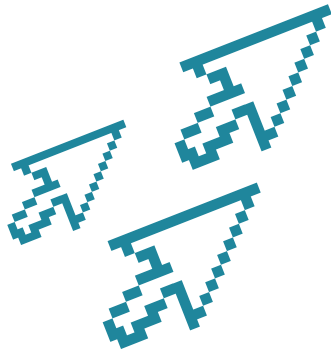# A Good Place to Start

The IDS Knowledge Services guide to finding development information online

IDS Knowledge Services
www.ids.ac.uk/info

About the IDS

The Institute of Development Studies (IDS), is a leading global organisation for research, teaching and communications on international development. Its purpose is to understand and explain the world, and to try to change it – to influence as well as to inform.

About the IDS Information Department

The IDS Information Department supports a large and diverse international community through its family of **Knowledge Services** and knowledge sharing and consultancy work. While each service has a distinct approach, audience and focus, they all share one goal: to help development research and knowledge reach those who can use it to reduce poverty and injustice

www.ids.ac.uk/info

Edited by Gabrielle Hurst and Cheryl Brown

A Good Place to Start

The IDS Knowledge Services guide to finding development information online

Credits

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Contents

Type *international development* into the Google search box and you'll get addresses for over 1.5 billion web pages. Add the word *research* and you'll still have over 800 million to choose from. There's no shortage of places to visit online if you're interested in development, but what if you don't want 800 million websites? What if you only want five?

Many people are bewildered by the scale of the World Wide Web. As more people get online, a new divide is appearing between people who find it easy to locate, evaluate and use information and those who are overwhelmed by the number of websites out there, aren't sure how to search or which sources to trust.
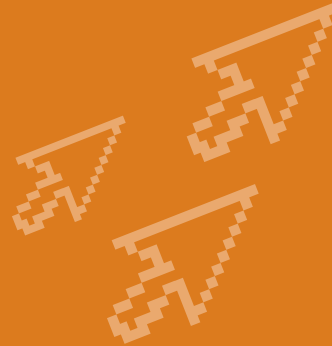
The IDS Information Department has been summarising and signposting to online material on development since 1995, but where does its staff go to find these resources? We asked them each to recommend five websites that they consider good places to find information on over 30 development themes (p6 to p67). The websites they've chosen are easy-to-use, offer a broad range of free material and many of them include materials in different languages. We also invited internet users to nominate their favourite sites in the categories of Gender, ICTs and Conflict.

If you're looking for help on searching the Internet, using online library catalogues and evaluating your search results, turn to p.69 for advice. Naturally, we hope our Knowledge Services will feature in your search for information on development and you can find out more about them on p.75 - p.83. Finally, we've included a glossary of some Internet terminology on p.84

We hope you find this book useful and look forward to hearing your recommendations of further 'good places to start' to add to future editions. *Gabrielle Hurst and Cheryl Brown.*

Not sure where to go online for information on development?

Let us recommend a few good places to start...

Ageing Populations

Selected by Tracy Zussman,
Editor of the Eldis Ageing Populations Resource Guide

HelpAge International

www.helpage.org

International not-for-profit network, running grassroots projects and researching and campaigning on issues and policymaking that affect the elderly, including health, rights and social protection. Online resources include regular newsletters, topic-related briefings, policy reports and practical manuals and there is detailed information on regional issues. There is also a focus on emergency situations and the latest related news.

AARP Global Aging Program

www.aarp.org/research/international

Non-profit, non-partisan membership organisation providing information and advocacy on key policy issues affecting the population aged 50+ worldwide. Site includes news, events and reports, and data and major publications listed by country. Topics discussed cover something for everyone and range from health and pensions to cultural and consumer issues. Databases include AgeSource Worldwide Information (which covers major libraries, directories, resource databases, etc.), a directory of Internet Resources, and AgeLine, which provides abstracts of papers, books and reports.

Global Action on Aging

www.globalaging.org

Non-profit organisation, affiliated to the United Nation's Economic and Social Council. It documents and makes policy recommendations on worldwide issues and news related to health, elder rights, pensions, the rural elderly and the elderly in conflict situations. Online resources include Pension Watch, which monitors global social security issues. There is a detailed weekly email newsletter covering all topics.

The World Bank - Pensions

www.worldbank.org/pensions

Pension research and recommendations from the World Bank. Resources include details of legislation listed by country, a Pension Reform Primer, which is a toolkit providing updated information from countries that have introduced reforms, as well as full-text World Bank publications on pension issues. There is also information on the latest news and events about pensions.

International Network for the Prevention of Elder Abuse (INPEA)

www.inpea.net

Part of the International Association of Gerontology (IAG), its members are working to recognise and respond to the mistreatment of older people all over the world. INPEA produces a monthly bulletin of activities and news which is available online. A small website, but it covers a highly topical subject.

ABOUT ELDIS
www.eldis.org/ageing

The Eldis Ageing Populations Resource Guide offers quick access to key documents, organisations, research themes, discussions and other key resources.

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Agriculture

**Selected by Boudy Van Schagen,
Editor of the Eldis Agriculture Resource Guide**

Future Agricultures

www.future-agricultures.org

Future Agricultures is a learning consortium looking into how to leverage African agriculture for poverty reduction. Besides research outputs, the website also has a regularly updated 'hot topic' debating key issues, a news and events repository and links to related websites. You can find information within thematic or geographic categories.

The Programme for Land and Agrarian Studies (PLAAS)

www.uwc.ac.za/plaas

PLAAS is a South African initiative working to build capacity in the land and agrarian reform sector and engaging in policy-relevant research. Research outputs are often of high quality and many are available for free download. There are some helpful links to training and post-graduate study opportunities.

FAO Agriculture 21

www.fao.org/ag

The UN Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) has a very comprehensive website with interesting reading material on agriculture, nutrition and biosecurity. Many of FAO's online services are available in Arabic, Chinese, English, French and Spanish. Online resources include FAO publications, topical news items and links to FAO thematic websites related to global agriculture.

New Agriculturist

www.new-agri.co.uk

A monthly 'e-zine' filled with short features mainly about developing country agriculture and related issues. The website includes a section presenting various perspectives each on an interesting theme, news, book reviews and a good collection of short country profiles with both interesting narrative and data. Collections of back issues are available free on CD-ROM.

Magazine on Low External Input and Sustainable Agriculture (LEISA)

www.leisa.info

The Centre for Information on Low External Input and Sustainable Agriculture (ILEIA) has an online platform called LEISA Magazine. It publishes experiences with low-input and ecological agriculture for smallholder farmers in the South. Magazine articles are individually downloadable. Other services include an agricultural topic guide, a subscription service for email bulletins, a practical 'how-to' resource and an open discussion forum.

ABOUT ELDIS
www.eldis.org/agriculture

The Eldis Agriculture Resource Guide offers quick access to key documents, organisations, research themes, discussions and other key resources.

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Aid

Selected by Alyson Brody,
Editor of the Eldis Aid and Debt Resource Guide

Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) - Aid Effectiveness

www.oecd.org/dac/effectiveness

The Aid Effectiveness section of the OECD website represents a more 'institutional' view of development priorities. The site covers five themes reflecting key aid debates in development, including public financial management and procurement. You are able to access statistics on aid and the Millennium Development Goals, along with various key publications from the OECD on aid effectiveness.

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) - Millennium Development Goals

www.undp.org/mdg

The Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) are the standards against which aid effectiveness is being measured, since the scaling-up of aid is directly related to reaching these goals. This site is a key source of research and progress on the MDGs, with clear information on the rationale for them, what they are, strategies for achieving the MDGs, and a regional and country-level focus. It also provides access to further resources on the subject and is available in French, English and Spanish.

The Reality of Aid

www.realityofaid.org

This website is the portal of a collaborative, not-for-profit initiative, involving non-governmental organisations from the North and South. You can find many resources free to download on the site, including reports, the Reality Check newsletter, and papers from the Reality of Aid conference. You can search for information by region or theme and there is a useful section for up-coming activities.

Oxfam - Debt and Aid

www.oxfam.org.uk/what_we_do/issues/debt_aid

The aid section of the Oxfam website provides news on the latest developments in aid effectiveness from Oxfam's perspective, but also refers to the issues within a broad development context. You can find the latest publications on aid and debt from Oxfam and other linked organisations that are free to download, along with an interesting case studies section.

Overseas Development Institute (ODI) - Centre for Aid and Public Expenditure (CAPE)

www.odi.org.uk/pppg/cape

Much of CAPE's work is advisory but they are also involved in substantial research and dissemination programmes. The website provides links to their publications, including briefing papers, working papers and articles. You can also find information about events, such as CAPE workshops as well as links to other organisations.

ABOUT ELDIS
www.eldis.org/aid

The Eldis Aid and Debt Resource Guide offers quick access to key documents, organisations, research themes, discussions and other key resources.

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Capacity Building

Selected by Catherine Fisher, Capacity Development Coordinator in the Strategic Learning Initiative

Capacity.org

www.capacity.org

This site is intended for practitioners and policy-makers who work in or on capacity development in international cooperation in the South. It has a magazine element which commissions interesting articles from people involved in capacity development. It also points to a good range of networks, organisations and individuals doing - or thinking about - capacity development including donor perspectives and projects. An essential first port of call. Some content in French and Spanish.

Impact Alliance

www.impactalliance.org

Website of a global capacity building network - much more NGO focused than Capacity.org and with an organisational capacity emphasis. The website supports interaction and discussion among members, many of whom are small Southern NGOs. Network members contribute content so there is a wide variety of resources and it is worth sifting through. Some content in French and Spanish.

Oneworld Capacity Building Guide

www.uk.oneworld.net/guides/capacitybuilding

News from social justice organisations. Some news items about state level capacity initiatives and some on community development activities, but the bulk of the content is focused on NGO organisational capacity building programmes, particularly with regard to Information and Communication Technology. You can find a range of editors and contributors.

World Bank Institute (WBI) Capacity Development Resource Centre

www.worldbank.org/capacity

Taking a different view of capacity, this site focuses on state capacity, particularly as it relates to aid effectiveness and donor agendas. It features some information about World Bank, and in particular WBI, projects, research and thinking related to capacity development but also features resources from other organisations. It has a useful section on donor policies and approaches to capacity.

