Bibliography and Short Descriptions

1. **Epistemic underpinnings**

   By studying the methodological implications an attempt is made to understand the idea of ‘quality of life’, ‘capability’ and the possibilities of measuring it in the ‘context of important practical problems’. By systematically exploring the relevance of the concepts used in concretizing the areas of our attention, the expanse of these readings is intended to reveal the different meanings and expressions of social exclusion-inclusion.

2. **Participation in development: Development through participation.**

   By exploring the ways of expanding the means of empowerment, the complimentary roles of various socio-economic and political institutions are looked at. The readings also intend to engage with the various cultural processes in India which has played a central role in influencing aspirations and collective action. These forces have arrested the trajectory of growth towards exploitative and exclusionary tendencies, ensuring its effective participatory character. These set of readings also look at the acts of governance, which adopts various integrative and transformative strategies to reconstruct and renew its representative quality. By developing new acts of intervention, it ensures collective participation of those governed and redefines their character.

4. **Poverty and Livelihood**

   Apart from a loss of livelihood, by looking at impoverishment as a mode of exclusion, it has been attempted to register the conditions that accompany such violent deprivation. Addressing the nature of such scarcity also helps in recording the accountability mechanisms and institutional framework that is meant to ensure human dignity. By reading poverty as a state of moral degradation, the trope of generalization which ‘circumscribes other modes of exclusion’ is also escaped.

5. **Stratification and Exploitation**

   By examining traditional and contemporary modes of social discrimination, practices that limit the pursuit of equality are looked into. This set of works seeks to study the tensions and contradictions in our society by exploring the inequalities and injustices manifested through various agencies of denial that create asymmetries in the social and political order.

6. **Health and Education**
This section will finally look at the threat of marginalization from the asymmetries reflected in the domain of ‘health’ and ‘education’—the most identifiable indexes of discriminatory development.

**Epistemic Underpinnings**


Binswanger and Aryar examine the possible obstacles to scaling up, and possible solutions. They consider the theoretical case for community-driven development and case studies of success in both sectoral and multisectoral programs.


The paper analyzes who, what, and when exclusion occurs in economic, political, and social dimensions through a historical perspective. It emphasizes the need to connect the inclusion mechanisms to those of exclusion to understand the disparities of globalization today. Finally, the underlying question is to what extent does globalization help in overcoming or aggravating situations of exclusion?


This volume examines the complex range of problems in societies where manufacturing industry is no longer the main basis for employment and the universal welfare states established after World War II are under attack. It reviews theories of social exclusion, including the Christian democratic and social democratic assertions of solidarity with which the term originated, Marxist accounts of the recreation of the reserve army of labour, and neo-liberal assertions of the sovereignty of the market in which the blame for exclusion is assigned to the excluded themselves.


This is a four-volume collection of canonical and cutting-edge research on the intellectual origins and the development of ‘social exclusion’.

After defining key words and listing biases and limitations, this paper seeks to explore linkages between methodologies, mindsets, concepts and perceptions in research on poverty.


This essay treats the need for and nature of an ethic of third world and global “development”. The article outlines a brief agenda for development ethics and concludes with the view that development ethics should be practiced as a multidisciplinary cross-sectional moral dialogue.


This interdisciplinary book focuses on how should economic and social theory accommodate empirical facts about physical destitution, and how should governments respond to famines and hunger? The entire discussion is designed to provide a philosophy for human well-being that can guide public policy in poor countries. Therefore, the role of the State, of communities, of households, and of individuals is studied in considerable detail.


This paper addresses several ambiguities in the social exclusion literature that fuel the common criticism that the concept is redundant with respect to already existing poverty approaches, particularly more multidimensional and processual approaches such ambiguities arise from the fact that social exclusion is not generally differentiated from poverty, even though it is widely acknowledged that social exclusion can occur in the absence of poverty.

