraints but also advances in our technical approaches to performance improvement, the one area where the First World has a comparative advantage. The geographic scope of the work is broad, incorporating examples from Eastern and Central Europe, Latin America, Africa, and the Asia-Pacific region as well as from several First World nations. *Justice Reform and Development* examines First World assistance to justice or "rule of law" reforms in developing and transitional societies, arguing that its purported failure is vastly exaggerated, largely because of unrealistic expectations as to what could be accomplished. Change nonetheless is needed if the programs are to continue and would be best based on targeting specific performance problems, incorporation of donor countries’ experience with their own reforms, and greater attention to relevant research.

ISBN: 978-0195331806

Which cultural values, beliefs and attitudes best promote democracy, social justice and prosperity? How can we use the forces that shape cultural change to promote these values in the Third World? In this provocative and controversial book, Lawrence E. Harrison provides the answers. Drawing on a three-year research project that explored the cultural values of dozens of nations, Harrison argues that it is cultural values that determine whether countries are democratic and rich or authoritarian and poor. To prove his point, he presents 25 values that operate very differently around the globe, including one’s influence over destiny, the importance attached to education, the extent to which people identify with and trust others, and the role of women in society. He also offers a series of practical guidelines for developing nations and lagging minority groups.

ISBN: 978-1442219632

Multiculturalism—the belief that no culture is better or worse than any other; it is merely different—has come to dominate Western intellectual thought and to serve as a guide to domestic and foreign policy, and development aid. But what if multiculturalism is flawed? What if some cultures are more prone to progress than others and more successful at creating the cultural capital that encourages democratic governance, social justice and the elimination of poverty for all? In *Jews, Confucians, and Protestants: Cultural Capital and the End of Multiculturalism*, Lawrence E. Harrison takes the politically incorrect stand that all cultures are not created equal. Analyzing the performance of 117 countries, grouped by predominant religion, Harrison argues for the superiority of those cultures that emphasize Jewish, Confucian and Protestant values. A concluding chapter outlines ways in which cultural change may substantially transform societies within a generation.
Lawrence E. Harrison directed USAID missions in the Dominican Republic, Costa Rica, Guatemala, Haiti and Nicaragua between 1965 and 1981. He is now a senior research fellow and adjunct lecturer at the Fletcher School at Tufts University.

ISBN: 978-0761826217

This book is a thoughtful and well-argued response to the increasingly insistent predictions of the demise of the nation-states as the fundamental way political power is organized in our world. The author examines what he terms “the messy, conflictive realities impinging on the nation-state system,” and concludes that the nation-state is not in as bad shape as commentators have portrayed and should be seen as a firm but adaptive nexus in the face of changes that challenge world order.

Richard Hough is a retired USAID officer. He was also on the staff of the American Institute for Free Labor Development, where he concentrated on labor reform programs in Central America, and has taught at Redlands University, the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy, the National War College and Georgetown University. He has written widely on international affairs and public policy. This book grew out of a course the author taught at Georgetown University.

ISBN: 978-0415698665

This book explores the question of how international humanitarian aid affects civil wars and insurgencies, using three case studies: Northern Ireland, South Sudan and Tajikistan.

Rob Kevlihan, whose wife worked for USAID, finds evidence for two distinct effects of aid on international conflicts. First, assistance can alleviate the underlying causes of insurgency movements and facilitate negotiations. Second, however, aid can become a source of revenue for the rebel groups as social-service organizations provide material and financial assistance to victims of the conflict. Kevlihan explains the way insurgency organizations insert themselves as middlemen between international aid organizations and the target population victimized by the conflict in order to increase revenue for their cause. Surprisingly, his research suggests that the greed exhibited by armed rebel groups can have positive effects, depending on the specific conditions of the conflict and type of insurgency movement involved.

ISBN: 978-0226468396

Why, despite decades of high levels of foreign aid, has development been so disappointing in most of Sub-Saharan Africa, leading to rising numbers of poor and fueling political instabilities? While not ignoring the culpability of Africans in these problems, Carol Lancaster finds that much of the responsibility is in the hands of the governments and international aid agencies that provide assistance to the region. The first examination of its kind, *Aid to Africa* investigates the impact of bureaucratic politics, special interest groups, and
public opinion in aid-giving countries and agencies. She finds that aid agencies in Africa often misdiagnosed problems, had difficulty designing appropriate programs that addressed the local political environment, and failed to coordinate their efforts effectively.

Carol Lancaster was a scholar and dean of Georgetown University’s School of Foreign Service and among the first to highlight the importance of women’s empowerment as a key part of diplomacy and international development. On a leave of absence from Georgetown, she served as USAID Deputy Administrator from 1993 to 1996,

ISBN: 978-0881322910

The phenomenon of foreign aid began at the end of World War II and has survived the Cold War. How should the USA now spend its foreign aid to support its interests and values in the 21st century? In this study, Carol Lancaster takes a look at all US foreign aid programs and asks whether their purposes, organization and management are appropriate to US interests and values in the world of the 21st century. Lancaster finds that US aid in the 21st century, if it is to be an effective tool of US foreign policy, needs to be transformed. Its purposes need to be refocused and its organization and management brought into line with those purposes. Those purposes include support for peacemaking, addressing transnational issues, providing for humane concerns, and responding to humanitarian emergencies. Traditional programs aimed at promoting development, democracy, and economic and political transitions in former socialist countries will not disappear but they will have less priority than in the past. These new sets of purposes, promoting both US interests and values abroad, also offer a policy paradigm around which a new political consensus can be created that will support US aid in the 21st.

ISBN: 978-0815751137

U.S. foreign aid has reached a crisis point. While the amount of aid has increased in recent years, the way it is organized and delivered by the U.S. government has become increasingly fragmented and chaotic. The proliferation of federal agencies engaged in foreign aid has created serious disconnects and inefficiencies in the use of this important tool of U.S. foreign policy. It is time for a change. Here, two well-known experts who have worked extensively in the international development field provide some keen observations on the current disorganization of federal assistance and offer advice on how to make U.S. aid more effective. Several models for streamlining the organization of foreign aid are detailed and recommendations proffered. The authors argue that dramatic change in the way U.S. aid is organized and provided is urgently needed.

URL: [http://www.watsoninstitute.org/pub/ForeignAid.pdf](http://www.watsoninstitute.org/pub/ForeignAid.pdf)


“USAID views participation as both an essential feature of effective development work and as a purpose of development itself. Assembled in this anthology are insights, dilemmas, and approaches drawn from the practice of development assistance. They were originally set forth by USAID staff and colleagues in a series of “Participation Forums”-noontime seminars held from early 1994 through 1997-an illustrated in brief case studies- “Participatory Practices: Learning from Experience”-begun in 1996. In contexts ranging from economic reform and environmental planning to conflict resolution and humanitarian assistance, they all explore the practical meaning of “participation.”” Bruce Potter, Island Resources review.

Diane LaVoy was a Senior Policy Advisor for Participatory Development at USAID/W from 1993-1999. She later worked at AED, on the House Subcommittee on Intelligence Community Management, and since 2013 has been a Foreign Affairs Officer in the Office of Diplomacy at the Department of State.


India has tried to modernize by concentration on large-scale government-run capital-intensive industry; this is wrong, the author argues. Let the market govern a more labor-intensive, decentralized industry, while imports of fertilizer and technology increase agricultural productivity. There will be more food for the poor, who will find more jobs in small-scale labor-intensive industry, which will export consumer goods to pay for the imports needed to produce more food.


The problem of failed states and internal conflict in developing nations was pushed to the forefront by the horror of Rwanda and the breakup of Yugoslavia in the past decade, and is now before us as a challenge to nationbuilding efforts in Iraq and Afghanistan. Is there anything international actors can do to prevent or ameliorate internal conflict and failed states? Are
conflict-prevention measures already being attempted, and in some cases succeeding so well that we are unaware of them? If so, what can we learn from them?

This book by retired USAID officer Robert J. Muscat attempts to answer these questions by offering a timely and eye-opening study of the role development agencies play in conflict-prone situations. The first part of the book, an investigation of the problem of conflict, its different forms and the different approaches to it, centers on nine case studies — four where conflicts were fought and five where conflicts were avoided — and the role of development aid in each. The second part considers the practicalities of an agenda for conflict prevention. Muscat worked for USAID in Thailand, Brazil and Kenya. As the agency's chief economist, he was economic adviser to the Thai development planning agency and the Malaysian Ministry of Finance, and was planning director for the U.N. Development Program. He has consulted for U.N. agencies and the World Bank, and was a visiting scholar at Columbia’s East Asian Institute and at the Institute for Conflict Analysis and Resolution at George Mason University.


Rutherford Poats began his government career in 1961 with the Agency for International Development as Program Director and Special Assistant of the Far East Bureau. He was Deputy Assistant Administrator for Far East (1963-1964) and Assistant Administrator for Far East (1964-1967). In 1967-1970, he was Deputy Administrator and served as Acting Administrator in January-March in 1969. In 1970-1971, he was a Federal executive fellow with the Brookings Institution. He was Vice President of the Overseas Private Investment Corporation (OPIC) in 1971-1974. In the Department of State, he was Special Assistant to the Under Secretary of State for Economic Affairs (1975-1976), and Senior Adviser for Economic Affairs to the Deputy Secretary of State (1976-1977). In 1977-1978, he was Acting President (Senior Vice President) of OPIC. He was a staff member for international economics in the National Security Council at the White House in 1978-1981. In 1981 he was elected Chairman of the Development Assistance Committee in Paris.


A Book for Students and Practitioners of Epidemiology, and Everyone Interested in Resolution of the World Population Crisis: Getting the World on a Safer, Happier Course To the World of Our Dreams. Dr. Ravenholt was director of USAID’s Office of Population from 1965-1979.


This monograph reviews the state of foreign assistance 50 years after its post-World War II beginnings as short-term assistance to former European colonies gaining independence,
and adds some fresh ideas to the debate over its future. Does concessional aid necessarily create dependency? Can it be made to create the basis for its own termination? Not as things presently stand, says Ludwig Rudel. Part of the problem, he observes, is that the distinction between humanitarian assistance and development investment has been blurred if not lost. Further, he argues, major changes in the “aid relationship” between donor and recipient are needed to bring about conditions in which aid programs can achieve their objective of poverty alleviation within a reasonable time frame, and become superfluous. Issued as part of the Foreign Policy Association’s Headline Series, this slim volume is both readable and relevant.