European Centre for Development Policy Management (ECDPM) - Development Cooperation and Capacity team

www.ecdpm.org

The ECDPM builds practical and theoretical understandings of capacity through reviewing capacity development projects, undertaking research, and promoting dialogue and reflection. The research programme on Capacity Change and Performance is pushing thinking on capacity within development processes. The website contains a huge range of papers, case studies, reports from policy dialogues, etc. generated through the programme, details of past and forthcoming events and useful links to other organisations involved in capacity development.

ABOUT THE STRATEGIC LEARNING INITIATIVE (SLI)
www.ids.ac.uk/info/strategiclearninginitiative

SLI is a new IDS programme that works collaboratively with IDS Knowledge Services, peers and partner organisations. It aims to strengthen their capacity and commitment to implement information-based interventions that are strategic and accountable for their contribution to increasing social justice and reducing poverty.

IDS Knowledge Services
Strategic Learning Initiative

Children and Young People

Selected by Leah Murphy, Editor of the Eldis Children and Young People Resource Guide

Child Rights Information Network (CRIN)

www.crin.org

CRIN is a network of more than 1,400 child rights organisations in over 130 countries that work to improve the lives of children. The website offers a vast selection of resources on child rights organised by theme, including publications, events, news and links to recommended organisations on child rights.

Child Poverty Research and Policy Centre (CHIP)

www.childhoodpoverty.org

CHIP is a collaborative research and policy programme which involves Save the Children, the Chronic Poverty Research Centre (CPRC) and partners in China, India, Kyrgyzstan and Mongolia. The website contains policy briefings, research reports, photos, case studies and links on a wide range of issues related to childhood poverty.

Children's Institute, University of Cape Town

www.ci.org.za

The Children's Institute at the University of Cape Town aims to contribute to policies, laws and interventions that promote equity and realise the rights and improve the conditions of all children in South Africa, through research, advocacy, education and technical support. Their site provides further information about the Institute and its programmes, free access to most of their publications online, and information on policy and law reform in South Africa. Users can also order free hard copies of their publications.

UNICEF

www.unicef.org

UNICEF is the United Nation's Children's Fund. Their website provides information about the organisation and what they do, access to information by country or by topic, free access to UNICEF publications and news, and links to resources for young people, students and teachers, and development professionals. UNICEF also provides a free email newsletter.

International Save the Children Alliance

www.savethechildren.net/alliance

The International Save the Children Alliance works to fight for children's rights and is made up of 27 Save the Children organisations located throughout the world. The Alliance website provides access to a comprehensive list of relevant organisations and links to their own papers online. However, each country-based Save the Children website will offer its own resources as well, so it is worthwhile looking at these sites too. Links to the country-based Save the Children websites are provided on the International Save the Children Alliance website.

ABOUT ELDIS
www.eldis.org/children

The Eldis Children and Young People Resource Guide offers quick access to key documents, organisations, research themes, discussions and other key resources.

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Climate Change

Selected by Alan Stanley,
Editor of the Eldis Climate Change Resource Guide

SciDev.Net Climate Change Dossier

www.scidev.net

A very useful science and technology-focused mixture of news, features and key documents. SciDev also produces a range of policy briefs giving good introductions to a range of climate change issues with particular relevance to developing countries.

Tiempo Climate Newswatch

www.tiempocyberclimate.org

A weekly online magazine covering a fairly broad range of climate change issues related to development. Short articles provide useful overviews of issues and are mixed with news items, conference reports and commentary.

CDMCapacity.org

www.cdmcapacity.org

Although aimed at primarily a forestry and land-use audience in developing countries, CDMCapacity.org is a good place to start for anyone wanting to know about the Clean Development Mechanism. It provides a clear step by step introduction to the topic and links to some well-selected and more in-depth resources for those that want to go on to find out more.

Climate Change Knowledge Network

www.cckn.net

Helpful for anyone needing to understand the complexities of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). The website provides access to a wide range of resources on various climate policy issues and the Kyoto mechanisms. It also includes a compendium of introductory briefings and glossaries to help you get up to speed with the complex negotiation process.

Linking Climate Adaptation (LCA) Network

www.linkingclimateadaptation.org

LCA is a global electronic network of over 700 researchers, policy makers and practitioners developing strategies to help limit the negative impacts of climate change particularly among poor and vulnerable communities in developing countries. The website provides an introduction to this cross-cutting topic; access to key documents organised by theme and/or region; a directory of donors, government agencies, NGOs and research organisations; regular online discussions and a space for members to share knowledge and experience informally.

ABOUT ELDIS
www.eldis.org/climate

The Eldis Climate Change Resource Guide offers quick access to key documents, organisations, research themes, discussions and other key resources.

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Conflict

These websites were voted for by the online development community, as the three best websites to visit for information on conflict.

International Crisis Group

www.crisisgroup.org

Romila Sudhir (USAID Library) goes here first to find out about conflicts happening around the world. The site is in many languages and easily navigated, giving details for each conflict. The search box is easily found and the drop down menu gives access to countries and regions in a user friendly way. Databases and Reports gives access to the history of conflicts, provides maps and links to other Research Resources. "It is a one stop shop for conflict issues."

Isaria Mwende likes the website "because it is independent and reliable. It has its staff on the ground in all the five continents."

Charles Kakaire (World Relief) works for an NGO in the disaster response department and uses the site almost every day to find out the latest information on conflict around the world. "Nothing beats their weekly email updates on conflict and potential conflict areas in the world!!"

Ideaccess

www.ideaccess.org

Lauryn Oates (Rights & Democracy) says – "Ideaccess is concerned with access to information for civil societies in the Middle East and Central Asia. The site is fully functional in nine languages: Arabic, Farsi, Dari, Tajik, Uzbek, Urdu, Russian, French and English. It has an E-Library with resources in the same languages, falling into five different categories. This site does not simply promote access to information, it puts it into practice. Ideaccess is a rare organisation catering specifically to two regions in great need of sustained attention on issues around political development, support to civil society, and human rights issues."

UNIFEM – WomenWarPeace.org

www.womenwarpeace.org

A portal on Women, Peace and Security, that provides you with News & Events, and UNIFEM publications on women and conflict. Some of the publications are available in French, Spanish, and Arabic. **Stephanie Ziebell** (UNIFEM) finds the portal "an invaluable resource of information on women and conflict." .

Conservation and Biodiversity

**Selected by Tim Woods,
id21 Natural Resources Editor**

Earth Trends

www.earthtrends.wri.org

This is a comprehensive online database focusing on environmental, social and economic trends. The information is laid out under different research topics such as climate and atmosphere, or energy and resources, which makes it easier to navigate. The site includes a news section and downloadable information guides. You can easily search for country specific information through the region pages.

IUCN - The World Conservation Union

www.iucn.org

As an international organisation, IUCN aims to encourage societies to conserve nature and ensure that the use of natural resources is fair and ecologically sustainable. The site contains news, research documents and links to many other conservation organisations.

The Community-Based Natural Resource Management Network

www.cbnrm.net

This site provides opportunities for researchers, practitioners and managers to communicate and share ideas through networking tools. There is a useful site map that makes it easier to find the information you're looking for. The site is also available in French, Spanish, German, Portuguese and Norwegian.

World Wildlife Fund (WWF)

www.panda.org

WWF invests in projects to stop the accelerating degradation of the natural environment and to help people live in greater harmony with nature. The site has news, publications and links to WWF offices around the world. You can also subscribe to regular email updates from the organisation.

Sustainable Agriculture, Biodiversity and Livelihoods (IIED)

www.iied.org/NR/agbioliv/index.html

This site seeks to promote sustainable agri-food systems and find ways to yield more sustainable livelihood opportunities from biodiversity for poor people. The site has information about forthcoming events and project news, as well as access to research documents.

ABOUT ID21
www.id21.org/nr

id21 communicates research on international development themes, including conservation and biodiversity, to decision makers and practitioners worldwide, through free publications, email newsletters, and online summaries.

Corporate Social Responsibility

**Selected by Martina Gernet, Editor of the Eldis
Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) Resource Guide**

Business and Human Rights Resource Centre

www.business-humanrights.org

You can find up to date relevant information on business and human rights on this website. There is a comprehensive online library covering over 150 topics. The website provides a very balanced view of the topic as it includes reports of corporate misconduct, as well as positive examples of "best practice" by companies. Content of the website is available in English, Spanish and French. You can sign up for a weekly email update or customised alerts on a particular topic.

The Corporate Responsibility (CORE) Coalition

www.corporate-responsibility.org

To get an NGO perspective on CSR issues, check out the CORE website. CORE represents over 130 charities and campaigning organisations. The steering group of CORE includes: Action Aid, Amnesty International UK, Christian Aid, Friends of the Earth, Traidcraft, War on Want and World Wildlife Fund (UK). On the website you will find information on campaigns and events, you can also read and download reports and papers by CORE and its supporting organisations.

International Business Leaders Forum (IBLF)

www.iblf.org

If you are interested in how international businesses engage with CSR issues, the IBLF website is a good place to start. The Forum aims to promote socially responsible business practices that help to achieve sustainable development in emerging economies. It focuses on inspiring leadership, building capacity and developing partnerships. The website is easy to navigate, providing information on activities and events. You can also download publications, fact sheets and case studies.

International Confederation of Free Trade Unions (ICFTU)

www.icftu.org

ICFTU's work focuses on employment and international labour standards, tackling issues relating to multinationals, trade union rights, equality, women, race and migrants, as well as trade union organisation and recruitment. The website provides background information and access to publications on all these themes. The site is available in English, French and Spanish.

Business and Sustainable Development: A Global Guide

www.bsdglobal.com

BSDglobal is a great source of CSR information with a focus on case studies categorised by sector, offering information on strategies and providing tools companies can use to translate an aspiration of sustainability into practice. You can find information on business perspectives, access to specific tools, business opportunities arising from sustainable development, NGO-business partnerships, an introduction to the financial sector and sustainability and an overview of training opportunities.

**ABOUT ELDIS
www.eldis.org/csr**

The Eldis Corporate Social Responsibility Resource Guide offers quick access to key documents, organisations, research themes, discussions and other key resources.

Debt

Selected by Alyson Brody,
Editor of the Eldis Aid and Debt Resource Guide

Jubilee Research

www.jubileeresearch.org

Jubilee Research is part of the Global and National Economics programme at the New Economics Foundation in London. One of the key issues tackled by Jubilee is debt, and its website provides access to several cutting edge publications on debt and the Heavily Indebted Poor Countries Initiative. There are various free papers to download, and a searchable database.