This volume brings together the collection of papers that have shaped the human development approach with its set of concepts, measurement tools and policy perspectives. The book is divided into three sections: conceptual foundations; measurement which discusses the methodology for constructing the human development index and other aspects such as political freedom, gender inequality and poverty; policy explorations which includes a collection of articles from previous reports.

- Ghosh, Anjan. Of Marginality and Exclusion in West Bengal


  *This book challenges conventional approaches and contributes to a new paradigm for development centred on human wellbeing. Poor people are not defined solely by their poverty and a wellbeing approach provides a better means of understanding how people become and stay poor. It examines three perspectives: ideas of human functioning, capabilities and needs; the analysis of livelihoods and resource use; and research on subjective wellbeing and happiness.*


  *The importance of social capital for sustainable development is well understood. However, the impact of social capital is not easily quantified and to overcome this, the Social Capital Initiative at the World Bank attempts to contribute to this understanding by concentrating on how to measure social capital and its impact. This book details both the quantitative and qualitative approaches to the analysis of social capital. Also included is the Social Capital Assessment Tool which combines quantitative and qualitative instruments in order to measure social capital at the household, community, and organization levels.*


  *Based on a large volume of newly collected data from ten countries, this book provides a rigorous empirical testing of the link between social capital and economic development. It documents the pervasive role of social capital in*
accelerating poverty alleviation and rural development, facilitating the provision of goods and services, and easing political transition and recovery from civil conflicts.


  *This book explores the issue of social exclusion. It asks three main questions: How can social exclusion be measured? What are its main determinants or influences? And what policies can reduce social exclusion? The authors aim to consider how a focus on social exclusion may alter the policy questions that are most relevant.*


  *The concern of this paper is with those sections of the population who are least likely to have taken advantage of the processes of growth in the Asian context and hence are driving the rising levels of inequality. This work is interested in who they are and in the nature of the constraints that block their access to new opportunities. It argues that understanding the social dimensions of inequality hitherto ignored in mainstream poverty analysis, provides a new lens through which to view the issue of chronic disadvantage.*


  *Rethinking Democracy" provides a unique insight into India’s experience as the world’s largest democracy. Covering democratic theory, the state, civil society, participation and the search for global justice, Kothari evaluates what this experience means for the very idea of democracy. He powerfully demonstrates that we are at a juncture where democracy has failed, on a local and a global level. The promise of human emancipation has not been delivered and democratic ideals of justice and equality have failed to defeat the aggressive logic of capitalism. His acknowledgement of this disillusionment, however, allows him to search for a new decentralized and participatory democracy with freedom and environmental sustainability at its core.*


This article argues that the concept of social exclusion, which was originally developed to describe the manifold consequences of poverty and inequality, has become embedded as a crucial element within a new hegemonic discourse. Within this discourse, terms such as social cohesion and solidarity abound, and social exclusion is contrasted not with inclusion but with integration, construed as integration into the labour market. The discourse is described as fundamentally Durkheimian because it treats social divisions which are endemic to capitalism as resulting from an abnormal breakdown in the social cohesion which should be maintained by the division of labour.


This collection of essays by some leading economists and philosophers include examinations of recent attempts to replace incomes and utilities by the concept of capability and also an exploration of the classic Aristotelian accounts of human flourishing, which provide insights into capability-based assessment of the quality of life. Some underlying methodological problems are also examined, including cultural relativism and utility as a measure of advantage. Possibilities of application are discussed in the context of important practical problems, such as correcting gender-based inequalities, determining medical priorities, and promoting living standards.


This paper begins by critically examining various definitions of democracy, especially those that, claiming to follow Schumpeter, are deemed to be ‘minimalist,’ or ‘procesualist.’ After this step, the connections of this topic with several others are explored, including political, social, and welfare rights; the state, especially in its legal dimension; and some characteristics of the overall social context. The main grounding factor that results from these explorations is the conception of agency, especially as it is expressed in the legal system of existing democracies—although the effectiveness of this system and of its underlying conceptions of agency vary quite widely across cases.