In this study, Steven Radelet examines the MCA’s potential promise and possible pitfalls. He offers a rigorous analysis of the MCA’s central challenge: making foreign aid more effective in supporting economic growth and poverty reduction in the poor countries. He systematically explores what makes the MCA different and pinpoints the critical issues that will determine its success or failure. The book concludes with important recommendations about how the MCA should be strengthened to solidify its innovation and independence and to ensure coordination with other US foreign aid programs. Written at a practical level, this book is an invaluable resource for anyone seriously interested in the MCA and US foreign assistance policy.

Dr. Radelet was Chief Economist of USAID from 2010-2012 and is now Director of the Global Human Development Program at Georgetown University’s School of Foreign Service. He previously served as Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Treasury (1999-2002). From 2002-09 he was Senior Fellow at the Center for Global Development. He spent twelve years with the Harvard Institute for International Development, while teaching in both the Harvard economics department and Kennedy School of Government. While with HIID, he spent four years as resident adviser to the Ministry of Finance in Jakarta, Indonesia, and two years with the Ministry of Finance and Trade in The Gambia. He and his wife served as Peace Corps Volunteers in Western Samoa.

ISBN: 978-1933286518

Emerging Africa describes the too-often-overlooked positive changes that have taken place in much of Africa since the mid-1990s. In 17 countries, five fundamental and sustained breakthroughs are making old assumptions increasingly untenable:
• The rise of democracy brought on by the end of the Cold War and apartheid
• Stronger economic management
• The end of the debt crisis and a more constructive relationship with the international community
• The introduction of new technologies, especially mobile phones and the Internet
• The emergence of a new generation of leaders.
With these significant changes, the countries of emerging Africa seem poised to lead the continent out of the conflict, stagnation, and dictatorships of the past.

ISBN: 978-1897748108

A growing proportion of overseas aid resources is flowing through indigenous NGOs in Africa, Asia and Latin America. Concerns about the capacity and performance of many Southern NGOs are leading Northern NGOs and official donors to seek ways of strengthening their partners that extend beyond technical and financial support. Capacity building models that strengthen and empower local NGOs by improving their management ability and organizational capacities are now an essential component of overseas development strategies. This book examines the theory and practice of capacity building. It discusses common organizational challenges facing NGOs and presents in-depth practical case studies. These cases illustrate a range of assistance models designed to increase the organizational capacity of small enterprise development agencies in Africa.

ISBN: 978-1897748477

This text brings a comparative analysis of the work of urban NGOs in the south based on "The NGO in the City" research project. It considers the roles, relationships, internal organization and program performance of urban NGOs in India, Bangladesh, Ethiopia, South Africa and Peru. Detailed case-studies in the second half of the volume illuminate the critical factors necessary for effective NGO performance in the city and it defines a capacity-building agenda for NGOs to realize this potential in urban poverty alleviation.

From 2002-2005 Caroline Sahley was a Senior Fellow at USAID’s Office of Democracy and Governance under World Learning’s Democracy Fellows Program. She had worked at INTRAC from 1992-2002.

ISBN: 1597971510

In emergency medicine, the "golden hour" is the first hour after injury, during which treatment greatly increases survivability. In post-conflict transition terminology, it is the first year after hostilities end. After that, without steadily improving conditions, popular support declines and chances for real transformation begin to evaporate.

In this book, James “Spike” Stephenson, a retired Senior Foreign Service officer who was USAID mission director in Baghdad from February 2004 to March 2005, gives an insider’s perspective on how America lost the golden hour in Iraq. Stephenson’s USAID program, encompassing every area of capacity-building from agriculture and private-sector enterprises to governance, education, health and democracy initiatives.
ISBN: unknown

At USAID, Dr. Van Dusen served as the senior career officer in the Bureaus of Policy and Program Coordination, Asia and the Near East, and Global Programs. She was a member of the Senior Executive Service for over ten years and received the both the Distinguished Career Service and Meritorious Presidential Rank Awards in 2001. Among the signal achievements of her USAID career were the creation of a central bureau for global issues, technical assistance and research in the 1990s, and the strengthening and expansion of the central Office of Health in the 1980s in response to both child survival and early HIV/AIDS initiatives. She was later the founding director of GU’s Masters in Global Human Development program.

Link to selected list of her publications
http://explore.georgetown.edu/people/rav/?Action=ViewPublications


This introductory undergraduate text is designed to be accessible to students who have had basic economics courses but are not necessarily economics majors. Although written from an economist’s perspective, it treats economic development as an interdisciplinary subject. The text provides a balance between theory and policy, leaving space also for historical interpretation, description, and empirical evidence. Suggested readings at the end of each chapter direct students to studies that explore particular topics in more detail.

Clarence Zuvekas, Jr. received his B.A. in Economics from the Johns Hopkins University in 1961 and a Ph.D. in Economics from Washington University in St. Louis in 1967. He served as a foreign service officer with USAID in Ecuador (1966-71) and later as a civil servant based in Washington but with extensive travel to Latin America (1979-96). He has held full-time teaching positions at Westminster College (Missouri) and Minnesota State University— Moorhead, and has taught part-time for the University of New Mexico’s Centro Andino in Quito, American University, the University of Maryland, and the State Department’s Foreign Service Institute. He has also served as a consultant to the U.S. Department of Agriculture (1976-79) and since his retirement in 1996 has been an independent consultant working on activities funded by USAID and the Inter-American Development Bank.


This study reviews and interprets the literature on income distribution and levels of living in rural Ecuador during the period 1950-1979. It identifies the poorest segments of the rural population and analyzes changes over time in their levels of living. The study examines not only census data and macroeconomic evidence but also a variety of micro-level evidence, including studies written from the perspectives of anthropology, sociology, agricultural
economics, geography, and other disciplines. A multi-dimensional poverty indicator is constructed and used to compare poverty levels among Ecuador's provinces.


III. Memoirs


Released for the first time in paperback, this memoir by USAID Mission to Mongolia Director Jonathan Addleton offers a unique perspective on the Muslim-Christian interaction that has come to center stage in today's world.

Born in Muree, a small hill station in Pakistan overlooking Kashmir, of Baptist missionary parents from rural Georgia, the author grew up at the intersection of different religions, races, classes and cultures. His vivid portrayal of his experiences coming of age in the 1960s in a faraway land provide many insights into the wonder of a child's world, into both Christianity and Islam, and into the broader cultural ethos of Pakistan as well.


(USAID Spouse) Mary and Tracy Atwood moved with their three teenage children to Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan in the fall of 1999. This memoir describes the joys and challenges of expatriate family life in Kyrgyzstan. Formal education had to continue in some way, and new languages had to be learned. A few hardships had to be endured, but they were largely overshadowed by the opportunity to know people of two different cultures. Go with the family as they are guests in various Kyrgyz and Russian homes. Sleep in a yurt. Eat and drink the specialties of the area. Learn about life in beautiful, exotic, remote Central Asia, Mary Atwood married into the Foreign Service in 1981 and has since lived with her husband, Tracy, in Sanaa, Yemen (1981-1986), Bamako, Mali (1987-1991), Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan (1999-2003), and Harare, Zimbabwe (2003-2005). The mother of three, her professional background is in Waldorf education. Now retired to Falls Village, Connecticut, she reads, writes, and looks forward to more travel adventures. This is her first book.


James Bleidner joined the Foreign Service in 1956, after duty with an Air Force fighter squadron during World War II and several years managing a modern dairy farm for ARAMCO in Saudi Arabia. Bleidner, an agricultural scientist, recounts his experiences working to bring to fruition the “Point Four” vision of making the benefits of American science and industrial progress available to underdeveloped countries. His narrative takes us from an assignment with
the then-International Cooperation Administration developing a livestock-raising and meat producing complex in the Bolivian highlands, to a tour as acting chief of the Agriculture and Rural Development Division of USAID in Colombia, and on to Chile, Costa Rica, Honduras, Nicaragua, Guatemala and Sudan, and finally retirement in Florida. Insights into South American politics, traditions and problems of development are interspersed with family anecdotes and postretirement adventures. The other half of this story can be found in Alligators On My Roof (Vantage Books, 2002), a memoir by Mr. Bleidner's late wife Marjory. To purchase this book, contact the author by e-mail: bleijob@aol.com, or at 708 Leah Jean Lane, Winter Haven FL 33884-3198.

ISBN: 978-0533138906

(USAID Spouse) “This is my wife’s autobiography. It is a memoir of a woman who wants to tell her children and grandchildren what the years of the Great Depression and World War II were like for those of us who lived through these times. The story appeals to a wider audience interested in unusual family lives. The joys and problems of living in the various cultures of Saudi Arabia and most of the countries of South and Central America should be interesting for many readers. The story provides insights into the personal side of our country's program of assistance to developing countries.” James Bleidner review for Amazon.

ISBN: 978-0983689942

“Russian cab drivers, Tsarist palaces, Kremlin leaders, Foggy Bottom and the African jungle—they are all here in Tom Buchanan's witty and fast-paced memoir of a fascinating life in the Foreign Service,” says retired Ambassador Edward Hurwitz. In Mossy Memoir of a Rolling Stone, Russia expert and Foreign Service officer Thomas Buchanan reflects on his career in the Soviet Union and Africa and his childhood, education and service in World War II with charming style. His service in Moscow coincided with the Cuban Missile Crisis and the assassination of President John F. Kennedy. During the latter incident, he witnessed the amazement of Russians that such an egregious act could occur in the land of the free. He offers insightful commentary on cultural differences while highlighting somber truths about the disastrous Soviet tourism failures and the crises in the agricultural and most other economic sectors. His memoir, which is a volume in the ADST Memoirs and Occasional Papers series, is at once informative and enthralling as readers get a glimpse of one man’s part of U.S. foreign policy history. Thomas Buchanan joined the State Department in 1948 as an intelligence specialist on the Soviet Union and entered the Foreign Service seven years later. He has served overseas in Paris, Moscow, Bujumbura, Libreville, Oslo and Leningrad. Since his 1981 retirement, he has periodically worked for State and USAID.

ISBN: 978-1932047905
Nancy Dammann spent 17 years with USAID as a Communications Media Advisor in countries such as Indonesia, Thailand and the Philippines. In her efforts to improve agriculture and health habits, she learned much about human need and human suffering.