World Bank – Debt Issues

www.worldbank.org/debt

This is the official World Bank site on the Heavily Indebted Poor Countries (HIPC) Initiative and other debt issues. You can find a considerable amount of information about the HIPC initiative, including a list of HIPC countries and publications. The site also includes policy documents, the latest news and events, country case studies and statistics on debt.

African Forum and Network on Debt and Development (AFRODAD)

www.afrodad.org

AFRODAD is a research, lobby and advocacy regional organisation that aims to redress Africa's debt and development crisis. Most notably, it provides a view on debt from within Africa, rather than a Northern institutional perspective. The site hosts a collection of various publications, reports and other free resources, along with a searchable database and a useful Debt Profile section organised by country.

European Network on Debt and Development (EURODAD)

www.eurodad.org

EURODAD is a Network of European NGOs interested in adjustment and issues of debt. Its website provides information on the Network, list of publications and full text materials, including Briefing Papers. It also links to information on key areas relating to debt relief, including the Poverty Reduction Strategy Papers (PRSPs), debt sustainability, debt arbitration and a useful glossary.

Forum on Debt and Development (FONDAD)

www.fondad.org

FONDAD is an independent policy research centre and a forum for international discussion established in the Netherlands. On this website you can find factual background information and practical strategies for policymakers. There are free publications to download and some of the work is translated into Spanish.

ABOUT ELDIS
www.eldis.org/aid

The Eldis Aid and Debt Resource Guide offers quick access to key documents, organisations, research themes, discussions and other key resources.

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Disasters and Emergencies

Selected by Deepayan Basu Ray,
id21 Global Issues Editor

AlertNet

www.alertnet.org

Reuters AlertNet is a humanitarian news network which aims to keep professionals, policy-makers, civil society and the wider public up-to-date on humanitarian crises around the globe. The website is very easy to use and features detailed analysis and speedy and accurate reporting from its worldwide network of journalists on new, existing and potential crises.

ReliefWeb

www.reliefweb.int

ReliefWeb is a comprehensive gateway to information (documents and maps) on humanitarian emergencies and disasters. It is designed specifically to assist the international humanitarian community in effective delivery of emergency assistance. ReliefWeb is administered by the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA).

UNDP - The Bureau for Crisis Prevention and Recovery (BCPR)

www.undp.org/bcpr

The BCPR is the UN agency responsible for working on conflict prevention and peace-building, natural disaster prevention, small arms control, disarmament, demobilisation and reintegration (DDR), internally displaced people (IDPs), and justice and security sector reform. The website contains free access to a large number of background, research and policy-relevant documents.

The International Rescue Committee (IRC)

www.theirc.org

The IRC delivers emergency relief, rehabilitation, resettlement and post-conflict development for those uprooted or affected by conflict and emergencies. The website contains detailed information about projects, background studies and situation reports of countries where the IRC is active.

International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (ISDR)

www.unisdr.org

The UN/ISDR is the focal point in the UN System to promote links and synergies between, and the coordination of, disaster reduction and policy integration activities. It serves as an international information clearinghouse on disaster reduction, developing awareness campaigns and producing articles, journals and other publications related to disaster reduction.

ABOUT ID21
www.id21.org/society

id21 communicates research on international development themes, including disasters and emergencies, to decision makers and practitioners worldwide, through free publications, email newsletters, and online summaries.

Education

Selected by Cheryl Brown, Marketing Coordinator in the Strategic Learning Initiative and former Education and Urban Poverty Editor at id21

Global Information Networks in Education (GINIE)

www.ginie.org

The GINIE project is an online learning community aimed at supporting education professionals working in crisis situations worldwide. The site provides information on topics such as child and young adult soldiers and land mine awareness education, and on individual countries. There are also plenty of locally-produced teaching resources created by network members, a discussion forum and visitors are encouraged to submit their own materials.

Global Campaign for Education (GCE)

www.campaignforeducation.org

This site is the home of the Global Campaign for Education, which brings together major NGOs and teachers' unions working in over 150 countries to campaign for free quality education for all. The site is particularly geared around supporting and reporting on the annual Global Action Week in April. Visitors can download campaigning and advocacy materials and policy briefing papers. Several of the resources are available in French and Spanish, as well as English.

UNESCO - Education

www.portal.unesco.org/education

This huge section of the UNESCO website is a collection of mini-sites on themes such as School Health and HIV/AIDS, Teacher Education and Literacy. Visitors can explore the thematic sites relevant to their interests to find UNESCO publications, news, information on forums and global activities, reference tools, good practice stories, etc. The main Education site gives an overview of education goals and access to the Global Monitoring Reports.

Consortium for Research on Educational Access, Transitions and Equity (CREATE)

www.create-rpc.org

CREATE is a partnership of UK, South Asian and sub-Saharan African institutions looking to improve access to education for 5 to 15 year olds in poor countries. Launched in January 2006, CREATE is producing a series of Country Analytic Reviews and Cross National Reviews which will be freely available online. Currently limited to background documents and links to resources related to access issues in education, this website is one to watch.

UNESCO- Education for All (EFA)

www.unesco.org/education/efa

The EFA movement began at the World Conference on Education for All in 1990 and this website is dedicated to giving an in-depth understanding of the movement. It provides Frequently Asked Questions, background documents and reports on workshops, forums and conferences. It is also the home of the EFA monitoring reports that make available details of country by country progress to achieving the EFA goals.

ABOUT ID21
www.id21.org/education

id21 communicates research on international development themes, including education, to decision makers and practitioners worldwide, through free publications, email newsletters, and online summaries.

Finance and Economics

Selected by Shaun Kennedy,
Information Projects Coordinator at IDS

International Monetary Fund (IMF)

www.imf.org

The IMF maintains a vast but easily navigated website with free access to a huge diversity of materials related to economic and financial sector policies. The 'first time visitors' section is an excellent place to get started on this site and from this point users can follow links to an enormous amount of free publications and links to country specific information. Much of the material is also available in Arabic, French, Spanish and German.

Third World Network (TWN)

www.twnside.org.sg

The TWN website has information on a wide variety of development issues and represents Southern interests and perspectives on the major economic and social issues affecting development. The website is full of useful information and you can find links to such issues as 'Economics' and 'Global Financial and Economic Crisis'. The information is available on easy to read web pages, with free papers and reports available. There are also links to other useful websites.

Eldis – Finance Policy Resource Guide

www.eldis.org/finance

The Eldis Finance Policy Resource Guide provides access to thousands of documents editorially selected for their subject quality. There is a searchable database to make it easier to find information and each document comes with a short and easy-to-read abstract with a link to the full document. You can find information on several finance policy related areas, including domestic finance and microfinance, along with links to other organisations.

Rural Finance Learning Centre

www.ruralfinance.org

The Rural Finance Learning Centre is a website for capacity building in the area of rural finance, with a focus on microfinance. The site is easy to navigate, with free and useful information on training and an online reference library. An especially nice feature is the self study guides and online lessons covering a range of subjects including commercial banks and microfinance, and agricultural cooperative management.

Auburn University – A Glossary of Political Economy Terms

www.auburn.edu/~johnspm/gloss

This is a website with a comprehensive glossary of political economy terminology, which might be helpful for navigating the other four selected websites. The website is maintained and updated regularly by Dr Paul Johnson at Auburn University, USA. The glossary uses plain English to explain the technical terms, the site has a keyword search facility and where necessary there are hypertext links to explanations of other glossary terms.

ABOUT THE IDS INFORMATION DEPARTMENT
www.ids.ac.uk/info

The IDS Information Department supports a large and diverse international community through its family of Knowledge Services and knowledge sharing and consultancy work. While each service has a distinct approach, audience and focus, they all share one goal: to help development research and knowledge reach those who can use it to reduce poverty and injustice.

IDS Knowledge Services
www.ids.ac.uk/info

Food Security

Selected by Ian Budden,
Senior Librarian at BLDS

World Agricultural Information Centre Portal

www.fao.org/waicent

Offers a comprehensive listing of documents, websites and statistics from the Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO). Particularly useful for monitoring progress in reducing food insecurity are the World Food Summit of 1996, and the annual reports on The State of Food and Agriculture and The State of Food Insecurity in the world. The site provides downloadable publications.

Food Security and Livelihoods Unit (from Save the Children UK)

www.savethechildren.org.uk/foodsecurity

This site is easy to navigate and includes information on the Household Economy Approach for anticipating and dealing with food security problems (developed by Save the Children in partnership with FAO Global Information and Early Warning System). The website also has reports available to download on food security issues in different countries and a collection of links to other food security websites.

Forum for Food Security in Southern Africa

www.odi.org.uk/food-security-forum/Index.html

Run by a consortium of UK and South African institutions, this site concentrates on and has input from the South. It provides a forum for discussing causes of, and policy options for, the food crisis in Southern Africa and includes sections analysing food security issues in the region as a whole and in individual countries. This site is easy to navigate, has downloadable publications (often with full text) and links to the full text of a number of further publications.

International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI)

www.ifpri.org

IFPRI's website includes details of its research (by topic, country, etc), publications (some of which are downloadable) and access to datasets. The section on IFPRI's 2020 Vision to promote action to meet food needs contains the proceedings of conferences on Assuring Food and Nutrition Security in Africa and on Sustainable Food Security For All, which give overviews of the issues.

United Nations World Food Programme (WFP)

www.wfp.org

Contains details of WFP's operations and policies, which effectively means that it provides information on food crises and relief programmes throughout the world. There is also a valuable introductory section defining hunger, its causes and WFP's responses and a guide to food security by country.

ABOUT BLDS
www.blds.ac.uk

Europe's largest research collection on economic and social change in developing countries, BLDS supports teaching and research on the Sussex University campus and reaches a global audience through its online services.

BLDS

Forestry

Selected by Boudy Van Schagen,
Editor of the Eldis Forestry Resource Guide

FAO Forestry

www.fao.org/forestry

This comprehensive resource from the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) provides links to forestry news (newsfeed available), current and archived FAO forestry publications, upcoming events and the free forestry journal 'UnaSylva'. The website also allows access to the popular 'Ask FAO' and 'Best Practices'. The website is accessible in English, French, Spanish, Arabic and Chinese.

Forest Conservation Portal

www.forests.org

This is a website for conservationists and visitors who are interested in conserving forests and tackling deforestation. A complete news service is offered, with subscription options via newsfeed or email. There is a tool for searching the content of other forestry websites, thematically organised links to relevant content, and a forest conservation blog.