This is a work on the theory and policy of development. The book looks widely over issues of Eurocentricism, critical globalism, intercultural transaction, de-linking and post-development theory and presents ideas for the future of the field. Throughout, the author tries to connect issues of development with the latest thinking in sociology, critical theory and social science generally.

The book includes case studies from India, China and Asia more generally, as well as from Africa and Latin America, which examine the role of culture in community-based development, ethnic conflict, famine relief, gender discrimination, and HIV-AIDS policy. Several anthropologists and economists contend here that culture is central to development, and that cultural processes are neither inherently good nor bad and never static. Rather, they are contested and evolving, and can be a source of profound social and economic transformation through their influence on aspirations and collective action; yet they can also be exploitative, exclusionary, and can lead to inequality.


Sen attempts to bring an ethical dimension to development. Sen here argues that open dialogue, civil freedoms and political liberties are prerequisites for sustainable development. He tests his theory with examples ranging from the former Soviet bloc to Africa, but he puts special emphasis on China and India.


Sen notes that the difference between virtually all contemporary ethical approaches to social arrangements lies not in whether they demand equality or but in what sort of equality they propound. Any claim to equality must take account of the diversity of human beings and their characteristics. Sen argues that we should be concerned with people's capabilities rather than either their resources or their welfare. Sen also looks at some types of inequalities that have not yet been studied as systematically as inequalities of class and wealth have been, like gender inequality.


This article traces the evolution of the term exclusion over time, notably as earlier economic and social upheavals brought about a shift in the moral imagination, giving us concepts of poverty and unemployment, today's transformations are giving rise to new conceptions of social disadvantage- the underclass, new poverty, social exclusion.

This collection brings together a wide range of views on the conceptualization and measurement of social exclusion and the indicators for monitoring the effectiveness of policies for combating social exclusion.

Participation in Development: Development through Participation


Informal local governance (ILG’s) are complex organization, which continue to be prevalent at village level in rural India. This paper tries to present a more holistic picture of ILG’s, including their role in village governance and service delivery, the ways in which they interact with Grama Panchayats and the implications of their existence and role for local democracy.


This empirical social research finds that an informal ‘traditional’ institution, believed by intellectuals and elites to be disappearing turns out to have considerable staying power and to be adapting to the democratic element in India’s modern formal political institutions. Customary village councils (CVC s) are wide spread in rural India. They are generally believed to be disappearing vestiges of a pre-democratic, hierarchical rural socio-political order. However while continuing to resolve local disputes and exercise limited judicial authority, they are actively taking on new roles, especially developmental and electoral roles; becoming more pluralist and democratic; and providing a wide range of services that are positively valued by villagers, especially by women.

There is a growing belief in development policy circles that participation by local communities in basic service delivery can promote development outcomes. A central plank of public policy for improving primary education services in India is the participation of village education committees (VECs), consisting of village government leaders, parents, and teachers. The authors report findings from a survey in the state of Uttar Pradesh, of public schools, households, and VEC members, on the status of education services and the extent of community participation in the public delivery of education services.


  This wide-ranging review of some of the major issues in development economics focuses on the role of economic and political institutions. P. Bardhan offers a relatively nontechnical discussion of current thinking on these issues from the viewpoint of poor countries, synthesizing recent research and reflecting on where we stand today. Special issues taken up include the institutions for securing property rights and resolving coordination failures; the structural basis of power; commitment devices and political accountability; the complex relationship between democracy and poverty (with examples from India, where both have been durable); decentralization and devolution of power; persistence of corruption; ethnic conflicts; and impediments to collective action.


  This paper reviews the current level and pattern of access to finance for India’s rural poor and examines some of the key microfinance approaches in India, taking a close look at the most dominant among these, the Self Help Group (SHG) Bank Linkage initiative. It empirically analyzes the success with which SHG Bank Linkage has been able to reach the poor, examines the reasons behind this, and the lessons learned. The analysis draws heavily on a recent rural access to finance survey of 6,000 households in India undertaken by the authors.