ISBN: 978-1499048766

On April 18, 1963, a truck loaded with 2,000 pounds of military-grade explosives drove into the front door of Embassy Beirut, killing 63 people, among them 17 Americans. The nascent Iranian-backed terrorist organization Hezbollah had begun its campaign against the United States, as USAID FSO Anne Dammarell would later recount in a paper for her master’s degree at Georgetown University. In this volume in the Association for Diplomatic Studies and Training’s Diplomatic Oral History Series, Dammarell talks about her life, her family and her experience in the Foreign Service, including her survival of the first suicide attack on an American embassy. Anne Dammarell joined the U.S. Agency for International Development, in 1965 serving in Lebanon, Sri Lanka and Washington, D.C., among other postings during a 23-year diplomatic career. After retiring in 1988, Dammarell taught English at the Coptic Catholic Seminar in Cairo for three years, and then in Washington, D.C., at the Sitar Center for the Arts and at the Sacred Heart School. She received her M.A. from Georgetown University in Middle East studies. More recently, she and her sister, Elizabeth, have been teaching Buddhist monks for three months a year at Wat Worachanyawat in Bangkok.

ISBN: 978-0977197903

Barbara and Gordon Evans explain the philosophy, process and technique of opening and running this type of small enterprise, and relate their career experiences to all six B&B rooms and the library.

Gordon Evans joined ICA and served 5 years in Pakistan in 1958. He later served in Ghana, Nigeria, India, was Liaison to the United Nations and Sahel program deputy director before his final assignment in Abidjan (1978082) as Regional Office Director.

ISBN: 978-0595283835

The author’s early training in life coincided with the Great Depression, from the late 1920s into the first years of the 1940s. Moving frequently to earn a living, becoming a Mr. Fix-it for his family, and forced to be financially independent, he credits this experience with preparing him for his later professional work as an agricultural scientist with the U.S. Foreign Service as well as for his unofficial labor as the primary caregiver for the last 44 years of his wife Eileen’s life as a multiple sclerosis patient. This book is full of insights and inspiration for every full-time caregiver.

ISBN: 978-1413490077

This memoir is a collection of 84 stories depicting episodes and experiences in a life lived in many parts of the U.S. and around the world. Full of lively detail, the stories often provide humorous insight into life and diplomacy; the stories on ants encountered in Africa and one titled “Is a Peanut Butter and Jelly Sandwich a Cross-cultural Affair?” are exemplary. Not simply an exercise in recollection, however, the author has written to set the record straight for his own conscience. Accordingly, each story is accompanied by a reflective afterthought. The book is well-organized, with the stories grouped in four parts: youth, Nevada, Africa and in-between.


War Whispers in the Wind is a heartfelt and wistful memoir of Joann LaMorder Hickson’s life overseas as a Foreign Service spouse and mother of three sons. Written in the form of short and simple vignettes, this book uses colorful language, metaphorical descriptions and dreamlike illustrations to remind readers of the beautiful yet transitory nature of the Foreign Service life. Despite the childlike narrative form, the author introduces the realities of political strife through the pervading refrain, “war whispers in the wind.” Anyone who has experienced any of the 20 countries Hickson has resided in will surely appreciate her artistry. The book can be ordered by contacting the author directly, either by e-mail at dhickson@gowebco.com or by phone at (352) 382-3188.


ASIN: B0006S7WK2

This volume is a compilation of previously published short stories and reflections. The nine finely wrought pieces convey the humor, irony, injustice and fortitude in characters and situations the author encountered in the Philippines, Pakistan, Latin America and Bangladesh during a long career in USAID and, before that, as a Peace Corps Volunteer. The book can be ordered directly from the author at 4442 SW 85th Way, Gainesville FL 32608.


ISBN: 978-1587600180

This is the story of a young woman who, despite heavy odds, refuses to fail. With the help of a loving brother and a few caring adults, she negotiates her passage from a chaotic, impoverished and abusive childhood with violent, alcoholic parents, through unsuccessful foster homes and, finally, a home for girls, to a successful adulthood with college degrees, a stint in the Peace Corps and a 29-year career as a Foreign Service officer.

Mary Cameron Kilgour wrote this autobiographical memoir for young people and adults struggling with the impact of a chaotic or violent past, people like the children for whom she now advocates as a volunteer guardian ad litem. There is no trace of self-pity in this story. It is written simply and straightforwardly, with humor and grace, and a keen ear for dialogue. But what it conveys so poignantly is that hope and potential can indeed triumph over the past.

(USAID spouse) Regina Landor invites the reader to join her in an adventure that moves from Eastern Europe to the United States, and back again.

As a Peace Corps alumna and the wife of a USAID FSO, Landor has had her share of overseas experiences. Opening up about her personal struggles and the difficulties of coping with family and children during travels, Landor shares her ups and downs in a reflective manner. The concept of “home”—discovering what that term actually means and finding it—is an underlying theme that resonates especially strongly with Foreign Service families.

As the story progresses, Landor becomes stronger and better equipped to find a balance between all the stressors in her life. The road any Foreign Service family traverses can be rocky, but Landor has overcome every challenge.


Afghanistan to Zaire describes a way of life many American families would find bizarre, to say the least. Starting in Pakistan and continuing on to China, Zaire, and Belarus, the most memorable experiences of this foreign service family are recalled in text and pictures. The family adventures include a trek to the border of Afghanistan, a visit to the isolated mountain region of Hunza, a brief but intense trip to China when tourists were a rarity, and the pleasures and pitfalls of diplomatic life in Zaire before its civil war. Finally, there is a description of the reaction of the citizens of Belarus to the first U.S. assistance following the breakup of the Soviet Union. While the experiences run the gamut from risky to rewarding, the family’s spirit of adventure, sense of humor, and wonder at their homes away from home shine through.

Art Lezin was a USAID FSO who served in Guatemala, Chile, Colombia, Uruguay, Pakistan, Zaire, Mauritania and Haiti. He now lives, with his wife, Alice, in the Cascade Mountains of Central Oregon.


This rare doctor-patient collaboration chronicles the unusual story of a man who defies all expectations in his fight against pancreatic cancer. Diagnosed with Stage 4 cancer on his birthday in 2007, Michael Lippe’s chances of surviving until his book was published were 2 percent. He defied these odds and others, as he tells in this account of his personal journey. From the medical professional’s viewpoint, Dung T. Le gives an in-depth view of pancreatic cancer and treatment options. Her reasoned explanations help clarify medical jargon and dispel intimidating preconceptions about chemotherapy. Though it concerns the darkest of clouds, this joint creation is somehow uplifting in its reminder of life’s many silver linings. Michael Lippe has chosen to give back to research after his death and, while he continues his fight, to inspire others with a message that is important at any stage of life: how to live. Michael J. Lippe, a former USAID FSO, retired after 20 years of service focused on local government issues, shelter for the poor and corruption. This book is the product of an e-mail he sent to his doctor,
asking if she would like to co-author the project. Dung T. Le is an oncologist at the Sidney Kimmel Comprehensive Cancer Center at The Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine.

ISBN: 978-1479719884

Readers interested in foreign affairs and global business should be fascinated by this extended conversation with retired senior diplomat and business executive Raymond Malley, a new volume in the Association for Diplomatic Studies and Training’s Diplomatic Oral History Series. Because he moved between the public and private sectors of economic foreign relations, Malley is able to provide compelling insights into the differences between these two sectors.

In some ways, the book is also a history of the United States Agency for International Development. Malley joined the Development Loan Fund in 1961; later that year, the John F. Kennedy administration merged the DLF with another agency to form USAID. He worked overseas in South Korea, India, Pakistan and Zaire (now the Democratic Republic of the Congo), and soon mastered the intricacies of different elements within USAID as he negotiated and managed foreign aid programs in key Asian and African countries. He also formulated and introduced policies amid political infighting in Washington and Paris.

ASIN: B00LKYBYPU

Much has been written about U.S. diplomacy, the operation of U.S. embassies, the challenges and dangers faced by FSOs and their families. Yet despite all the work and hardship which the career entails, many people are still attracted to this life. Why? This memoir is William Penoyar’s answer to that question. As he says in the introduction: “I became an FSO with USAID for the opportunity to contribute to a better world and, to be honest, for the adventure. I embraced a hope that I could make a positive difference in the lives of many people. Finally, the portfolio of USAID projects in most countries: health, economic development, agriculture and food security, democracy building and environment ensured that I would not be bored.” Here he recounts the entertaining, unpredictable and sometimes dangerous adventures he’s had with USAID in Mozambique, Kosovo, Armenia and Iraq, as well as with the Hash House Harriers running-walking-social clubs, from 2009 to 2013, and urges colleagues associated with American embassies and USAID to “get out of the diplomatic bubble” and “experience life more.” William F. Penoyar retired from the Foreign Service after a 21-year career with USAID. Prior to the adventures related in this book, he undertook many short-term visits to Central and Eastern Europe, as well as Russia, Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan. He also worked for five years in Ukraine and three years in Zambia, in addition to short-term stints in South Africa and Malawi.

ISBN: 978-0965394949

Lu Rudel describes his unique experiences with US foreign economic aid programs during some of the most dramatic international events since World War II. These include Iran
Rudel’s firsthand observations on Iran differ markedly from the description of events commonly espoused by some historians and journalists. He also provides a firsthand account of the political metamorphosis over the past half-century of the “Group of 77” nations as they attempted to employ the UN’s economic development agencies to press for a “New International Economic Order.” These experiences lead him to draw important lessons about the conduct and effectiveness of foreign aid. After retirement in 1980 he launched a second career, applying lessons learned from his work in international development to creation of a thousand-acre land development and resort in rural Appalachia. His experiences over the following thirty years as an entrepreneur track the relentless growth of government regulations and the disappearance of community support institutions such as local banks, now being replaced by mega-banks. Finally, he examines global trends of the past eighty years in four critical areas of change affecting our lives--population growth, science and technology, economic systems, and political structures--to draw some surprising conclusions and projections. Photos that accompany the text may be accessed through the web site: www.rudel.net.

ISBN: 978-1597974349

(USAID Spouse) Although the Middle East often features prominently in the headlines of morning newspapers and nightly broadcasts across the United States, few Americans understand the region’s inhabitants. In Simple Gestures, Andrea Rugh chronicles her progression from puzzled foreigner to cultural guru. As mother, wife and, ultimately, anthropologist, Rugh explores the traditions of the eight Middle Eastern countries in which she lived, from Lebanon in 1964 to Afghanistan in the aftermath of 9/11. Rugh presents her remembrances chronologically, from her childhood exposure to foreign culture in her grandparents’ copies of National Geographic to her work at schools in Afghanistan in 2001. Along the way, she discovers the differences not only between American and Middle Eastern cultures, but also among the various countries themselves. Rugh narrates dozens of highly readable anecdotes about every aspect of life, from social visits to weddings to education. Rugh’s honest and respectful insights culminate in a chapter of conclusions, describing the overall lessons of her life in a region often misrepresented in the West.