European Tropical Forest Research Network (ETFRN)

www.etfrn.org

ETFRN is a forum for communication between European organisations, researchers, institutions and stakeholders concerned with (sub) tropical forest research. The website covers various thematic issues in forestry, a regular newsletter and a useful 'Question & Answer Service'. You can also find information about their workshops and other training opportunities or funding.

Center for International Forestry Research (CIFOR)

www.cifor.cgiar.org

CIFOR is a well-known international research and knowledge institution working to protect forests and improve the livelihoods of people in the tropics. Its website hosts CIFOR publications, resources for the media, news and links to more subject-specific CIFOR websites. There is also a useful toolbox of guidelines on such areas as assessment, indicators, vegetation classification systems, etc.

World Rainforest Movement (WRM)

www.wrm.org.uy

WRM is an international network of citizens' groups seeking to protect the world's rainforests. The website's services include a monthly electronic bulletin (available in English, French, Spanish, and Portuguese), links to advocacy campaigns and a handy tool for searching forest information either by country or by subject, as well as forestry and conservation organisations by type.

ABOUT ELDIS
www.eldis.org/forests

The Eldis Forestry Resource Guide offers quick access to key documents, organisations, research themes, discussions and other key resources.

eldis

Gender

BRIDGE hosts Siyanda, the online database of selected gender and development materials from around the world. The team collaborates with their International Advisory Committee (IAC) to ensure that Siyanda features the most up-to-date and relevant online resources and these are four of the websites that the IAC particularly draws on.

Association for Women's Rights in Development (AWID)

www.awid.org

AWID aims to connect and inform organisations that are committed to achieving gender equality and seeks to influence policy. The website offers a good selection of resources, including publications, analysis work carried out by AWID and vacancies. You can also find information on the five thematic programmes that AWID works on. The site is available in English, French and Spanish.

Human Rights Watch (HRW) – Women's Rights

www.hrw.org/women

HRW works to fight for and promote women's rights globally. The 'Women's Rights' pages provide news on women's rights and information on related international legal standards. There is a range of free publications to download, with articles organised by theme or region. Information from the website is available in a variety of languages including French, English, Spanish, Portuguese, Chinese, Russian, Arabic and German.

Association for Progressive Communications Women's Networking Support Programme (APC WNSP)

www.apcwomen.org

APC WNSP is a group that aims to support women networking for social change and women's empowerment, through the use of Information Communication Technologies (ICTs). On this website you can find information about APC WNSP activities, their training courses and details on how to evaluate ICTs projects from a gender perspective. There is also a range of free resources available to download, including toolkits, articles and publications.

UNIFEM

www.unifem.org

UNIFEM is the women's fund at the United Nations. Their website offers information about UNIFEM, gender issues, and various news and events including the latest campaigns and jobs in gender. There is a range of resources that are organised by type, subject area and region, with the majority being available as a free PDF. You can also sign up for their free e-newsletter and newsfeed to have content syndicated on your own website.

ABOUT SIYANDA
www.siyanda.org

Siyanda offers access to a database of over 1800 summaries and links to online gender resources from across the world and features a gender experts and consultants database.

Siyanda
mainstreaming gender equality

Globalisation

Selected by Becky Holmes,
Editor of the Eldis Globalisation Resource Guide

Center for Global Development (CGDEV)

www.cgdev.org

CGDEV aims to promote policy change in rich countries through research on global poverty and inequality. It publishes research on a range of topics including aid effectiveness, capital flows/financial crises, debt relief, economic growth, education and environment, and also uses blogs to track the process of key policy initiatives.

Third World Network

www.twnside.org.sg

An international network of organisations and individuals involved in issues relating to development, the Third World and North-South issues. It conducts research on environment, economic and social issues relating to the South, including trade, the WTO, impacts of liberalisation, and UN reform. The website provides the latest news and updates, and free issues papers.

Global Policy Forum

www.globalpolicy.org

The forum works to monitor policymaking, promote accountability of global decisions, educate and mobilise for global citizen participation. There is a useful sitemap to help you navigate the website. There are various papers and publications, with some translated into French or German. You can also sign up to the weekly email newsletter.

International Labour Organization (ILO)

www.ilo.org

ILO is an organisation that seeks to promote social justice and human and labour rights, by devising international labour standards. On the site you can search for official documents and international standards. You can also find the ILO databases in the Information Resources section which include information on a range of subjects including statistics on labour standards, HIV/AIDS laws and the ILO thesaurus. You can also subscribe to the ILO newsfeed.

Globalisation Institute

www.globalisationinstitute.org

The Globalisation Institute is a think tank that looks at how globalisation can be harnessed to work for the world's poorest people. The site is very attractive and easy to navigate. It also has some unusual features including blogs and podcasts. You can also read their articles for free online.

ABOUT ELDIS
www.eldis.org/globalisation

The Eldis Globalisation Resource Guide offers quick access to key documents, organisations, research themes, discussions and other key resources.

Governance

Selected by Georgina Aboud, Information Officer at the Governance & Social Development Resource Centre (GSDRC)

UNDP – Democratic Governance

www.undp.org/governance

The United Nations Development Programme has an area of its website dedicated to democratic governance. These pages contain a collection of practice notes, guidelines, handbooks, toolkits and publications as well as links to governance events. You can also search for information by region, or head to the 'Newsroom' for the latest updates.

Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)

www.oecd.org

OECD is a network of 30 member countries. The website provides statistics, publications and documents as well as news releases. It has resources for journalists, government officials, and NGOs and civil society. Its resources are organised thematically as well as geographically.

Carnegie Endowment for International Peace

www.carnegieendowment.org

This organisation provides quite a political science approach to governance and it is responsible for publishing the journal 'Foreign Policy'. The website offers access to a number of policy briefs, papers and articles and predominantly focuses on China, Russia, Eurasia and the Middle East.

The World Bank – Governance & Anti-Corruption

www.worldbank.org/wbi/governance/index.html

This site contains a host of mainly World Bank published papers as well as news articles, working papers, case studies and data sets. It has information about World Bank programmes, many of which are cross cutting and numerous resources are available in languages other than English including French, Spanish and Portuguese.

Crisis States Resource Centre

www.crisisstates.com/index.htm

This website examines some of the wider themes associated with governance in fragile states. It gives access to working, discussion and briefing papers, which are free to download and some are available in Spanish. There is information about news, lectures, seminars and a forum for debate to which anyone can email their contribution.

ABOUT GSDRC
www.gsdrc.org

The GSDRC offers you online access to resources relating to governance, conflict and social development. These include key documents, comprehensive topic guides, a training and conferences database, links to organisations and a useful enquiry helpdesk. It also offers the opportunity to subscribe to a monthly email bulletin.

GSDRC

Health Systems

Selected by Stuart Cameron, Editor for the IDS
Health & Development Information Team (HDI)

World Health Organization (WHO)

www.who.int

The WHO site is a general health website, with parts particularly relevant to health systems including the Bulletin of the World Health Organization – an important source of free research; and pages on health systems which can be found under the health topics section. You can access the site in six different languages.

The Regional Network on Equity in Health in Southern Africa (EQUINET)

www.equinetafrica.org

EQUINET is all about promoting and supporting equity and social justice in health. As well as its own publications, this website provides links to news and research from other sources, many of which are relevant to areas other than southern Africa.

Equidad

http://listserv.paho.org/archives/equidad.html

This is an email list on equity, health and human development, run by the Pan-American Health Organization (PAHO) – a useful resource for new research papers, especially those released by international organisations. You can search the list or post your own work.

World Bank: Health, Nutrition and Population

www.worldbank.org/hnp

Under the list of topics you can find the World Bank's Health Systems Development Group, which works on issues including health finance, health insurance, human resources for health, pharmaceuticals, public/private partnerships and hospital management. Their recent publications are free to download, along with some of their data and statistics.

Lancet and British Medical Journal (BMJ)

www.thelancet.com, http://bmj.bmjjournals.com

The two major British medical journals both carry articles on health systems in developing countries including some which are accessible to a non-specialist audience. Research and some other articles in the BMJ, and most Lancet articles, can be downloaded for free.

ABOUT HDI
www.ids.ac.uk/ids/info/health.html

The IDS Health & Development Information Team provides high-quality, accessible information on key topic areas and resources on countries.

IDS Health & Development Information Team

Health

Selected by Tom Barker,
id21 Health Editor

Journal of Community Eye Health

www.jceh.co.uk/index.asp

The journal is a free online continuing education resource for eye health workers in developing countries. There are downloadable journals and resources. There is information available in English and French, and it offers an Indian supplement. You can also subscribe to the Community Health Eye Journal free of charge if you are an eye health worker in a developing country.

Health InterNetwork Access to Research Initiative (HINARI)

www.healthinternetwork.org/index.php

HINARI was set up by the World Health Organization (WHO) to provide developing countries with access to a wide source of biomedical and health literature. The site provides free or very low cost online access to the major journals in biomedical and related social sciences to local, non-profit institutions in developing countries. Information is available in English, French and Spanish.

Cochrane Collaboration

www.cochrane.org

The Cochrane Collaboration prepares systematic reviews on the benefits and harms of health care interventions. It is an essential tool for policymakers and practitioners. You can access the Cochrane library and free training resources. Some of the text is available in English, French, Italian, Portuguese, Chinese, Spanish, and German.

International Observatory on End of Life Care, Lancaster, UK

www.eolc-observatory.net

Useful website based at Lancaster University that features analyses of the state of palliative care in over 60 countries. There are detailed Observatory Country Reports, through which the university provides information on country studies, including methodology, results and conclusions. You can also find information on education and training.

BasicNeeds

www.basicneeds.org.uk

A charitable organisation that runs programmes in developing countries designed to actively involve mentally ill people and their carers. There is particular focus on five countries: India, Ghana, Sri Lanka, Tanzania and Uganda. From the site, you can find information about the country and work that BasicNeeds has been involved in and download copies of their newsletter.

ABOUT ID21 HEALTH
www.id21.org/health

id21 health communicates research on health and international development to decision makers and practitioners worldwide, through free publications, email newsletters and online summaries.

HIV and AIDS

Selected by Ingrid Young, Editor for the IDS
Health & Development Information Team (HDI)

Health and Development Networks eForums

www.healthdev.org/eforums/cms/index.asp

This site provides a platform for civil society to share information and engage in dialogue, discussion, networking and debate. You will find several eForums, where you are able to debate HIV/AIDS issues. There is also a vast list of links to other useful websites.