  This title examines the current level and pattern of access to finance for India’s rural households, evaluates various approaches for delivering financial services to the rural poor, analyzes what lies behind the lack of adequate financial access for the rural poor, and identifies what it would take to improve access to finance for India’s rural poor. Based on the analysis of a large-scale rural household survey, in combination with an evaluation of the role of financial markets and institutions, this title also examines different forms of financial service provision, including formal, informal and microfinance, raises questions about approaches used so far to address financial exclusion, and makes recommendations.

This book brings together rich field studies from 42 panchayats in 12 states, to show how decentralization is working in Indian villages. It analyzes the social, political, and economic forces influencing variations in the degree of empowerment of Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, and women and looks at likely future developments. The research methodology used brings insights from a micro approach instead of macro-level generalities.


An assimilation of case studies on cooperatives within a broad framework of comparative analysis. The nature of activity around the cooperative movement is built can play a major role in its success and failure. While milk cooperatives may flourish in Gujrat, fisheries may flourish in West Bengal and Kerala.


This volume aims to promote the effective use of Small Area Estimation poverty maps in policy making. It presents the range of policies and interventions which have been informed by poverty maps, focusing on the political economy of poverty maps and the key elements to their effective use by policy makers. The volume also looks at the future of poverty maps in terms of new techniques and new areas of application.


In this paper drawing on experience with participatory approaches and methods which enable poor and marginalised people to express their realities, responsible well-being is proposed as a central concept for a development agenda.


This paper summarizes findings from a research project on local decentralization conducted in two districts of West Bengal and Rajasthan. The findings establish that reservations introduced as a tool to ensure adequate representation also assists in adequate delivery of local public goods to disadvantaged groups.

Using the concept of space as a lens through which to view practices of participation, this paper seeks to explore issues of power and difference in the making and shaping of spaces for participation in development. It examines the emergence of different kinds of spaces for participation in development, highlighting salient tracks and traces in previous times and their imprint on contemporary practice.


Advocates of decentralisation in developing countries argue that bringing government closer to the people will make it more responsive and hence more likely to develop policies and outputs which meet the needs of ordinary citizens – the majority of whom are ‘the poor’. The evidence for this proposition is systematically compared across a selection of African, Asian and Latin American countries. It is concluded that responsiveness to the poor is quite a rare outcome, determined mainly by the politics of local-central relations. Positive outcomes are mainly associated with strong commitment by a national government or party to promoting the interests of the poor at local level; the paradigm case is the Indian state of West Bengal.


This monograph tries to analyze the task of economic development in India in a broad perspective, where apart from economic opportunities, human capabilities and their dependence on basic education, health services, ownership patterns, social stratification, gender relations and the opportunities of social cooperation as well as political protest and opposition have a central role.


There has been a stark dichotomy between development approaches concerned with the productive sectors, usually focusing on enhancing the supply of goods and services and those concerned with social protection. These paper argue that both are complimentary.


Increasing the supply of schools is commonly advocated as a policy intervention to promote schooling. This paper observes Although increasing school availability by decreasing the average distance to schools can be a tool for increasing enrollments, it cannot be expected to have a substantial effect. Other interventions, such as those geared toward increasing the demand for schooling or increasing the quality of schooling should be prioritized.


This is a study of efforts to improve the responsiveness of public service providers to the needs of service users, particularly the poorest service users. This paper examines over sixty case studies of both public-sector reforms to foster stronger client focus in service delivery; and civil-society initiatives to demand improved services. This work was concerned to identify means of
amplifying citizen ‘voice’ such that engagement with the state moves beyond consultative processes to more direct forms of influence over policy and spending decisions.


Since 1990’s, and coinciding with the onset of liberalization a new politics aimed at attaining the hitherto disempowered with aspects of governance to have taken shape across India’s urban, especially its metropolitan centres. That the urban poor then have no option but to seek the redressal of this concerns by associating themselves with political parties is one of several contradictions that this new politics throws.