Andrea Rugh accompanied her USAID officer husband to several posts before gaining her doctorate in anthropology at American University. She has worked for Save the Children and Unicef and presently works with the Middle East Institute.

ISBN: 978-0595376629

This highly readable memoir offers both a slice of recent history and a compelling look at the opportunities, the richness of experience and the unparalleled knowledge of the human condition that a Foreign Service career offers. Through this varied career, Staples describes the
challenges and problems encountered in planning and managing information and cultural programs and overseas development work. He sets the context precisely, and insightful observations add depth. A penultimate chapter suggests how we might reorder current foreign policy priorities more effectively. Eugene “Rocky” Staples joined the Service in 1951 as an information officer after service as a Marine Corps fighter pilot in World War II, and was assigned to the newly created U.S. Information Agency. In 1958, he was press officer for then-Vice President Nixon’s controversial Latin American tour and, in the 1960s, cultural counselor in Moscow during the Kennedy-Khrushchev period. He then joined the Ford Foundation, and spent two decades helping manage its Asian development work, including on field assignments in Bangkok and New Delhi.

Staples returned to the Foreign Service in 1980 as USAID’s deputy assistant administrator for the Asia Bureau and then as director of the USAID mission in Islamabad. He retired in 1988, but returned to Washington yet again, in 1992, to help plan, launch and then serve as president of the Eurasia Foundation.


When Mary Stickney’s agronomist husband was offered a Foreign Service position, they and their four children headed to India, at the beginning of that country’s “Green Revolution,” with great anticipation. They found the adventure of a lifetime, told here in lively, highly readable detail. There were moments of despair, moments of joy and moments of terror. They traveled thousands of miles throughout the heart of India, sometimes on tracks so impassable they had to park the jeep and walk through the jungle. As they encountered this often-baffling land, they learned from their experiences and from the many individuals they came to know and love. This book will appeal to a wide audience, both young and old, travel-buff and armchair globetrotter. But it is a special treat for India hands, as agricultural engineer Donald James Minehart notes in his foreword: “Mary Stickney has taken the time to explore India in a manner that many of us old India hands can only admire. … You may not understand India when you’ve read the book, but you will understand why she was transfixed by the country and its people."


“The danger and romance of the lands comes alive in the book,” is what the Florida Times-Union said about Mary Stickney’s second book of memoirs, which is set in Southeast Asia during the Vietnam era. Accompanying her husband, a Foreign Service agricultural scientist who was working in a USAID pacification program in South Vietnam, the author and her children first settled in Bangkok and later moved to Manila, making periodic visits to Saigon and Danang. After returning to America, she found herself suddenly alone. A divorcee, she went back to college and shaped a new life and career for herself. Drawing on her journals, with a personal, colorful style, the author conveys the wonders, excitement, the sorrow and the surprising joys of exploring far corners of the globe with an open heart and mind. Mary Stickney lives and writes in Ponte Vedra, Fla.

ISBN: 978-0080233352

From the author: At a time in the 60s and 70s when a few experts believed that the new country could never feed itself, and fewer still recommended "triage," USAID, under courageous leadership, convinced the government that it could in fact grow its own food. This meant of course that we all would not take the easy route of depending primarily on American food aid. Joe Stepanek was a USAID FSO Economist who served in Tanzania, Kenya, Bangladesh, Indonesia and Zambia. He presently lives in Colorado.

Stepanek, Joe. (1999). *Wringing Success from Failure in Late-Developing Countries: Lessons From the Field*. Westport, CT: Praeger.
ISBN: 978-0275965051

From the author: This is a collection of stories with a point from all my other country and USAID/W experiences. As I look at the chapters, I still believe the most important one is about the World Bank in Africa. Having been up close and personal with many Bank and IMF reps, I opened up one of their loans for detailed scrutiny. Not pretty! No one in Treasury or State wants to know.

ISBN: 978-0615320045

From the author: This book is filled with development, aid and USAID stories and lessons. Part I is my life in Asia as a kid (my father worked for the UN, then with the Ford Foundation) with returns to Boulder. Part II is a career with USAID in five countries, with returns to Boulder. Part III is retirement in Boulder with lots of stories about mountain rescue, sister cities, travel, with more to come. Part IV is lessons learned, with more to come, in a forth coming, some day, 2nd edition.

ISBN: 978-0967955902

(Daughter of USAID officer, Joe Stepanek) From the author's father: "Riding the Crosswinds is about growing up in an AID family, or, What it is like to be dragged around the world by Daddy! Somewhat unexpectedly this book serves well to convince parents that they needn't worry about raising their kids overseas.”

ISBN: 978-1891486135

(Daughter of ICA official) These are the exotic, funny and sometimes bittersweet family stories and photos of an overseas childhood told by the daughter of a State Department diplomat about her family's travels and experiences living overseas from 1957 to 1972. She and her six brothers spent their childhoods in South Korea, Taiwan, the Philippines, Thailand and Ethiopia. Through her stories, the reader can begin to appreciate the adaptability of children to other cultures and the fortitude and courage of parents trying to raise their children to be good citizens of the world as well as good Americans.

In this memoir, Robert Taylor recounts the life-changing adventure he had while working for three years in Karachi, Pakistan. The Aga Khan, the wealthy and influential imam of the Ismaili Muslims, hired him to help build the world-class Aga Khan University Hospital. Taylor covers both the excitement and the challenges of serving overseas in a foreign culture, and in the process draws a rich portrait of Pakistan and its people. Robert Taylor has been an adviser to the World Bank, USAID, WHO and other international agencies in 30 developing countries. His memoir won first place in the 2012 Royal Palm Literary Awards Competition for unpublished memoirs. Originally from Minnesota, he now lives in Punta Gorda, Fla.


Former CEO of Eli Lilly, Randall Tobias wrote this book on leadership lessons learned with his son, Todd Tobias. In 2003 he served as the first US Global AIDS Coordinator, then from 2006-to 2007 was USAID Administrator and concurrently Director of US Foreign Assistance.


Can you give our group a two-hour talk on US Foreign Assistance?” asked Bill Kemper, Program chairman of the Corvallis Academy for Life Long Learning. Having worked overseas within the Agency for International Development (AID) for nearly 25 years, plus several years in connection with the Peace Corps, I was happy to comply. Preparation for that presentation led me to jot down many personal observations and anecdotes. I'd been telling some of those stories for years. Once started, this exercise took on a life of its own, and before I knew it, I'd written this memoir.


Since birth, Gordon Young’s life has been full of adventure and unique experiences in Asia. He has spent more than 40 years in tiny jungle villages, as well as in the flourishing cities of Thailand, Laos, Burma, Vietnam and India. Recently, in retelling the story of an encounter with a snow leopard to his grandson, he was inspired to put his memory store in writing. Journey from Banna is the result: a narrative account of Gordon Young’s life journeys through the world, through time and toward enlightenment. Young recalls his abnormal birth in the remote area of Banna in China’s Yunnan province; a childhood spent roaming the mountain landscape with tools and tactics he learned through his family’s interaction with the Ku-loo Lahu tribe of mountain people; and the tumult and excitement of war in his young-adult life. Vivid descriptions of the landscapes, scenery, people and his own emotional growth bring this memoir alive
IV. Fiction and Poetry

ASIN: B001QYSFJA

*Tzimmes* is a humorous story about Dr. Sam Landover, an unpretentious high school mathematics teacher. Grounded in Jewish tradition, Sam gets tangled up in choosing a rabbi for the Shalom Center. As he improvises his way through the confusing jumble, the story becomes a mixed-up stew—like the tasty dessert called tzimmes. FSO Arthur Marshall Fell retired as a minister counselor from the U.S. Agency for International Development in 1990. During a 21-year diplomatic career, he served as an adviser at the African Development Bank in Abidjan, deputy director of USAID in Yaounde and Dakar, and mission director at USAID’s Regional Economic Development Support Office in Nairobi and in Abidjan. He is the co-author of *The Club du Sahel: An Experiment in International Co-operation* (OECD, 1984) and has written numerous articles about law, economic development and music. Fell lives with his wife, Teri, on the southern coast of France.

ISBN: 978-1605637068

Among the Ait Hadidou Berbers, deep in the Mid Atlas Mountains of Morocco, there is a traditional three-day exchange or selling of sheep, tea, sugar, mules and men. It’s called “The Bride’s Fair,” because young virgin brides circle suitable mates and choose for themselves. Older, married women can also return to the fair to divorce and select a new husband. In this novel of international intrigue, Americans, mountain Berbers, Moroccan Arabs and a rebel group all converge on the festival. The mystery centers on a possible act of terrorism and contains various subplots, including many efforts to halt the terrorist act, a young bride’s struggle to escape an arranged marriage, American love interests, the efforts of local officials to contain the disaster, and the obstacles faced by the terrorist group bent on disrupting the fair. Disaster is averted at the last minute by a startling revelation. The story unfolds steadily moved along by the author’s authentic insights into both the diplomatic community and Islamic history. Hal Fleming was Peace Corps director in Cote D’Ivoire and later served with USAID in West Africa.

ISBN: 978-1419620867

Set in Tangier, where Jews, Christians and Muslims mingled freely during the late-19th and early-20th centuries, this novel tells the story of Lili, a Moroccan girl raised by the American consul, who is convinced her future lies in becoming a Western woman; Lili’s stepbrother, Ted, an American educated in Moroccan palaces who becomes a respected journalist reporting on Moroccan issues; and Ted’s Jewish wife, Meriam. Under conditions of mounting political unrest and civil war, as a young sultan tries to fend off European powers interested in annexing Morocco and bandits and pretenders threaten his throne, each of the characters faces a crisis of identity and allegiance.

Stephenson, Charles W.T. (1993). Development Cantos. Self published. ISBN 0963890700. Cantos are sub-divisions of a longer poem. This {book} was not originally intended to be poetic, but just a description of the fact that the development of any country can be compared with the individual growth of an person.