International Community of Women Living with HIV/AIDS

www.icw.org/

This is a very good source for information on HIV positive activism, issues and research, with relevant publications and toolkits. The site provides free downloadable publications, links to other sites and translations in English, Spanish, Dutch, Italian and Portuguese.

Gender and HIV/AIDS Web Portal

www.genderandaids.org/index.php

This is UNIFEM's web portal, featuring a wide range of information on gender-focused research and activism. The website is easy to navigate and has resources organised by topic, tools, and region, with papers available in PDF format.

HIV/AIDS Impact on Education Clearinghouse

http://hivaidsclearinghouse.unesco.org/ev_en.php

This is a platform run by UNESCO and its International Institute for Educational Planning to share knowledge and information on HIV, AIDS and education, with a range of regional partners. You can find a wealth of documents and resources including papers on HIV/AIDS and Higher Education, events, news, links to other websites and you can translate the site into Spanish or French.

International AIDS Economics Network (IAEN)

www.iaen.org

This site focuses on the economics of HIV and AIDS prevention and treatment, providing data, tools and analysis for researchers and policymakers working to define and implement effective AIDS policy. It offers a searchable research library, where you can download papers. You can also subscribe to their IAEN's email newsletter and look for work opportunities on the jobs board.

ABOUT HDI
www.ids.ac.uk/ids/info/health.html

The IDS Health & Development Information Team provides high-quality, accessible information on key topic areas and resources on countries.

IDS Health & Development Information Team

Information Communication Technologies (ICTs)

Selected by visitors to the IDS Knowledge Services stand at the 2005 World Summit on the Information Society in Tunisia

Development Gateway – ICT for Development

www.developmentgateway.org/ict

The Development Gateway aims to increase developing countries' access to vital information through the Internet. They cover many topics on their website including ICTs, where you can read papers on the subject or submit your own work. A useful facility is the free dgICT service, an email newsletter about ICT documents, news and events.

Free/Open Source Research Community (F/OSS)

http://opensource.mit.edu/

F/OSS is an online research community where information can be freely exchanged, in an attempt to promote and further understand the implications of open source information. You can read research papers on the site about open source and free software and post your own papers on the subject. There is also a research directory for networking and links to other related websites.

The Information for Development Programme (infoDev)

www.infodev.org

infoDev is a programme that aims to promote better understanding of how ICTs can be used for sustainable development. On the website you can find much detail about the work programme such as information on mainstreaming ICTs as a tool for development. You will also find free downloadable publications, a useful ICT Regulation Toolkit and a free email newsletter.

Bridging the Rural Digital Divide

www.fao.org/rdd

Bridging the Rural Digital Divide is a strategic programme implemented by The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations that focuses on new digital technologies that can aid information management and communication for development. The site offers some useful tools such as a policy framework for good practice and toolkits for capacity building. You can also search for case studies or download free documents and the site is available in Arabic, Chinese, English, French and Spanish.

Research ICT Africa!

www.researchictafrica.net

Housed at the LINK centre at Witwatersrand University in Johannesburg, Research ICT Africa! is a research organisation that aims to inform policy decisions on ICTs in Africa and reduce the digital divide. At this site you'll find information on ICT policies and laws, plus the latest related news and events. There is also a selection of research freely available, with some of it in French.

ABOUT THE IDS INFORMATION DEPARTMENT
www.ids.ac.uk/info

The IDS Information Department supports a large and diverse international community through its family of Knowledge Services and knowledge sharing and consultancy work. While each service has a distinct approach, audience and focus, they all share one goal: to help development research and knowledge reach those who can use it to reduce poverty and injustice.

IDS Knowledge Services
www.ids.ac.uk/info

Livelihoods

Selected by Maggie Ibrahim,
Researcher for Livelihoods Connect

Khanya - African Institute for Community Driven Development (Khanya-AICDD)

www.aicdd.org

Khanya- AICDD promotes innovative approaches to community-driven development and sustaining livelihoods in Africa. Based in South Africa, the website provides free resources including case studies, project outputs, and publications. There is a particular focus on community driven development, sustainable livelihoods and action research. Their Sustaining Livelihoods in Sub-Saharan Africa Newsletter is available to download and by email.

International Institute of Environment and Development (IIED)

www.iied.org

IIED works to achieve sustainable global development through research and close partnerships. Their site provides information on Natural Resources, Human Settlements, Governance, Climate Change and Sustainable Markets. You can search IIED's publications and view their research. There is also up-to-date information about events and networks.

Overseas Development Institute (ODI)

www.odi.org.uk

ODI is an international development think-tank that aims to inform policy and practice with the goal of achieving sustainable livelihoods. On the site you can find details about the different ODI research projects and download free publications such as annual reports or briefing papers. You can also sign up to the ODI newsletter or read the ODI blog, where you can read about development experts' opinions on current issues.

Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)

www.fao.org

Part of the United Nations, the FAO acts as a forum where nations can meet to negotiate agreements and debate policy around food and agriculture. The site offers a wealth of resources, with free documents in the Issues section. The Sustainable Development pages, SDdimensions serve as a reference centre for knowledge and advice on biophysical, biological, socio-economic and social dimensions of sustainable development, and provide free publications. The website is available in Arabic, Chinese, English, French and Spanish.

Afghanistan Research and Evaluation Unit (AREU)

www.areu.org.af

AREU conducts action-oriented research to inform policy-making with the aim of improving Afghan lives. The website provides you with research on various development issues in Afghanistan including Livelihoods & Vulnerability, with several papers freely available as a PDF. There is also a free newsletter online and the site is available in English and Arabic.

ABOUT LIVELIHOODS CONNECT
www.livelihoods.org

Livelihoods Connect facilitates knowledge sharing and networking to enable the practical implementation of sustainable livelihoods, providing key documents, lessons and practical tools online.

Migration

**Selected by Susie Jolly,
Gender Communications Officer for BRIDGE**

World Migration Report 2005, from the International Organization for Migration (IOM), Geneva

www.iom.int/jahia/page8.html

Originally an inter-governmental organisation (but not part of the UN system) to resettle European displaced persons, refugees and migrants, IOM has grown to encompass a variety of migration management activities throughout the world. The World Migration Report provides one of the most comprehensive and up-to-date reports on global migration.

Migration and Development in Asia

www.iom.int/china_conf/

This IOM website reports on a conference on 'Migration and Development in Asia'. Although it is regionally limited, this is one of the most informative sites currently available on internal migration. There are documents from the conference including background papers, presentations, case studies and other resources.

Development Research Centre (DRC) on Migration, Globalisation and Poverty

www.migrationdrc.org

The DRC on Migration, Globalisation and Poverty aims to promote new policy approaches to help maximise the potential benefits of migration for poor people. The website is easy to navigate, with resources presented under key themes and types of migration. You can also download the DRC working papers and newsletter for free as a PDF.

UNHCR – The UN Refugee Agency

www.unhcr.org/cgi-bin/texis/vtx/home

There is a vast amount of resources on this site, with information about supporting refugees, downloadable publications and research. But of particular interest is the statistics page where you can see the refugee situation in statistics and includes a link to their Statistical Yearbook.

Global Alliance Against Trafficking in Women (GAATW)

www.gaatw.org

A network of NGOs and individuals from all regions of the world, who share a concern for the women, children and men whose human rights have been violated by the criminal practice of trafficking in persons. Their website offers a wide range of resources on rights based approaches to tackling this issue, and is available in English, French, Portuguese, Japanese, Chinese, Spanish and Italian.

ABOUT BRIDGE
www.bridge.ids.ac.uk

BRIDGE supports gender advocacy and mainstreaming efforts, by providing accessible and diverse gender information.

BRIDGE
development - gender

Participation

Selected by Paola Brambilla,
Communications Assistant for BRIDGE

Participation Resource Centre

www.ids.ac.uk/ids/particip/information/index.html

The website of the Participation Resource Centre gives access to a wide variety of mainly unpublished practical information from practitioners and networks on participation and related issues. It incorporates the collection of resources from the Institute of Development Studies (IDS) and the International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED). This website features many resources from organisations in the global South, some of which are in languages other than English.

Toolkit Citizen Participation

www.toolkitparticipation.com

This toolkit offers various types of information on citizen participation in local governance and a forum for discussion. The major part consists of a database of cases from all over the world. Each case describes a real-life practice on participatory governance, including tools used and lessons learnt including contact details where possible. The site also presents articles and links to organisations active in the field of participatory local governance.

Participation.net

community.eldis.org/pnet

Participation.net is a global, online space for sharing ideas about the participation of people in development, citizenship, governance and rights. It is a joint effort of four programmes working on participation issues and is based in the IDS in the UK. On the site you will find topic guides, a searchable database of resources and links to other relevant websites.

Research Centre for Participatory Learning and Action (RCPLA)

www.rcpla.org

The RCPLA network is an alliance of 17 different organisations that works to promote the empowerment of disadvantaged people through participation in their own development. The website features information on projects, events, publications and the opportunity to participate in a discussion forum on participation related issues.

Participatory Development Forum

www.pdforum.org

The Participatory Development (PD) Forum is an international network of development players, interested in moving forward with participatory development. Their website features a useful virtual resource centre where you can find articles, papers, book reviews and resources. On the main site you can access newsletters, reports, discussion forums and information on the PD programmes. Information is available in English and French.

ABOUT BRIDGE
www.bridge.ids.ac.uk

BRIDGE supports gender advocacy and mainstreaming efforts, by providing accessible and diverse gender information.

BRIDGE
development - gender

Poverty

Selected by Liz Thassim,
Editor of the Eldis Poverty Resource Guide

UNDP International Poverty Centre (IPC)

www.undp-povertycentre.org

Based in Brasilia, the IPC has a regularly updated website which presents a host of resources. From this site alone, users can access information on events, up-to-date news items and numerous types of publications – including 'One Pagers', working papers, the subject-specific Poverty In Focus series and the recently launched 'Country Papers'. Authorship of these documents tends to represent both developing country and Northern-based researchers.

Southern African Regional Poverty Network (SARPN)

www.sarpn.org.za

Arguably the best developing country site, SARPN brings together research, news and event information on the Southern Africa region, with poverty as the overarching theme. It serves as a Southern African knowledge sharing organisation, thereby presenting information on regional and national development initiatives. It also covers many poverty-related areas which other sites neglect, such as governance, aid, debt, trade, food security, health and many others.