The authors use detailed ethnographic evidence to design and interpret a broad representative survey of 800 households in Delhi's slums, examining the processes by which residents gain access to formal government and develop their own informal modes of leadership. While ethnically homogeneous slums transplant rural institutions to the city, newer and ethnically diverse slums depend on informal leaders who gain their authority through political connections, education, and network entrepreneurship.


The paper explores processes of access and exclusion – both separately and in interaction with each other. This working paper aims to contribute to the development of a research agenda on the theme of “inclusive citizenship” by examining the interaction of two different forms of citizen belonging, and the rights and responsibilities associated with these: (1) membership of the imagined community of the nation-state and (2) membership of various acknowledged communities at the sub-national level.


In this paper, the authors examine the impact of interventions, such as upgrading basic services and resettlement policies, on the welfare of residents of these informal settlements, who are typically the urban poor. These settlements are widely distributed within cities, including central business centers and peripheral areas with environment hazards. In most cases, residents of these settlements
do not have access to basic public services and amenities. From the perspective of households living in informal settlements, upgrading settlements in the original place is welfare enhancing.


The authors provide an empirical analysis of the determinants of three child-health outcomes related to the Millennium Development Goals: the infant mortality rate, the child mortality rate, and the prevalence of malnutrition. Their findings suggest that apart from traditional variables (income, assets, education, and direct health interventions), better access to basic infrastructure services has an important role in improving child health outcomes.


M. Lipton argues that the greatest division in the world today is the economic gap between urban and rural areas in the developing countries and sets forth approaches to improving the conditions of the world's most impoverished peoples.


This working paper focuses on what are the dilemmas and contradictions encountered by researchers in both the North and South when they work with marginalised and powerless groups, how aware and reflexive are researchers of their own biases and positionalities, do final research accounts pay attention to questions concerning power and politics in the course of the research process? The paper discusses the increasing distance between researchers and the research participants and the politics of researching citizenship and marginality. It also provides theoretical and personal insights on issues related to methods, ethics, positionality, reflexivity and power.


In order to examine the general proposition that a state linked to society through multiple channels of articulation can expect greater legitimacy, this article
analyzes the perception of India’s local elites to the range of alternatives open to them in their dealings with the developmental bureaucracy.


  This working paper on poor people’s perceptions of poverty and ill-being in Asia suggests that it is very difficult to know how poor people in poor countries understand the character, causes, correlates and cures of poverty and deprivation. Such information would in principle enable governments and aid agencies to intervene more effectively.


  The authors of this paper found that India’s social services were used relatively little by the poor. The health and education of the poor has improved but not as much for the population as a whole. The reasons that all social service programs did so little to alleviate poverty are similar.


  This book shows how homegrown experiments can be scaled up to transform lives in the developing world and development cannot be imposed from the outside. It has to happen from within.


  The study explores the role of institutions such as family, markets and local panchayats, and factors such as aspiration, empowerment, social exclusion and conflict, health and asset accumulation, in explaining escape from poverty and falling into poverty.


This paper provides an overview of the political uses and applications of the term accountability in contemporary discourses and practices of development. The first part reflects on the historical origins of competing narratives of accountability and what it means for actors, and the processes in which they are embedded, to be accountable. The second section looks at tools, strategies and processes of accountability in formal and informal arenas, assessing the role of law, protest and a variety of managerial approaches in the creation of mechanisms of accountability. The third section looks at how the narratives of accountability, manifested in these diverse practices of accountability, apply to key development actors.


  This article a conceptual framework on economic and cultural injustice is proposed for evaluating local empowerment initiatives, which is then drawn upon to explore the nature and effectiveness of participation.