Charles Stephenson was born in 1935 near London, England. He received a B.Sc. from the University of Wisconsin at Madison, and a J.D. form Yale Law School. After private practice, he spent 30 years as a lawyer in Washington with the U.S. foreign aid program.

ISBN: 978-1891486098
After losing his wife in the bombing of an American embassy in Africa, Alex Jackson moves his family to the New Hampshire mountains to run a campground in rugged Crawford Notch near the famous Appalachian Trail. He hopes that time and nature will heal them. Then tragedy strikes again when teenager Angie loses track of the little girl she is babysitting. Four-year old Melanie has wandered away and is lost in the surrounding wilderness. The success or failure of the search and rescue operations may determine more than the fate of the little girl; it threatens to destroy the fragile tranquility and hope the Jackson family has managed to rediscover. In a strange twist, Angie finds an odd parallel to a similar missing child search conducted 65 years before -- during the fall of 1941 - in the same mountains.

ISBN: 978-0939149209
(USAID Spouse) “A complex, deeply written and finely wrought double portrait of two women, one black, one white, picking their way through the debris of a shattered colonialism, discovering unexpected treasures buried in the rubble”. Margaret Atwood review.
Maria Thomas was the pen name of Roberta Worrick, a Peace Corps volunteer and spouse of USAID/Ethiopia Deputy Director Thomas Worrick who both died along with congressman Mickey Leland when their plane crashed traveling to a refugee camp during the 1989 Ethiopian drought. The Worricks served in Nigeria, Tanzania, Pakistan and Kenya with USAID prior to Ethiopia.

Maria Thomas' Africa is a paradox of suffering and eerie beauty. Over its red-dust plains, people wander in search of food while tourists consume fish burgers in its cities. At night, black skin seems to disappear; ghosts bicycle on rutted roads. On an empty beach, love is "luscious . . . sweet and juicy," while virgin reefs shelter deadly things: fire coral, sting rays, poisonous sea snakes. "Come to Africa and Save Your Marriage," Thomas' first story collection, focuses on American travelers and expatriates, most of whom blow onto the Continent with all the force of a hurricane. Their subsequent efforts have about as much impact as the brief rains on the relentless African heat.” Susan Heeger review.


(USAID Spouse) “Isak Dinesen . . . Rebecca West . . . Gertrude Stein and Edith Wharton. To this company, in the tradition of Hemingway and others, and in many ways as brilliant as the best of them, we must now add Maria Thomas.”—Marianne Wiggins, The New York Times Book Review.


The story takes place in recognizable Latin American settings and brings to life a panoply of characters, some inspiring, some despicable, yet all engaging. But nothing is as it seems. Matt Bolls' well-intentioned volunteer service in Latin America turns into a nightmare of deceit, rape, murder and international intrigue. His insertion into a remote village and alien culture quickly challenges his naive notions and assumptions, indeed, his very existence. Matt, aka Gringo Mateo, desperately flees from the many who wish to see him dead, a flight immersing him into a dark world of shadowy figures and events, all in dangerous, violence-plagued locations. Unexpected allies provide him and his agonizing father, a US Congressman, windows of hope. Diamonds, cocaine and smuggled arms are the stock in trade along Matt’s underground trajectory. Anyone who has been a Peace Corps volunteer or staff, development worker, or served in a diplomatic or other overseas agency, will laugh, cry and be riveted by this tale.

Robert Thurston lived and worked in Latin America for over 15 years. During that period, he served as a Peace Corps Volunteer, Peace Corps Associate Director, US Agency for International Development program manager, and as a development consultant. His assignments took him to remote back-country places where he met and worked with all kinds of people, many commendable but a few of dubious character. Hailing from Oregon, Rob’s ancestors ventured west by wagon train, thus passing along a sense of adventure, a curiosity about new frontiers, and accounts of frontier personalities. The author drew from all of these elements and experiences to weave together the extraordinary twists and turns in Devil’s Breath.


This novel beckons the reader to join the lively narrative of David, known by his new African name “Bobovovi,” on a life-altering journey to a land far away from his rural Kansas upbringing. David first travels to West Africa on a Peace Corps mission with the intention of
spending a few years achieving his goals before returning to regular life in the United States. Though his plans keep going awry, David (Bobovovi) finds his connection to the continent growing ever stronger, and he is less and less able to let go.

The reader will become enticed by the magic that surrounds Bobovovi, largely inspired by the rich history and mystical customs that are still prevalent in modern-day Africa. His spiritual moonbeam experience causes him to be regarded as a hero, and he finds that his life is becoming ever more intertwined with the culture than he could have imagined. Through all of his relationships and loves, Bobovovi grows and experiences the adventures that make up life. Before joining the Foreign Service, Mark Wentling was a Peace Corps Volunteer in Honduras and Togo. During his subsequent career with USAID, he was posted to Niamey, Conakry, Lomé, Mogadishu and Dar es Salaam. After retiring from the Foreign Service, he has continued to work in Africa. Over the past four decades, he has visited all 54 countries on the continent.


The sequel to Africa’s Embrace, this book is the story of J.B., who has been mysteriously transported from a small town in Kansas to an even smaller village in Africa called Atuku. As the townspeople of Kansas scramble to uncover the mystery behind J.B.’s life, they come across some very fascinating and surprising information. Africa’s Release is an intriguing tale of African culture, development and exploration. Despite being a work of fiction, the book offers many practical development ideas. Through his vibrant characters and vivid description of Africa’s lush surroundings, Wentling weaves a captivating tale that leaves you wanting more.

Mark Wentling is a retired Foreign Service officer who began his international career with the Peace Corps in 1970. Since then he has been fortunate enough to travel to all 54 African countries, which inspired him to write his “African Trilogy.” This is the second installment, with the last volume, Africa’s Heart, due to release in January 2015. Wentling was born and raised in Kansas, but says he was “made” in Africa. He currently lives and works in Burkina Faso.


Fascinated by a mysterious novella, aspiring journalist, Robin Fletcher, is determined to discover more about the man described in the book... a man known only as JB. His quest leads him from the small town of Gemini, Kansas to a small, disadvantaged country in Africa. Thousands of miles from Kansas, in the rural village of Atuku, half-caste chief, Letivi, grapples with his village’s problems. The villagers’ main source of income, subsistence cocoa farming, cannot compete with global competition. Young people are leaving the village, and the village’s only store is under the control of a foreigner. Letivi also has personal problems. Wifeless and childless, his ability to understand the family struggles in his village is being questioned. His supernaturally sensitive mother is dying, a tragedy coinciding with the death of the enormous baobab tree into which Letivi’s father disappeared years ago. As Letivi and the villagers plan the development of a cocoa processing plant, Fletcher traces JB to Atuku, prompting a
spontaneous trip to Africa with Molly, a ravishing but erratic woman with family ties to the elusive JB. When Letivi, Molly and Robin meet, events are set in motion that change their lives and Ataku forever.

ISBN: 978-0307739810

(USAID spouse) A singularly effervescent novel pivoting around the disappearance of an American businessman in the Philippines and the long-suffering son, jilted lover, slick police commissioner, misguided villain, and supernatural saviors who all want a piece of him. Mourning the recent loss of his mother, twentysome-thing Benicio—aka Benny—travels to Manila to reconnect with his estranged father, Howard. But when he arrives his father is nowhere to be found—leaving an irritated son to conclude that Howard has let him down for the umpteenth time. However, his father has actually been kidnapped by a meth-addled cabdriver, with grand plans to sell him to local terrorists as bait in the country’s never-ending power struggle between insurgents, separatists, and “democratic” muscle. With blistering forward momentum, crackling dialogue, wonderfully bizarre turns, and glimpses into both Filipino and expat culture, the novel marches toward a stunning climax, which ultimately challenges our conventional ideas of family and identity and introduces Yates as a powerful new voice in contemporary literature.

Alex Yates was born in Haiti, and grew up in Mexico, Bolivia and the Philippines. After a few years working as a contractor for the US State Department, he decided to quit and pursue writing full time. He has an MFA in Creative Writing from Syracuse University, where he won Joyce Carol Oates awards in both fiction and poetry. His fiction has been published in Salon, Recommended Reading, The Kenyon Review and American Fiction. Short work has also appeared or is forthcoming in anthologies from This Land and Gigantic. His second novel (and his first for young readers) *The Winter Place* will be published by Atheneum in 2015. Alex lives in Rwanda with his USAID officer wife and cats, where he’s hard at work on a third novel.

ISBN: 978-1456819415

*The Wind Will Yet Sing* is a fictionalized account of the Ku-lao Lahu tribe who inhabit the remote mountain jungles of northern Thailand. The year is 1932, and the tribe’s peaceful life has been shattered. Their existence threatened by outside aggressors, the tribe is forced to defend itself and its ancestral traditions. The story is based on true events in the lives of these mysterious people, virtually untouched by modernity. The people and their beliefs, conversation, humor, reasoning and way of life are all portrayed authentically by Gordon Young, the son of missionary parents who lived in the China-Burma border region. Young brings the images and sounds of the mountain landscape alive, as well. This is a beautifully written story about a secluded, artful and intelligent people, who constantly migrate through the mountains to preserve their faith, ancestral heritage, hunting techniques and morals—and, above all, their “peace and freedom.”

V. People and Places

Based on a USAID funded Country Study, the book provides a detailed statistically oriented study of the Philippines – political system, economic system, crime, insurgency and local values. Perhaps of greatest interest is the data presented from a nationwide sample survey of political values, attitudes toward crime and politics based on answers from 1500 respondents.

Frank Denton has had a career of 50 years in defense and foreign affairs. After a time with the defense industry, he joined RAND and the foreign service (USAID). He served in Afghanistan, Egypt, Jordan, Malaysia, Philippines and Washington, and has retired to do research in the Philippines. He has published extensively in several different fields, but concentrated on patterns and trends in the political use of warfare.


The Philippines is one of the first developing countries to undertake a really massive rural electrification effort. This book is an attempt to document the early experiences of this electrification program. It discusses the successes and the dead ends. It dwells on the approaches which appear to have worked and discusses the guidelines developed to strengthen the program. Particular attention is given to cooperative development.


Following the First Oil Crisis the Philippines, highly dependent on imported oil, sought to develop two alternative electric energy sources: mini hydro and wood fired power plants. The programs were undertaken on a crash basis with inadequate technical knowledge. This book looks in some detail at the plantations of fast growing, coppicing trees that were developed to fuel the wood fired power plants. The book documents the early experiences in farmers cooperatives and the successes and failures in tree planting.