Q-Squared: Combining Qualitative and Quantitative Approaches in Poverty Analysis

www.q-squared.ca

This website is a great resource for those seeking information on poverty research, measurement and analysis. Q-Squared aims to promote better integration of qualitative and quantitative poverty research methods. The site links to a variety of commissioned publications presenting good practice in accurate poverty research, as well as information about training, news and events.

ESRC Research Group on Wellbeing in Developing Countries (WeD)

www.welldev.org.uk

Providing an alternative insight into poverty research and analysis, WeD presents information on the study of poverty, inequality and wellbeing. You can find information on their research including a research statement, a methods toolbox and working papers. With links to country partner websites and other related information portals, the site also has a regularly updated publications page.

PovertyNet

www.worldbank.org/poverty

For an institutional look at poverty issues, the World Bank's poverty site provides information on poverty impact analysis, poverty definition and measurement methods and other themed publications. There is also information on regions and countries and training and events. The site is particularly useful for sourcing Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper (PRSP) documents.

ABOUT ELDIS
www.eldis.org/poverty

The Eldis Poverty Resource Guide offers quick access to key documents, organisations, research themes, discussions and other key resources.

eldis

Sexuality

Selected by Susie Jolly,
Gender Communications Officer for BRIDGE

International Sexuality Resources

International Working Group on Sexuality and Social Policy at the Center for Gender, Sexuality and Health (IWGSSP)

www.mailman.hs.columbia.edu/sms /cgsh/iwgssp.html

IWGSSP is hosted by the Columbia University Mailman School of Public Health, and it plays a key role in gathering and producing information and influencing policy around sexuality. On this site you can find working papers in English or Spanish, along with an Annotated Bibliography on Sexual Rights and a downloadable copy of the IWGSSP social policy brochure.

Network of sex work projects

www.nswp.org

International Gay and Lesbian Human Rights Commission

www.iglhrc.org/site/iglhrc

These are some of the best, most comprehensive and up-to-date sources of information by people with marginalised sexualities. Each website is rich with information, including downloadable resources & publications, along with updates on the latest news and events in each particular area of sexuality.

Regional Sexuality Resource Centres

Africa Regional Sexuality Resource Centre

www.arsrc.org

Latin American Centre for Sexuality and Human Rights

www.clam.org.br

South and South East Asia Resource Centre on Sexuality

www.asiasrc.org

United States National Sexuality Resource Centre

www.nsrc.sfsu.edu

These sexuality resource centres, working regionally and funded by the Ford Foundation, facilitate innovative discussion integrating a wide range of sexuality issues – including female genital mutilation, early marriage, safer sex, HIV/AIDS, lesbianism, and the difference between what people say about sex and what they do. All the websites are available in their native language and at least one other, and provide some downloadable documents and room for online discussions.

ABOUT IDS WORK ON SEXUALITY AND DEVELOPMENT
www.ids.ac.uk/ids/particip/research/sexrights.html

Many different IDS sites provide information on sexuality, such as ELDIS and Health Resource Guides, BRIDGE, Siyanda, the Participation Group, and the main IDS website. You will find a variety of links to working papers, policy briefings, student papers and resource guides.

BRIDGE
development - gender

Tourism

Selected by Tim Woods,
id21 Natural Resources Editor

The Pro-Poor Tourism website

www.propoortourism.org.uk

This website provides up-to-date information on Pro-Poor Tourism, with a range of research reports and studies that focus on how tourism's contribution to poverty reduction can be increased. There are also some useful communication tools on the site, you can sign up for their newsletter as well as submit a research paper or post a message on their notice board.

The International Centre for Responsible Tourism

www.icrtourism.org

This is a tourism training and research centre, based at the University of Greenwich. The website contains news and study opportunities relating to responsible tourism. They also feature a Web Library where you can download a variety of research papers and you are invited to submit your own work. You can also sign up to an email newsletter.

The International Ecotourism Society (TIES)

www.ecotourism.org

This site promotes responsible travel to natural areas that conserves the environment and improves the well-being of local people. The site contains many resources, including links to other tourism organisations, ecotourism tour operators, job opportunities, and training and education courses. You will also find detailed information about TIES current projects and a searchable online library.

Tourism Concern

www.tourismconcern.org.uk

This organisation aims to change the tourism industry by campaigning for fair and ethically traded tourism. The site includes tourism news and events, campaigns for fairer tourism and information for tourists, plus an extensive global links section. They do offer a variety of resources such as research papers, magazines and books, although at a small cost.

World Tourism Organisation

www.world-tourism.org

This site serves as a global forum for tourism policy issues, with programmes on several key issues, including ethics in tourism and sustainable development. There is a variety of information resources on offer including publications, facts & figures, news features and an events calendar. The website is available in English, Spanish and Russian.

ABOUT ID21
www.id21.org/nr and www.id21.org/rural

id21 communicates research on international development themes, including tourism, to decision makers and practitioners worldwide, through free publications, email newsletters and online summaries.

Trade

**Selected by Kath Pasteur,
Manager of Livelihoods Connect**

Oxfam - Trade

www.oxfam.org.uk/what_we_do/issues/trade

The Oxfam site is the place for primarily campaign-oriented policy documents on trade, though they are founded on good quality research. As well as an introduction to the issue of trade, you will find free papers and reports available to download as PDF files, and links to other trade websites.

International Centre for Trade and Sustainable Development (ICTSD)

www.ictsd.org

ICTSD seem to do a considerable amount of work at the cutting edge of trade and they play an important dissemination role; their BRIDGES newsletter is a valuable resource to keep up to date with trade issues. On this site you will find information on issue areas (Africa, Agriculture, Environment, etc), a trade events calendar and the BRIDGES Monthly Review, which is available in English, French, German and Spanish.

International Gender and Trade Network (IGTN)

www.igtn.org

The IGTN website is easy to navigate and offers you a variety of information, including links to other trade organisations and different trade agreements. You can find information resources through their issue guides, regional section and via the searchable resource library. This site is particularly good for information on gender impacts of trade and has an orientation from the global south.

The South Centre

www.southcentre.org

The South Centre is an intergovernmental body which promotes south-south solidarity and action, whilst having a strong focus on trade. There is information about their Trade and Development Programme, where you will find articles and notices about events and vacancies. You will also find the publications South Bulletin and South Letter, which are free to download and cover various trade issues.

United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)

www.unctad.org

This site offers you the latest news and events relating to trade and development. UNCTAD features a vast digital library where you can search for publications, CD-ROMs and online data sources and it will provide you with free abstracts, publications and reports to download. The majority of material is offered in English, French and Spanish.

ABOUT LIVELIHOODS CONNECT
www.livelihoods.org

Livelihoods Connect facilitates knowledge sharing and networking to enable the practical implementation of sustainable livelihoods, providing key documents, lessons, and practical tools online.

Urban Areas

**Selected by Freida M'Cormack,
id21 Infrastructure Editor**

UN-HABITAT

www.unhabitat.org

UN-HABITAT is the United Nations Human Settlements Programme, and covers a wide range of urban issues, including housing, water and sanitation, land and urban economic development. On the website there is a useful reference library where you can find free material and some of the publications are freely available organised by theme or country.

International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED) - Human Settlements Programme

www.iied.org/HS

The IIED human settlements programme researches and produces a wide number of publications on the urban environment, urban poverty and rural-urban linkages. On this site you can find detailed background information about the programme and the strategy. Many of their research publications are free to download as PDF files and the site provides useful links to partner and other organisations.

The World Bank – Urban Development

www.worldbank.org/urban

This site features the World Bank and its partners' strategies for promoting sustainable towns and cities that improve poor people's lives and promote equity. It provides access to a host of materials, including background papers on urban development, as well as current World Bank research.

Development Gateway - Urban Development

http://topics.developmentgateway.org/urban

The Urban Development topic page of the Development Gateway allows users to browse the gateway portal for development projects, publications and procurement opportunities related to a wide range of urban development issues. Users can also become members of the network and receive regular email updates on newly shared resources.

Urbanicity.org

www.urbanicity.org

Urbanicity is an electronic publisher for numerous aspects of urban and sustainable development. Features include links to city and government websites, an urban events calendar, educational resources, a free online magazine on urban management and development, and resources on a wide range of sectors.

ABOUT ID21
www.id21.org/urban

id21 communicates research on international development themes, including urban areas, to decision makers and practitioners worldwide, through free publications, email newsletters and online summaries.

Water & Sanitation

Selected by Cheryl Brown, Marketing Coordinator in the Strategic Learning Initiative and former Education and Urban Poverty Editor of id21

WaterAid

www.wateraid.org.uk/international

WaterAid is an international charity dedicated to helping people living without safe water and sanitation and its ten sites (in four languages) focus on different aspects of its work. The UK site's Learning Zone has information on water issues and the situation in different countries, written in simple language. There are lots of downloadable research publications on the International site, while country sites have programme reports and case studies.

WELL

www.lboro.ac.uk/well

WELL is a focal point of information about water, sanitation and environmental health and related issues in developing and transitional countries. Although primarily set up to support the UK's Department for International Development and qualifying agencies, the WELL site offers lessons learned by NGO projects in the water sector, technical briefs e.g. chlorination and factsheets on topics ranging from school sanitation to water and livelihoods in Ghana.

Gender and Water Alliance (GWA)

www.genderandwater.org

GWA works to promote equitable access to and management of safe and adequate water. Visitors to the site can download key information on gender mainstreaming policies and practices in water and sanitation. The online resource guide on Gender and Integrated Water Resources Management offers a compilation of documents, papers, books, case studies, tools and toolkits. As well as English, the site (and soon, many publications) is available in French, Spanish and Portugese.

World Water Council (WWC)

www.worldwatercouncil.org

WWC is an international multi-stakeholder platform that encourages debates and exchanges of experience on critical water issues. The website features documentation of the Council's World Water Forums held every three years. The At A Glance section provides general information, facts and figures about some of the most important water-related themes and links to associated online resources.