  This article argues that while themes of society and concerns with social cohesion and social justice are still significant in political argument, the social is no longer a key zone, target or objective of strategies of government. The rise of the language of globalization indicates that economic relations are no longer easily understood as organized across a single bounded community. Community has become a new specialization of government: heterogeneous, plural, linking individuals, families and others into contesting cultural assemblies of identity and allegiances. Divisions among the subjects of government are coded in new ways; neither included nor excluded are governed as social citizens. The paper suggests some ways of diagnosing and analyzing these novel territorializations of political thought and action.


  This study deals with local-level politics in two villages in Burdwan district of West Bengal. It deals with the emergence of left politics in West Bengal in the late 60s and analyzes its electoral success for nearly three decades in the state. The chief concern lied in its bringing into focus the conversation between modern democracy and older structures rooted in rural society, as against the premise of the essential incompatibility of a modernizing Indian elite and village society.


This work looks how in the Indian state of West Bengal, impact of radical policies have impacted development achievements. Change in the balance of power has made it possible here to implement a number of social programmes that are often considered politically infeasible in many other Indian states, notably land reforms and reach of decentralization at the village level. At the same time, public policies concerned with health, education and related matters have been comparatively neglected.


This paper points out the specific empirical and conceptual issues one needs to pay attention to, when addressing the important topic of the roots of differential institutional performance in the Indian context.


This book examines systems or frameworks for measuring the performance of government at the national level and at local levels of government. The second part of the book focuses on particular sectors that form the core of essential government services: health, education, welfare, waste disposal, and infrastructure.


Recent research on industrial clusters in developing countries has unearthed some notable success stories of small local enterprises growing fast and competing in export markets. This paper focuses on some conceptual and theoretical points which help to explain them. The discussion is conducted with a view to building a bridge to current mainstream economics.


The paper asserts that the quality and usefulness of evaluations is greatly enhanced when the qualitative impacts of a project on the beneficiaries are included in the assessment since they often have a direct influence on conventional donor concerns such as targeting and the mode of payment.

This paper explores the potential of Higher Learning Institutions (HLI’s) as agents of social, institutional and individual change. It argues that while HLI’s have actual role in building the capacity of individuals and organizations to undertake key development initiatives and to practice participation, they are often restricted by internal and external constraints.


The participatory poverty assessments point to initiatives that have benefited the poor. They also point to priorities that emerge in the development agenda. The assessments encompass income, non-income and expenditure aspects of poverty. They point to directions that will help in getting the poor to the centre stage of the development process, by harnessing their own potential and facilitating and supporting their development through government, non-government, public and private initiatives, to close existing gaps and to create a proper enabling environment to eliminate poverty and deprivation.


This is a study of issues in good governance in South Asia, viz. in the countries of India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka and Nepal. The focus is on the interconnections between governance, decentralization (of authority and decision making) and poverty eradication. The book submits a stratagem to turn South Asia’s greatest handicap, poverty, into a source of strength, in which the poor contribute directly to growth. The key to this pro-poor growth strategy, according to the authors, is community mobilization through social movements and non-governmental development initiatives.


This study efforts to understand people-centered development strategy can help reverse many of the imbalances and contradictions created by past development policies, particularly those of the 1980s, which was a 'lost' decade for development.


The sharpening poverty contradictions and their links to a larger governance reality is the theme of this book. The book identifies critical elements in a more
holistic interdisciplinary and analytical methodology. Another methodological innovation reflected in this work is the dialogical method and social praxis which permits various stakeholders to bring about transformative social change through collective reflection, unlearning social mobilization processes as well as an accumulation process by the poor.