As the colonial years faded from memory, Filipinos’ views of America changed. This book based on interviews with 100 plus Filipinos, from former presidents, politicians and opinion leaders and businessmen, down through activist youth to janitors and laborers, allows Filipinos to speak for themselves about their evolving attitudes toward America. Then Philippine ambassador to America Emmanuel Peleaz endorsed the book as a “must read.”


ISBN: 978-97818923009
This book written as the Asian economic miracle reached a climax suggests several innovations that the Philippines could adopt to bring its economy more into line with the Newly Industrializing Countries (NICs) of Asia. The book retraces the elements of success in the high growth Asian economies. Then it examines the Philippine economy before presenting suggestions that could enable the Philippines to begin to emulate Korea, Taiwan and others.

Denton, Frank. Knowing the Roots of War, Analysis and Interpretations of Six Centuries of Warfare, 2001, Self Published, available.

The analysis of patterns and regularities in warfare, though out the world contained in this book is based on statistical analyses of just over 1000 incidents of warfare that occurred between the 15th century and today. Perhaps, given today’s environment, the chapters comparing wars involving Christian groups with those of Islamic groups will be of greatest interest. Attention is also given to the long term apparent constant level of warfare incidents (number) until industrialization brought on a warfare surge. One finding that seems rather discouraging is that firing the first shot has produced less success than did waiting for the other party to shoot first.


This smaller volume takes the finding from “Analysis and Interpretations” and incorporates them into five essays on a variety of patterns and regularities such as “Trends in Values in Warfare” and “Islam may not be so bloody.” Based on these essays a think piece is presented regarding lessons in the use of warfare which might be of use to the leaders of the world.


The four books identified below cover one story - the “Amazing Story of the Electrification of the Philippine Countryside.” That story will be of interest to USAID personnel because the four volumes document an unmatched American development success. They trace the origins of the program back to President Roosevelt’s Depression prodded American Cooperative managed rural electrification program. The story moves on to initiatives by Presidents Kennedy and Johnson and the leadership shown by NRECA which lead to an American financed and largely managed pilot project involving two Philippine Electric Cooperatives. On the success of these two pilots the Philippine’s took control under the leadership of Pedro G Dumol and brought reliable, reasonably priced electrical services to 10 million consumers or 50 million Filipinos (half today’s population). The volumes give first hander accounts of the massive struggle to maintain integrity and efficiency in an environment familiar with neither parameter. Those first handers acknowledge the critical roles that USAID and NRECA played in getting this program off the ground and on the road to massive success. Pedro Dumol with courage and genius took the American initiative and made it a world acknowledged Philippine Success story. These volumes are dedicated to Pedro (now deceased).

The author wrote the first AID loan paper in 1970 and has maintained involvement with the program until today. This Trilogy plus one culminates his work of 50 years in development assistance. Limited copies are available.

Denton, Frank. From Farm to Internet, A Tale of Rural Electrification, 2014, Frank and Maya Denton, Self Published, available.


Denton, Frank. *A Leap Forward, Book Four on the Impact of Rural Electrification*, 2015, Maya and Frank Denton Self Published, available.


ISBN: 978-9798083228

This beautifully illustrated book by Stephen Grant, with its reproductions of old postcards and literary excerpts from colonial times, gives from to an era now gone forever. As with a family photograph album, this book offers readers an opportunity to leaf through pictures of sometimes familiar, sometimes forgotten faces and former points of views.

ISBN: 978-9992320013

This bilingual book tells the history of Salvadoran postcards from 1900 to 1950. It gives details about the importers and their families, with vivid descriptions of the places where the photographs were taken. It captures the country's atmosphere at the time.

ISBN: 978-1849712323

Sam Huston is a Water Resources & Infrastructure Associate with particular expertise working in fragile and conflict impacted environments. Mr. Huston has ten years of experience working on water supply, sanitation, utility management, climate change and water resource management in Afghanistan, Dominican Republic, Ethiopia, Kenya, Liberia, Malawi, Mozambique, Nigeria, Senegal, South Sudan, Sudan and Uganda. Currently based in Nairobi, he is the Deputy Chief of Party for USAID’s Sustainable Water and Sanitation in Africa (SUWASA) program. Previously, Mr. Huston was a technical expert for USAID’s African and
Latin American Resilience to Climate Change (ARCC) project and served as a technical advisor and manager for USAID's Afghan Sustainable Water Supply (SWSS) project. Mr. Huston spent nearly four years working in South Sudan, first as the Program Coordinator for Pact Sudan’s Water for Recovery and Peace Program, and then as the Water and Sanitation Advisor for USAID/Sudan.


For centuries, Turkmenistan was the world’s most feared territory, the fierce nomadic tribes of its vast desert wastes deemed ungovernable. Today the country is independent, sits atop one of the planet’s largest natural gas reserves, and is strategically located between the hot spots of Afghanistan and Iran — but is still virtually unknown. This book begins to bring this remote country to life in a most engaging way. The author skillfully blends his own two-year adventure there with the history of Turkmenistan to present an insightful and accessible profile of the country and its people — from the bazaars to the ancient Silk Road and Oxus River, the country’s unique brand of Islam and the post-9/11 confrontation with the Taliban.

FS spouse John W. Kropf served in Turkmenistan as country director for USAID from 2000 to 2002. A government attorney specializing in international law, he had worked at the State Department for eight years prior to his wife’s posting to Ashgabat. He is currently director of international privacy programs at the Department of Homeland Security. His creative nonfiction and humor articles have appeared in the Foreign Service Journal, Washington Post and South Florida Sun-Sentinel.


Thailand’s dynamic economic development has earned it a reputation as the "Fifth Tiger" (following on the heels of the superperforming "Four Tigers" - South Korea, Taiwan, Singapore and Hong Kong). This is a study of Thailand’s development experience since 1955.


A government-created famine killed approximately three million North Koreans between 1994 and 1999. Andrew Natsios was vice president of World Vision U.S. at the time, and worked to organize an international response to the crisis in the face of Pyongyang’s largely successful efforts to cover up the full extent of the crisis. Natsios has drawn on a wide range of sources, including interviews with North Korean refugees, to write this gripping account of the politics of humanitarian aid.

Andrew Natsios directed the Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance at USAID from 1989 to 1991 and served as Assistant Administrator for the Bureau for Food and Humanitarian Assistance (now the Bureau of Democracy, Conflict and Humanitarian Assistance) from 1991 to January 1993. From 1993 to 1998, Natsios served as Vice President of World Vision U.S. Natsios was sworn in as the Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development in 1998.
Development (USAID). While serving as Administrator, he also served as Special Humanitarian Assistance Coordinator for Sudan and U.S. Government Coordinator for International Disaster Assistance. He resigned from USAID on January 14, 2006. President Bush appointed him Special Envoy for Darfur in 2006. He retired as special envoy in 2007 and now teaches at Texas A&M.


Informative and accessible, this book introduces readers to the most central issues facing Sudan as it stands on the brink of historic change.


Resnick worked in India from 1952-1957 as a USAID irrigation advisor.


(USAID spouse) An exciting study of clothing as a complex cultural expression. Analyzes contemporary social meanings found in the symbols of dress & shows the way groups & individuals use the symbols like a language to reveal or conceal significant aspects of their personal identities. The author traced the intricate patterns of clothing worn by rural migrants in a lower-class quarter of Cairo back to their origins in Upper & Lower Egypt. She studied the designs of apparel, concentrating primarily on women's dress because of its many variations both in style & meaning.


(USAID spouse) When American anthropologist Andrea Rugh rented a room in a small Syrian village, hoping to find time to finish a book she was writing, she never expected to be drawn so deeply into the lives of her neighbors. But she developed close friendships with two households—those of her landlady and her landlady's sister. For eight months Rugh observed and wrote about the lives of these two families and their ten children. The result is a uniquely intimate account of family life and child rearing in Middle Eastern society. Within the Circle is a detailed, vividly crafted portrait of families in a changing world, chronicling the day-to-day life among family members, between parents and children, and between families and the larger world of the village. The book results from the personal quest of the author to understand the cultural aspects of her own child rearing practices. She contrasts her experiences as an American mother raising three independent, self-sufficient boys with the experiences of village parents striving to form a closely-knit family unit.

The book describes the impact of cultural perceptions on rulers’ behaviors in the United Arab Emirates, once the Trucial States. Despite differences in size, economic resources, and external political pressures, the seven emirates’ rulers utilized very similar cultural expectations to gain the support of others.


(USAID spouse) Moving beyond theory and statistical analysis, this book provides a candid description of the problems practitioners face in the field. It simulates the experiences of a consultant-expert by reviewing education issues in developing countries and giving brief vignettes of the way these issues have been addressed in various countries. Finally, it describes three in-depth cases that show the studies, planning, and implementation that go into actual projects. These cases - in Egypt, Pakistan, and Afghanistan - are here written up for the first time, in a clear, easy-to-read style appropriate for students and development professionals in training.


Alexander Shakow had a distinguished career at the World Bank where he held various senior positions from 1981-2002, including Director of External Affairs and Executive Secretary of the Bank/Fund Development Committee. Since 2002, he has been an independent consultant for a number of international agencies such as UNICEF, FAO, and the Global Fund against AIDS, TB and Malaria as well as the World Bank and IMF. He has also served as Co-Director of the USAID Alumni Association. From 1968-1981, at the United States Agency for International Development, he was, inter alia, Assistant Administrator for Program and Policy; Director, Office of Development Planning, Asia Bureau; and Director of Indonesia, Malaysia and Singapore Affairs. He was also a senior official of the United States Peace Corps from 1963-1967, including Director for Indonesia and Director of Volunteer Training. He received his PhD from the University of London/London School of Economics in 1962 and his undergraduate degree with honors from Swarthmore College in 1958.


Institute of Peace link: http://www.usip.org/sites/default/files/resources/foa.pdf

Alex Thier is USAID’s assistant to the Administrator for Policy, Planning, and Learning (PPL). The PPL Bureau is USAID’s center for policy development, strategic planning, learning and evaluation, and partner engagement. From June 2010- June 2013, Thier served as assistant to the administrator for Afghanistan and Pakistan affairs, overseeing USAID’s two
largest missions in the world. Before joining USAID, Thier served with the U.S. Institute as senior rule of law advisor and director for Afghanistan and Pakistan from 2005-2010.