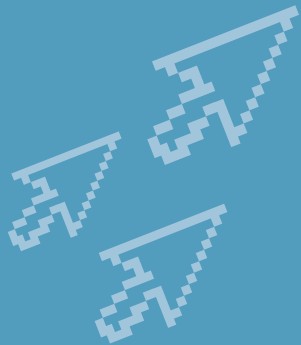### IRC International Water and Sanitation Centre

www.irc.nl

IRC supplies news and information, advice, research and training, on low-cost water supply and sanitation in developing countries and its website has an array of publications available to read or download. Available in French, Spanish, Portuguese and English, these include thematic overviews to give a grounding in key issues, practical toolkits such as How to Hold a Meeting, e-discussions, etc, on themes ranging from Transparency to Scaling Up.

ABOUT ID21
www.id21.org

id21 communicates research on international development themes, including water and sanitation, to decision makers and practitioners worldwide, through free publications, email newsletters, and online summaries.

Using search engines

Put simply, a search engine is a tool that produces a list of website pages based on the words you tell it to look for e.g. *climate change*. The most popular search engine is Google, which searches millions of websites for the words you type. However, most individual websites also have their own search box, which will only search that particular site - some more effectively than others.

They all work differently, so look out for searching instructions or a help page. If you come across a search box with no guidance, here are some basic principles that will help you find what you're looking for:

• **Choose your search words carefully** - what are the key words that describe the subject? A useful place for inspiration is a tool developed by Mississippi State University for suggesting Library of Congress subject headings to use when looking for items.
http://fantasia.cse.msstate.edu/lcshdb/index.cgi

• **Get the balance right** - the more words you use, the fewer results you will get; if you get too many results, try adding another word and vice versa. You'll want enough results to be able to find good quality information but not so many that you don't have time to look through them.

• **Try the Advanced features** if they are available. These often allow you to search for phrases, which is especially useful if you know exactly what you are looking for such as Human Development Report, or to choose what words you don't want to include.

Knowing how to search the Internet effectively is a genuine skill, and an excellent place to learn how to do this is through the online advice offered by the University of California, Berkeley
www.lib.berkeley.edu/TeachingLib/Guides/Internet/FindInfo.html Google is one of the most popular search engines **(www.google.com)** and it's worth reading their instructions at **www.google.com/help/basics**

Using online library catalogues

Although search engines can point to you a lot of websites, they won't search everything, including most online databases and library catalogues. Library catalogues work slightly differently from search engines, but fortunately, once you know how to use one library catalogue, you should find it fairly easy to use most of them. The best advice is to check the library's own guidance on searching its catalogue but there are usually three main ways to search:

Search by author

If the author is a person, enter the surname/family name first e.g. *Shakespeare William*. If the author is an organisation, enter the name in the usual order e.g. *institute of development studies*

Search by title

Enter the whole title of the publication or article, or just part of it e.g. *a good place to start* or *good place*

Search by subject

When librarians are cataloguing, they use a standard vocabulary (a set of subject headings) to describe each item. To conduct a subject search, you will need to know the correct subject heading for your topic. Sometimes you can make a guess, but for some subjects it may be harder. Again, the tool at **http://fantasia.cse.msstate.edu/lcshdb/index.cgi** can help as it will suggest related Library of Congress subject headings (one of the vocabularies used most frequently by librarians). Or browse the headings and subjects in the UN OECD Macrothesaurus at **http://info.uibk.ac.at/info/oecd-macroth/en/** which some specialist libraries, such as the British Library for Development Studies, use to catalogue their items.

Other searches

Some catalogues will also allow you to search by keyword, which may feature in the title, or subject, while others have preset searches on popular topics to help you find your way through the catalogue. Catalogues and other databases allow you to use what are known as Boolean search terms. **http://library.albany.edu/internet/boolean.html** has a good introduction into how Boolean terms work.

Making sense of search results

Search engines won't help you assess the quality of a website. When a search engine gives its results, the ones at the top of the list are usually those judged to be most relevant. This could mean that they are the web pages that feature your keywords the most frequently, or the most prominently or are from the largest organisations. How can you decide if the information on these web pages is reliable?

Google uses a ranking system, which includes estimating how good a website is by counting the number of websites that have made links to it (and how important these websites are). But ultimately, you'll still have to use your own judgement to decide whether the article or data you have found is a valid piece of work. Here are some things to consider:

Author - Do you recognise the author or their organisation? If not, see if they feature in Yahoo Directory **http://search.yahoo.com/dir** or other sources that you trust. Google's Advanced Search lets you see which websites have linked to that source: put the webpage address into the box labelled "Find pages that link to the page" and also in the "Domain" box and select "don't".

Currency - how up-to-date is the information?

Use recommendations - online directories or gateways select material on your behalf, and many are listed in this book, but familiarise yourself with their editorial or selection policies e.g. **www.siyanda.org/help.htm#editorial**

For more advice on evaluating online information, see **www.lib.berkeley.edu/TeachingLib/Guides/Internet/Evaluate.html**

You can find more advice on how to search the Internet on the following websites:

Eldis Dossier on the Effective Use of the Internet
www.eldis.org/internetguide/index.htm

Webwise - the BBC's beginner's guide to the Internet
www.bbc.co.uk/webwise/index.shtml

Online Development Libraries

Selected by Caroline Knowles,
Head of Communications, IDS

For books and journals on a particular aspect of development, any one of these libraries would be a good place to start, all offering extensive catalogues and databases detailing both print and electronic publications. But this section would not be complete without briefly mentioning the British Library for Development Studies at IDS **(blds.ids.ac.uk)**, which is an excellent resource for development information (print and online), including online papers, journals and a speedy document delivery service.

British Library
www.bl.uk

The British Library is one of the largest libraries in the world and holds every book or journal published in the UK as well as all UN publications. The online catalogue is extensive and easy to search, with an increasing number of online bibliographies compiled by specialist staff. Many documents are available online and the British Library also runs an extensive document delivery service as well as links to many libraries and archives around the world.

New York Public Library (NYPL)
www.nypl.org

The NYPL has a particular policy of promoting access and has long been a leader in abstracting and indexing services to make information about their collection available to a worldwide public audience. The library has extensive catalogues in both area studies and the social sciences and humanities, and provides access to more than 300 research databases in these areas, as well as a large collection of online journals and other resources.

World Health Organization Library (WHO)
www.who.int/library

The WHO library services give access to worldwide health, medical and development information resources. The library in Geneva is open to anyone who wishes to use it, and the collection is made available through the WHO library database, WHOLIS, which includes more than 70,000 bibliographic records and 30,000 links to full text documents. The site is available in English, French and Spanish.

Friedrich Ebert Foundation (FES)
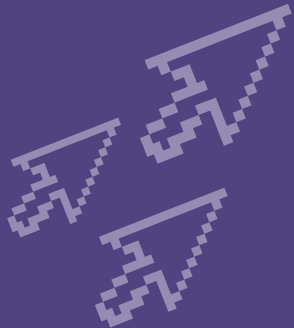### http://library.fes.de

The FES library is one of the world's largest scientific specialised libraries, focusing on the international labour movement and social and contemporary history. Its collections include a selection of inventories, publications from the FES development programme worldwide and bibliographies on topics such as the labour market and employment. You can also use the document delivery service and access resources electronically, with information being in both English and German.

ABOUT COMMUNICATIONS
www.ids.ac.uk

A central part of the IDS strategy is about influencing development policy and practice, based on the belief that our work is only as useful as the influence it exerts. The IDS approach to influence and communications is about engaging in a dynamic conversation with external stakeholders, to share research and knowledge. This dialogue ensures that research is informed by learning from others and can absorb a diversity of perspectives. The IDS communicates its work through a variety of channels, including an extensive publishing programme, the website, events, media work and the IDS alumni network.

IDS Institute of **Development Studies** 40 YEARS: 1966-2006

British Library for Development Studies (BLDS)

The BLDS is Europe's largest research collection on economic and social change in developing countries, with a unique set of materials built up over the past 40 years. BLDS supports teaching and research at IDS and Sussex University and operates a number of services specifically designed to provide remote users with access to its collection, much of which is unavailable anywhere else.

What's on the website?

The BLDS online catalogue has more than 150,000 records, including over 40,000 journal articles - sources include governments of developing and donor countries, international organisations (World Bank, UN, ILO etc), non-government organisations and research institutes from all continents. There are also Subject Guides to give you easy entry points to subject-specific materials in the catalogue and Country Profiles allowing users to find materials on a particular country, quickly and easily.

What else does BLDS offer?

BLDS Updates – a regular email updating service covering new acquisitions on 15 key development topics **www2.ids.ac.uk/blds-updates/newuser.cfm**

Document Delivery - a fast turnaround service, that is free to many developing country organisations.

http://blds.ids.ac.uk
Email contact: blds@ids.ac.uk

BRIDGE

BRIDGE supports gender advocacy and mainstreaming efforts of policymakers and practitioners by bridging the gaps between theory, policy and practice with accessible and diverse gender information. It was established in 1992 as a specialised gender and development research and information service and now works in partnership with 21 primarily southern-based gender experts, who form an International Advisory Committee to help shape future strategy and guide priority themes for BRIDGE's work.

What's on the website?

All of BRIDGE's publications are available to download for free in a range of formats and languages. BRIDGE Cutting Edge Packs contain an overview report on a specially selected theme, an In Brief bulletin and a collection of supporting resources including summaries of key materials, good practice cases, lists of tools and checklists and key online resources. BRIDGE Reports synthesise the key gender and development debates, policies and practice in a selected area, for example, global trade expansion and liberalisation. BRIDGE Bibliographies provide brief overviews of a particular area, with the key resources identified and summarised.

What else does BRIDGE offer?

You can subscribe via the website to **Gender and Development In Brief** - the international bulletin for development practitioners and policymakers, with 75% of its readers based in the South. **www.bridge.ids.ac.uk/cf/subscribe.cfm**

www.bridge.ids.ac.uk
Email contact: bridge@ids.ac.uk

Siyanda

BRIDGE coordinates the gender equality website, Siyanda, which is a comprehensive database of gender resources from around the world, with summaries and links to hundreds of full-text resources. It is also an interactive space for practitioners, policymakers and researchers to share ideas, experiences and resources.

What's on the website?

As well as the database of gender resources, Siyanda offers a Gender Experts and Consultants Database which can be used as a networking tool for connecting practitioners, researchers, activists, students and experts with like-minded colleagues, persons working on similar themes, or in the same geographical location. It is also an excellent resource for those seeking experts for gender-focused consultancies. You can add your profile to the database, participate in discussions, suggest materials and share your short pieces of work in the Users' Corner. There are country focused gender resources and you can find new materials recommended by Siyanda users.

What else does Siyanda offer?