  *This book provides a framework for empowerment that concentrates on increasing poor people’s freedom of choice and action to shape their own lives. This framework pertains to five areas of action to improve development effectiveness-provision of basic services, improved local governance, improved national governance, access to justice and legal aid, and pro-poor market development.*


  *This document outlines a holistic and spatial approach to tackle some long-ignored issues like how rural people, and ethnic minorities, in particular, have little political clout to influence public policy to attract more public investment in rural areas. The revised action-oriented strategy provides guidelines and focal points for enhancing the effectiveness of the World Bank’s rural development efforts.*


  *Providing important data on the state and future directions of India’s agricultural sector, that is compatible and sustainable with the changed environment of the twenty-first century, this report suggests concrete policy options for increased productivity. These include reorienting government expenditures toward more productive investments in rural infrastructure and services, as also removing restrictions on domestic trade-changes that will improve the investment climate for farmers and the private sector to meet market opportunities.*

**Poverty and Livelihood**

_The article is concerned with the interplay of moral and political processes and the ways in which they effect institutions that regulate access to food in South Asia (several of the titles under review concern famine)._ 


_Through this study the authors find one significant, though varying evidence of territorial segmentation of the rural labour market and of limited labour mobility even within adjacent territories. Personal connection between employers and employees, mutual trust and credit relationships turn out to be more important determinants of labour mobility than short run wage differences._


_This is a compendium of sixteen of P. Bardhan’s well known works in the area of poverty and the political economy of India._


_This volume looks at the three dimensions of social exclusion: economic, social and political. Exclusion is analyzed as a new approach to such issues as the "new" poverty, precariousness, long-term unemployment, social polarization and lack of citizenship. The book shows how relational and distributional aspects of poverty are interlinked. An analytical and operational framework is developed which focuses not so much on social exclusion as a state of economic and social deprivation but on the dynamic processes which create such a state and force individuals into precariousness and vulnerability._


_The dominant forms of cultural capital associated with middle class access to ‘bureaucratic’ careers are being devalued due to credential inflation and changing patterns of symbolic control within employing organizations. At the same time, the demand for cultural capital in the reproduction of class location has increased in a context of volatile global markets, technological innovation, corporate restructuring, the marketisation of public services, and high unemployment. This paper argues that, in the competition for a livelihood increasing class conflict is leading to significant changes within the ‘individualist’ rules of exclusion._


The political dimensions of sustainable livelihoods are explored here, drawing on the livelihood adaptation literature in India and Sub-Saharan Africa. Relationships of social exclusion, in particular gendered relationships with the state, formal and informal civil society, are found to be key in determining the effects of interventions into livelihood systems for different stakeholders. The very different configurations of public action, civil society and community involvement in reinforcing livelihood activities are compared, to see whether there are useful lessons to be transferred between the regions.


These guidance notes discuss how the principle of poverty elimination can be put into practice by principally explaining multiple dimensions of poverty and improving understanding of the nature and causes of poverty.


Social protection describes all public and private initiatives that provide income or consumption transfers to the poor, protect the vulnerable against livelihood risks, and enhance the social status and rights of the marginalised; with the overall objective of reducing the economic and social vulnerability of poor, vulnerable and marginalised groups. This paper argues against the popular perception of social protection. It also challenges the limited ambition of social protection policy in practice, which has moved little from its origins in the “social safety nets” discourse of the 1980s, and aims to provide “economic protection” against livelihood shocks, rather than “social protection” as broadly defined here.


This paper synthesises current thinking and evidence on a number of issues around the design and impact of social protection programmes, including: the case for and against targeting resource transfers; alternative approaches to targeting; what form resource transfers should take (cash, food, agricultural inputs); the ‘crowding out’ debate; cost-efficiency of transfer programmes; whether these programmes meet the real and articulated needs of their
‘beneficiaries’; impacts on poverty and vulnerability, and fiscal and political sustainability

  
  This paper argues that destitution is intrinsically a multi-dimensional concept, and it emphasises the severity of poverty – in contrast to “chronic poverty”, which emphasises the duration of poverty. A definition of destitution is proposed with three components: inability to meet subsistence needs, assetlessness, and dependence on transfers. A conceptual framework is developed for analysing destitution that draws on the “sustainable livelihoods” approach.

  
  This book advocates a new approach to the relief of famine and hardship in developing countries by addressing the political issues that prevent fair distribution of resources, rather than by simply seeking to provide more food and services.

  
  This book contains essays that analyses of the causes of worldwide hunger and deprivation.