VI. Photography and Travel

ISBN: 978-0982590867
Ben Barber visited the third world after college, in the late 1960s and 1970s, as a poet and a traveler from Morocco to India. He studied journalism and returned to the third world in 1980 as a reporter and photographer for The Observer, USA Today, and other papers. Editors pushed him to report on war, disease, conflict, hunger, refugees, and endless tragedy. But he found another side: decent, hard-working, loving, and generous people from Marrakesh to Cairo to Jerusalem to Teheran to Kabul and beyond. This book captures, through Barber’s photos and short stories, the deeper streams of life flowing in countries where the future of our planet is being written. All who seek to avoid future conflicts and to understand these countries will enjoy this book. From 1994 to 2002 Ben Barber was State Department Bureau Chief for the Washington Times. From 2002 to 2010 he was senior writer at the U.S. Agency for International Development and editor of USAID’s newspaper FrontLines. Currently he is a columnist for McClatchy news agency and a consultant on development communications.

ISBN: 978-9937506052
*Drokpa: Nomads of the Tibetan Plateau and Himalaya*, with 108 evocative black and white photographs and insightful text, is a stunning portrait of Tibetan nomads. Known in the Tibetan language as drokpa (highpasture people), an estimated two million Tibetan-speaking nomads are spread over a vast area of the Tibetan Plateau and Himalayan region in Bhutan, China, India and Nepal. Yet we know very little about them. The dropka evoke freedom. Their world cherishes mobility and the liberty to roam in search of grass and water. Constantly exposed to the elements — rain, snowstorms and drought — they take these events for granted and face them with remarkable equanimity. The values of courage, integrity and generosity that we admire are principles instinctive to nomads. They also have an intimate knowledge of their environment and an amazing ability to handle animals, a skill rare among most people today.
Daniel Miller is an FSO with USAID in the Philippines. A rangeland ecologist, he went to Nepal for the first time in 1974, and bought his first camera, a Canon FTb, at that time. For the past 25 years he has worked with nomads in Afghanistan, Bhutan, China, Mongolia, Nepal and Tibet. He still uses a Canon F-1 manual camera. This book can be purchased online at www.blurb.com/user/store/wildyakman. A richly illustrated 2011 Weekly Planner as well as other works by Daniel Miller are also available.

Since ancient times, women have been celebrated in India. The divinity of women has played an important part in Indian culture, symbolizing fertility and the progenitor of life. Female figures, sculpted from rock and possessing an amazing sensuous quality, display the ideal of the Indian woman – large, rounded breasts, broad hips, a slender waist, and well developed thighs with tapering legs. The carvings of the Khajuraho and Konark temples, 10th and 13th centuries, respectively, and the much earlier sculptures at the Sanchi Stupa, are an open-air museum of the ideal female beauty, exhibiting exquisite feminine grace and alluring charm. With this medieval appreciation of the female form, it is ironic that Indians today treat their women and girls so poorly. The evils of illiteracy, ignorance, dowry, and economic slavery continue to haunt women and girls. With 43 black and white images, this collection of photos remind us of the languishing Indian ideal of the female form and the need to restore respect for women again.

ISBN: unknown

From a global environmental perspective, few places in the world are as important as the Tibetan Plateau is now. Rising concerns about global warming, climate change, receding glaciers, desertification, food insecurity and loss of biodiversity all point to the significance of the Tibetan Plateau in addressing these global challenges.

With its tenets of compassion and reverence for all sentient beings, Buddhism can be a powerful force for protecting the environment of the Tibetan Plateau. As a first step, we could begin by acknowledging the hallowed nature of the Tibetan landscape and start to treat it with a little more reverence and respect as the Tibetan people have for centuries.

ISBN: unknown

More than just another book on rugs. With evocative images and insightful text it is as much an ethnography of the inhabitants of the Tibetan landscape -- the nomads who raise the sheep that produce one of the best carpet wools in the world and the weavers who fashion this wool into textiles and rugs -- as it is an introduction to the aesthetics of the Tibetan weaving and textile traditions.

ISBN: unknown

ISBN: 978-9937623162

Daniel Miller first visited Nepal and began trekking in the Himalayan region in 1974. In this collection of 172 black-and-white images spanning 35 years, Miller presents his vision of the “sacred landscape” of this region. Mountains, of course, dominate the landscape and, as Miller writes in his introduction to the book, “It doesn’t take long among these mountains to acquire a
sense of the frailty and insignificance of human life.” But it is the people who often generate the most lasting memories. In these photos Miller captures the poise, friendliness and generosity with which they pursue their lives in what most Westerners would consider very difficult conditions. As an ecologist, Miller also focuses on the interactions among vegetation, animals and people on the landscape. Here, the yak is a central feature. And, as Miller says, one cannot travel in the Himalaya and Tibet without also encountering features of Buddhism, from monasteries and their monks to rituals and festivities. All this, too, he captures with his lens.


This unusual book, self-published online and available to preview there in full, is a record of the author’s journeys and work among Tibetan-speaking nomads in the Himalaya in Nepal and Bhutan and throughout the Tibetan Plateau region of what is now China. The many, stunning photographs in the book cover a time span of more than three decades and capture a disappearing way of life. They are complemented by an insightful and informative narrative on the nomadic culture.


Mr. Miller, a USAID FSO, currently lives and works in Manila, Philippines. Previously, he lived and worked in India for over four years and before that in Afghanistan. His work involves designing and managing agriculture, economic growth and rural development projects. His work provides me the opportunity to travel in the Philippines and experience, first hand, the socio-economic challenges facing the island nation. He has worked previously in Afghanistan, Bhutan, China, India, Mongolia, Nepal, Pakistan, and Tibet.


With 120 black and white photos, this book portrays the simple beauty of Buddhist pilgrimage sites, the starkness of the desert landscape of Ladakh, the sensuality of the stone carvings of Khajuraho, and the magnificence of the Taj Mahal. A thought-provoking essay by Cynthia Miller makes one reconsider what it means to be a tourist in India.


In the last quarter century, the nomadic pastoral areas on the Tibetan Plateau have seen far-reaching changes. These changes are radically transforming age-old livestock production methods, land-use practices and the socio-economic fabric of Tibetan society. Chinese authorities, concerned with environmental degradation, are moving nomads out of the grasslands and settling them in towns, but Tibetan nomads are often ill equipped for this new type of existence, lacking the education and skills to find gainful employment. These are important questions that require answers in order to develop the rangelands of the Tibetan Plateau in a sustainable manner and in ways that are sensitive to the needs and desires of the Tibetan nomads.


There will be a great and tragic emptiness if the irreplaceable Tibetan nomadic culture is transformed beyond recognition because of inappropriate policies and development interventions. The survival of the Tibetan Plateau environment, with its globally strategic water resources and extensive rangelands providing livelihoods for millions of nomads and farmers depends on greater appreciation of Tibetan nomads and their worldview and a rethinking of current nomad settlement schemes. It also requires new attitudes that view the landscape more holistically, with a greater sense of its intrinsic beauty as well as the economical value of its natural resources.


Initially assigned to the Cote d’Ivoire as the Regional Legal Advisor for the 24-country area of West and Central Africa, Newton was startled to learn that the regional mission kept no practical information on file for travelling to those countries. So he began collecting information on the side for his colleagues. After several years, people kept saying he should write a book – so he did, and Lonely Planet took him on. The result was what was to become, as Peace Corps volunteers used to say, the bible for West Africa travel, the first English-language guide to the region. From cosmopolitan Dakar to remote Timbuktu, the 900+-page guide, which Newton has updated thrice over the years during his R&Rs, covers 16 countries, from Nigeria west to Cape Verde, and destinations on and off the tourist trail, accommodation, restaurant, and transportation options for every range of budget, cultural information, and more. It includes a useful language section with glossaries of frequently-used terms in local languages and numerous maps of cities which had not previously been mapped.

Alex Newton, a graduate of Brown University and Duke Law School and a Peace Corps Volunteer in Guatemala, worked for USAID in eight countries for over 30 years, serving initially as the Regional Legal Advisor in the Cote d’Ivoire, Ecuador and Bangladesh, where he penned travel guides to all of these areas. He later served as Mission Director in Mali and reached the mandatory retirement age in 2010 while volunteering for service in Afghanistan. Now residing in Madison, Georgia, Newton most recently has been serving as Acting USAID Mission Director during the summers in the DRC and as a consultant to the Mission in Egypt.

Newton, Alex. (1st ed. 1989, 2nd ed. 1994). *Central Africa: A Lonely Planet Travel Survival*

Newton penned a similar guide to Central Africa, a region often overlooked by visitors to Africa, combining the best of what East and West Africa has to offer: from the snow-capped Ruwenzori mountain range and flora of the Congo, to the music and arts of Cameroun and some of the continent's best game parks in the Central African Republic. You can paddle a canoe down a jungle river for weeks on end, hunt with the Pygmies, climb an active volcano, come face-to-face with a mountain gorilla, trek through the snow-capped Mountains of the Moon, join a search for white rhinos, dance all night to Congo music, have a bath on the unique beaches of Sao Tome & Principe. The eight-country guide, from Chad to the Congo, also first-hand tips and advice to help travelers get a feel for the culture and the people of the region. Due to the very limited touristic facilities of the region, Lonely Planet has never re-printed the 2nd, 1994 edition of the guidebook or published a new one. This is why, despite the fact that Newton's guide is clearly well out of date, it remains the best (and only) English-language guide to the region.


On being assigned to Bangladesh, Alex Newton was almost indignant that the original Lonely Planet guide to Bangladesh was not only woefully skimpy but almost disparaging of the country, making negative comparisons with India throughout the guide. He was also amused that hundreds of thousands of tourists were going to Nepal each year acting as though they were on a real adventure when millions had preceded them. So Newton, who had just bicycled on narrow unmarked paths from Dhaka to Calcutta with his wife Betsy and found the country to be an adventurer's delight, with no tourists anywhere(!), decided it was time to rectify the situation and contacted Lonely Planet about updating the guide – and they took him on again. As with all Lonely Planet guides, it contains lots of practical advice, including information on transport, first-hand tips to stay healthy, reliable information on where to stay and eat, etc., but also useful information on history and culture. With paved roads everywhere and perfectly flat almost everywhere, Bangladesh is the perfect country for an adventurous biker, and Newton and his wife provide information useful for bikers including suggested bicycle routes. Over double the size of the initial edition, it is still the only guide in English to Bangladesh.