Siyanda Update – the monthly e-mail newsletter with details of the latest materials added to the **website www.siyanda.org/subscribe.htm**

www.siyanda.org
Email contact: siyanda@ids.ac.uk

Eldis

Eldis is a gateway to information on development issues, providing free and easy access to a wide range of online resources. All material is carefully selected, reviewed, abstracted and indexed by the team of Eldis editors, ensuring that only the most relevant, interesting and useful documents are included. Eldis also offers a directory of websites and other information providers. Information can be submitted by users, making Eldis a unique resource with contributors from all around the world.

What's on the website?

The Eldis Resource Guides direct you to key online documents and resources on a wide range of topics. The Country Profiles offer materials from the Eldis database, plus quick links to country briefing services on other websites. Eldis Dossiers are dynamic guides that present an overview article and recent resources to lead the user through the key issues and debates on a specific development theme. There is also a selection of current vacancies, recent development news, announcements and newsletters.

What else does Eldis offer?

You can subscribe to **Eldis Reporters** via the website and have the latest research on any of 35 selected themes emailed direct to your in-box each week. **www2.ids.ac.uk/bns/updates/eldis/index.cfm**

Eldis Newsfeeds - Add an Eldis RSS newsfeed to your website or newsreader for the latest information on 25 topics. **www.eldis.org/newsscript/select.htm**

www.eldis.org
Email contact: eldis@ids.ac.uk

GSDRC

The Governance and Social Development Resource Centre (GSDRC) website provides high quality, timely information to support international development project and programme planning, policy-making, and other activities both desk based and in the field. The GSDRC website offers access to the best thinking, research and training available in governance, conflict and social development as well as advice on-demand, including rapid response research and consultant finding.

What's on the website?

The Document Library is an up-to-date collection of the most credible publications available on governance, conflict and social development issues. It includes brief, policy-oriented summaries of each document, plus links to the full text online or by document delivery. The Helpdesk offers a rapid response research service for short desk-based research needs and can help you find and contract consultants for short and long term. There are Topic Guides, which provide an comprehensive overview of current knowledge in various thematic areas, an Organisations Directory and a searchable Conferences and Training directory.

What else does GSDRC offer?

Email updates – monthly bulletins highlighting news and new additions to the GSDRC website **www.gsdrc.org/go/email-bulletin**

www.gsdrc.org
Email contact: enquiries@gsdrc.org

Health & Development Information Team

The IDS Health & Development Information team provides high-quality, accessible information drawn from a diversity of sources, in order to support informed decision-making by policymakers and practitioners working in health and development.

Their approach focuses on poverty and equity, and provides broad and in-depth coverage through online and print resources which draw on a diversity of sources, including a strong research element.

What's on the website?

The Health & Development Information Team produces three Resource Guides on Eldis. The **Health** Resource Guide has comprehensive coverage of key issues in health policy and development. The Resource Guide on **Health Systems** has policy-relevant coverage of the key systems issues in delivering healthcare in developing countries, while the **HIV and AIDS** Resource Guide features cross-cutting coverage of the social, economic and political aspects of HIV and AIDS in developing countries.

What else does the Health & Development Information Team offer?

Reporters – monthly email bulletins separately covering health, health systems or HIV and AIDS, each featuring summaries of research on a topical theme plus details of new documents and other additions to the resource guides. To subscribe to the email bulletins, email **hdi@ids.ac.uk**

⬈ www.ids.ac.uk/info/health.htm
Email contact: hdi@ids.ac.uk

id21

id21 communicates the latest UK-sourced international development research to policymakers & practitioners worldwide. id21 aims to be part of the process of putting international development policy into practice. They produce research highlights summarising important research findings, focusing on the policy lessons and implications. The summaries are easy-to-read and written in an up-beat style without compromising academic integrity. They are succinct, interesting and informative - signposts to more detailed information but they also stand alone as independent documents, a snapshot of the original research.

What's on the website?

An online searchable database of over 3,000 research highlights checked by the researcher for accuracy and linked to research reports and related information. *id21 insights* offers a round-up of the latest thinking on different topics. Print highlights feature the best health, education, and natural resources research if you have limited internet access. You can also sign up to thematic email newsletters.

What else does id21 offer?

id21 insights, published 9 times a year, offers a round-up of the latest thinking on different topics with separate editions for health and education. **id21 email newsletters** give regular updates of the latest research from the id21 website - **www.id21.org/id21-email/email.html**, with **print highlights** feature the best health, education, and natural resources research if you have limited internet access. **id21 viewpoints** give you the opportunity to express your views on policy issues relating to international development .

⬈ www.id21.org
Email contact: id21@ids.ac.uk

Livelihoods Connect

Livelihoods Connect is the UK Department for International Development's learning platform for creating sustainable livelihoods to eliminate poverty. It provides a suite of information sharing, learning and management tools to enable the practical implementation of the sustainable livelihoods approach. Livelihoods Connect helps practitioners to organise and share their experience of implementing sustainable livelihoods approaches so everyone can learn. It also helps to support and enable networks, particularly between practitioners and researchers, around sustainable livelihoods themes.

What's on the website?

There is a moderated post-it board where practitioners can share insights, experiences and views on using the sustainable livelihoods approach. There are brief, jargon-free and action-orientated summaries of the latest experience and best thinking on sustainable livelihoods gathered from practitioners and researchers, plus the full texts online. You can find distance learning materials on the sustainable livelihoods approach, lessons and experiences from users of sustainable livelihoods approaches, online access to DFID's Sustainable Livelihoods Guidance Sheets and an enquiry desk for practitioners.

What else does Livelihoods Connect offer?

Email updates – a monthly brief on developments in the area of sustainable livelihoods, including new resources from Livelihoods Connect. To subscribe send a blank email message with the words "subscribe livelihoods-update" in the subject field to: **lyris@lyris.ids.ac.uk**

www.livelihoods.org
Email contact: livelihoodsconnect@ids.ac.uk

Knowledge Partnerships

IDS Knowledge Partnerships seeks solutions to knowledge and communications challenges in international development. They collaborate with development agencies, governments and civil society organisations in the analysis, design and management of knowledge support systems, learning partnerships and training programmes. The dynamic team of professionals at the IDS offers consultancy services in knowledge management, research and communications. The team has expertise in: advising on knowledge management and organisational learning; development and delivery of information and knowledge management services; research and communications; and training and facilitation.

www.ids.ac.uk/ids/knowledgepartnerships
Email contact: knowledge-partnerships@ids.ac.uk

The Strategic Learning Initiative (SLI)

SLI is a new IDS programme that works collaboratively with IDS Knowledge Services, peers and partner organisations. It aims to strengthen their capacity and commitment to implement information-based interventions that are strategic and accountable for their contribution to increasing social justice and reducing poverty. SLI operates like a team of internal consultants to the IDS Knowledge Services and works through encouraging internal reflection, learning from and about partners, contexts and environments and applying understandings for change. It is a multi-stranded programme: research, monitoring & evaluation, marketing, and learning-based capacity development.

www.ids.ac.uk/info/strategiclearninginitiative
Email contact: sli@ids.ac.uk

Blog: Blog is short for weblog, and is a type of website that acts as an online diary or journal. The journal's author (Blogger) can update the blog from any computer with Internet connection and blogs are often used to comment on current affairs and online material. **www.blogger.com/start** will help you create a free blog.

DFID: The UK Department for International Development is the Government department that manages Britain's aid to developing countries. See **www.dfid.gov.uk**.

News feed (or web feed): News feeds, also known as RSS feeds (for Really Simple Syndication or Rich Site Summary) are an easy way for websites to share stories and headlines with each other. You can either insert a small piece of JavaScript into your website to have it automatically updated with content from any website offering news feeds, or use a News Reader e.g. **http://uk.my.yahoo.com/**

NGO: Non-governmental Organization - a not-for-profit agency not affiliated with any government or private sector body.

Open-source: Software that is free to use and provides the original source code used to create it, allowing users to modify it to make it work better for them.

Podcasts: Podcasting takes its name from Apple's iPod and broadcasting and is a way of sharing audio files, such as music or radio programmes, through the Internet. Users can listen to the podcast online, subscribe to a feed to get automatic updates (often at no cost), or download the files onto a digital audio device (like the iPod). A good source of podcasts and advice is **www.podcastingnews.com**

Free subscriptions from the IDS Knowledge Services
You can request a free subscription to over 50 email newsletters and print publications from the IDS Knowledge Services. If you're based in a Southern research organisation (email **blds@ids.ac.uk** for more information), you can also use the BLDS document delivery service, free of charge. There are two ways to sign up for an email newsletter or print subscription:

Contact the individual programme
Pages 75 to 83 give the website addresses of each of the IDS Knowledge Services and details of their email newsletters and publications. The Eldis Reporters page at **www2.ids.ac.uk/bns/updates/eldis/index.cfm** for example, allows you to sign-up to receive any of their 35 subject newsletters by email. Alternatively, you can use the email address to contact the programme directly.

Leave it to us
Send an email to **agoodplacetostart@ids.ac.uk** listing the development themes you are interested in and we will make sure you receive any relevant email newsletters. To receive free print publications, you will need to email your name, full postal address and tell us what type of organisation you work for, if appropriate.

Tell us what you think
We hope you have found this book useful but if there are any improvements we can make for the next edition, we would be grateful if you would take a few minutes to tell us. We're also keen to hear from you if you know of any websites that you think should be included in the future. Please email your feedback to **agoodplacetostart@ids.ac.uk**

More from IDS
Apart from the Knowledge Services, there is a wide range of research projects and programmes based at IDS. These can all be accessed through the research pages of the IDS website at **www.ids.ac.uk/ids/research/index.html** The IDS Communications email newsletter lists new publications and activities from all IDS teams. To subscribe, send an email to **lyris@lyris.ids.ac.uk** with the first line: subscribe CommsNews YourFirstName YourLastName e.g. subscribe CommsNews Gabrielle Hurst

If you're interested in international development, there are thousands of websites you could go to, but what if you only have time to visit five? Would you know where to go?

Drawing on the collective expertise of staff at the the IDS Knowledge Services, this guide will point you to some good places to start your search on over 30 development themes. You'll find a list of websites on each topic, selected by people who have spent countless hours searching the Internet for the latest development information to share with their readers. And if these starting points inspire you to cast your net further, we've included some handy hints on how to improve your search results.

IDS Institute of
Development Studies