In his extensive wanderings in South America while stationed in Ecuador and acting as the region's sole Regional Legal Advisor, Alex Newton discovered that one of the highlights of traveling around South America was the opportunity to stay at an array of fascinating hotels. In doing so, he found that guidebooks' descriptions of lodgings were vague and neutral, making it difficult to choose one over another. What followed was the inspiration for this guide. From 17th century haciendas, charming small hotels, and rustic fishing lodges, Newton selected accommodations that stand out from the rest. While many modern establishments are included, he admits to a penchant for older hotels that have character. In some cases, it may be the exceptional service; in others, the history or architecture. Sometimes it's the "feel" of the lobby or communal rooms, or the "character" of the owners themselves. The guide covers the western half of South America (Chile, Peru, Bolivia, Ecuador and Colombia), with drawings of many of the chosen hotels, the great majority of which remain essentially as they were 20 years ago when Newton penned the guide.
VII. Reference

ISBN: 978-1884211102

This is a comprehensive and up-to-date textbook in the amalgamated fields of fertility, family planning, HIV/AIDS and reproductive health — with emphasis on the Third World — that will be of interest to specialists and laymen alike. Written as a series of self-sufficient yet interrelated essays, the book presents a psychosocial model to explain fertility behavior and an explanatory analysis of fertility trends from 1950 to 2050 in all nations. A brief but inclusive history of the international family planning movement contains essays on the U.S. Agency for International Development’s program by former senior agency officials Steven Sinding and Morrie Blumberg. Finally, there is a critical review of current population policy, with recommendations for change.

Morrie Blumberg is a retired USAID FSO. Steve Sinding directed the USAID Office of Population in the late 1970s and was later Director of Population Sciences for the Rockefeller Foundation.

ISBN: 978-0813348773

*Middle East Patterns: Places, Peoples and Politics* is the fifth edition of Colbert Held and John Cummings’ seminal reference work on the region. It joins a large selection of works on the region available today, but what distinguishes Middle East Patterns is its level of detail, accessibility and comprehensiveness. Held and Cummings cover the Middle East from almost every angle: geography, regional history, land use and economics, in addition to the many well-known political conflicts of the region, including Israel and Palestine. Of particular interest is the set of country profiles featured in the latter half of the book that explore each state’s internal politics and its relations with others. Maps, pictures and charts enliven the book’s pages and attest to the authors’ meticulous attention to detail. For students and scholars of the Middle East, this concise volume provides both a broad overview of regional trends and a wealth of useful detail that is difficult to find in a single volume.

A former diplomat-in-residence at Baylor University, Colbert Held was a Foreign Service officer for 15 years who acquired experience in nearly every country in the Middle East. John Cummings is a former USAID economist who has worked in the Treasury Department and the World Bank. He has also taught at Al-Hikma University in Baghdad, Tufts University and the University of Texas at Austin.

VIII. Of Related Interest

ISBN: 978-0691613093
William Bacchus warns that the American Foreign Service is in serious danger of being unable to meet changing responsibilities unless it reforms its present personnel system.

ISBN: 978-0865318007

William Bacchus continues to contribute to our knowledge of the processes involved in organizing the foreign policy which he first elucidated in an essay in the *American Political Science Review* (1974, 68, 736-748). Additionally, we gain insights into the nature of relations among bureaucrats, congressional actors, and White House officials in the formulation of legislation. He traces the development of the legislation from the passage of the Foreign Service Act of 1946 to the implementation of the Foreign Service Act of 1980 in 1981.

ISBN: 978-0931761096

For decades, development professionals have wrung their hands over the failure of political and economic development in Africa despite massive injections of assistance and the continent’s own plentiful natural resources. “What is the secret formula? What are the mistakes not to be repeated? Why is the aid not working like a Marshall Plan?” These are some of the questions author Jim Conway asks. Refreshingly, in this book, he neither presents universalistic formulas nor proposes easy solutions. Instead, we have the insights from his own 15-year experience working in Africa, which “suggest successes and open a door to tomorrow,” as he puts it in the introduction.

James Conway worked in Africa from 1974 to 1987 and from 1993 to 1994, through organizations such as the Church World Service and the U.N. World Food Program. Since 2003, he has worked for USAID’s Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance in Angola and Sudan; he is now working in the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

ISBN: 978-1594032141

Compassion is America’s most consequential export, argues Don Eberly in this new book surveying the rise of civil society around the world. Once the distinctive characteristic of American democracy, philanthropy, volunteerism, public-private partnerships and social entrepreneurship are spreading across the globe. This trend is the seedbed for long-term cultivation of democratic norms. According to Eberly, the key to meeting development challenges in the future will be to harness the best of both the public and the private sector to experiment with approaches that rely on markets and on civil society, and that engage the poor as partners.

ISBN: 978-0760336809
Liberate and Leave is full of valuable lessons for diplomats, soldiers and aid workers. In it, Don Eberly, an expert on civil society and economic development who served as a senior adviser to General Jay Garner and, later, to Ambassador Paul Bremer during the earliest phases of the Iraq operation, shows “how unprepared [the U.S.] was to shoulder the burden of constructing a democracy.” Among other things, he cites the conflicting loyalties and confused reporting systems at State and the Pentagon. A key change Eberly advocates for U.S. stabilization and reconstruction policy is to raise the priority of strengthening civil society. A premature rush to democracy — without first building broad multiethnic voluntary associations that inculcate democratic habits — actually sets back the goals of democratization, Eberly argues. In his view, that is one of the critical omissions from the original plan for Iraq. Prior to his service in Iraq, Don Eberly was senior counselor for international civil society at USAID. He is a consultant on economic development.

ISBN: 978-0761832546

In the era of fiber optics, high-speed Internet connections, and ever-faster communications technology breakthroughs, it is useful to ponder the revolutionary potential of the humble radio. In this interesting book, development practitioners Steven Sposato and William A. Smith review the history of distance communication and the rise of information radio in the 1930s through its peak in the 1970s. They present a series of case studies examining the innovative use of radio in fostering development. In bringing to light these little-known stories, the authors make a compelling case for radio’s ability to play a critical role in teaching as well as entertaining today. Stephen Sposato has 25 years of experience as an economist with USAID, specializing in development communication issues for the last five years. William A. Smith is executive vice president of the Academy for Educational Development, a nonprofit that specializes in applying modern communication to social change and development.

ISBN: 978-1495803048

From the author: “By definition, all consultants in International Development have a technical skill, but few have been systematically exposed to consulting skills, concepts, behaviors and tools required to get the job effectively done. Most learn at least some of these things by observation and trial and error. This book has been written to reduce the learning curve well as expand the skill set to enhance productivity and the quality of results. This is not a textbook, but the introduction to all the aspects of becoming an excellent consultant in International Development, with ideas related to a wide variety of topics. This book is based author’s 40 years of experience as a consultant contracted or employed by numerous consulting firms and several UN agencies, The World Bank, and USAID, in 60+ countries as an expert in health care management for Governments, worldwide Tuberculosis management, and making model non-profit organizations sustainable without subsidies from a donor. He was also one of the early leaders in organizational development from which consulting skills were studied and
developed, and he has spent his entire career honing those skills. His hope is that the next generation does it better than he did.

ISBN: 978-1432780975

In this concise, clear study guide, Mu Octavis Taalib attempts to reverse the notion that “Arabic is too hard.” Languages are acquired, not learned, he stresses in the preface. This manual is broken down into steps so that learning the language is a process that feels simple, feasible and natural. The approach emphasizes sound, learning symbols and representations, and putting sound and symbol together to formulate thoughts, before finally understanding the Arabic dictionary.

Mu Octavis Taalib, an FSO who retired from USAID in 2009, is a certified Teacher of English to Speakers of Other Languages who also teaches Arabic in suburban Atlanta. Having studied the Arabic language from Nashid Abdul Khaaliq, an Arabic scholar from Boston, Taalib cultivated his skills during the latter part of his FS career when he was based in Cairo and traveled extensively in Jordan, Israel, Yemen and Morocco.

IX. Children’s Books

Amani, Mary Jo. (2012). Excuse Me, I’m Trying to Read!. Traverse City, MI: Mackinac Island Press.
ISBN: 978-1934133521

Mary Jo Amani’s children’s book, Excuse Me, I’m Trying to Read! is great fun and very clever. The illustrations by Lehla Eldrige are safari-themed—animals ranging from impalas and rhinos to dung beetles and elephants fill the uniquely drawn pages, documenting the plight of a young girl’s attempt to read in the midst of the daily busyness and fascinating distractions of the African bush. The young girl’s struggle to stay focused on her book is in earnest. Reading is so important that not even zebras should get in the way! The unique illustrations of African villages and landscape add to the appeal of each page. This winner of the 2011 National Association of Elementary School Principals’ Best Children’s Picture Book Award is a book that children will love—and one that their parents will enjoy reading over and over to them. Mary Jo Amani is the wife of USAID Foreign Service officer Todd Amani. She wrote the book as part of a series directed toward early readers (ages 2 to 8) for a community library program in Mozambique.

X. USAID Program Histories

ISBN: unknown

ISBN: 978-0231071444
This important book comes at a time when the U.S. Congress is considering some of the first significant changes in aid legislation since 1973; it deserves to be read by all officials involved in revising that legislation. The author, formerly chief economist for the Agency for International Development, has written a balanced empirical case study of the impact of the U.S. aid program to Thailand. The program’s most important success, Muscat points out, was in helping the Thais to develop the institutions essential to economic development. These included at least 13 major educational institutions as well as 29 key bureaus and departments in the Thai government, plus a number of private organizations such as the Institute of Population Studies, the Industrial Finance Corporation and the Institute of Management Education. Beyond its success in documenting the effectiveness as well as the weaknesses of the U.S. aid program, the volume also provides a thorough study of the past 40 years of Thai-U.S. relations. Robert J. Muscat is a former chief economist at USAID.


This report provides a broad review of the operations of AID in Brazil from 1961 to 1974, including background on the development of the program prior to 1961. …The study focuses on the character and intent of AID operations, and on their results.


USAID was the pioneer donor in providing family planning assistance in Brazil from the late 1960s until the program officially closed in September 2000. Remarkably, USAID remained the largest donor in this sector throughout this period.

Summary Report: USAID Support for Family Planning and Reproductive Health Programs in Brazil. PRB November 2000. Available at popref@prb.org. 20 page summary of the full report.