  
  This book argues that an assessment of India's failure to eliminate basic deprivations has to go beyond this limited focus, and to take note of the role played in that failure by inadequate public involvement in the provision of basic education, health care, social security, and related fields. Even the fostering of fast and participatory economic growth requires some basic social change, which is not addressed by liberalization and economic incentives. The authors also discuss the historical antecedents of these political and social neglects, including the distortion of policy priorities arising from inequalities of political power.


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The central aim of this Paper is to review the current understanding of how institutional arrangements can either encourage or discourage the pursuit of sustainable livelihoods. It explores the relationship between resources and capital, examining the nature of property rights and regimes, looking at the ways in which social exclusion affects the pursuit of sustainable livelihoods, and critiquing Common Pool Resource (CPR) theory.


This analysis of the role of government in eradicating India's rural poverty raises a whole series of crucial contemporary issues relating to the state, its degree of autonomy in the developing world and the problems of effecting genuine redistributive reform. The particular importance of the book is that it focuses attention on the nature of ruling political parties as an important factor influencing the success or failure of redistributive and welfare politics in a democratic capitalist setting. Comparing these in terms of their success in redistributing agricultural land and creating employment for the rural poor, the author argues cogently that well-organised, left-of-centre parties in government - like that in West Bengal - are the most effective in implementing reform.


The authors analyze five rounds of National Sample Survey data covering 1983, 1987/8, 1993/4, 1999/0, and 2004/5 to explore the relationship between rural diversification and poverty. Poverty in rural India declined at a modest rate during this period. The authors provide region-level estimates that illustrate considerable geographic heterogeneity in this progress. The analysis also confirms the important contribution to rural poverty reduction from agricultural productivity, availability of land, and consumption levels in proximate urban areas.


After defining key words and listing biases and limitations, this paper seeks to explore linkages between methodologies, mindsets, concepts and perceptions in research on poverty.


The paper argues that the spread of democratic institutions does not necessarily mean the spread of democratic politics but that the former will only flourish when they are actively supported by the latter. The design and structure of democratic
institutions also makes a difference, both creating space for democratic politics and shaping how elected governments deal with the issues of participation, socio-economic justice and conflict.


  This book explores the diversity of collaboration between faith institutions and development agencies, ranging from community level interventions in support of excluded populations, work on education, health, and HIV/AIDS, restoring communities after conflicts, and global efforts to bring greater clarity and meaning to challenges such as poor country debt, labor and the struggle against poverty.


  The purpose of this synthesis is to review the experience to date in applying participatory approaches to macro-level policy formulation, implementation and monitoring, with a view to supporting country-led facilitation of inclusive and high-quality participation in the Poverty Reduction Strategy process.


  Access to land is deeply important in rural India, where the incidence of poverty is highly correlated with lack of access to land. The author provides a framework for assessing alternative approaches to improving access to land by India’s rural poor. He considers India’s record implementing land reform and identifies an approach that includes incremental reforms in public land administration to reduce transaction costs in land markets (thereby facilitating land transfers) and to increase transparency, making information accessible to the public to ensure that socially excluded groups benefit.


  The authors report on the first empirical study of its kind to examine from the perspective of transaction costs - factors that constrain access to land for the rural poor and other socially excluded groups in India.

This examination of how basic social services, particularly education, health and water, can be financed and delivered more effectively departs from the dominant macro-economic paradigm. Drawing on their own broad-ranging research at UNICEF and UNDP, the authors argue that fiscal, monetary, and other macro-economic policies for poverty reduction, human development and economic growth can be compatible with micro-level interventions to provide basic social services. Strategic shifts in aid policy, decentralized governance, health and education and the private-public mix in service provision are a prerequisite to achieve the goals of human development and to eliminate human poverty within a generation.


This synthesis of a large research exercise offers a series of guidelines for thinking about specific cases. It looks at why democratic political systems are not necessarily pro-poor and the extent and ways in which poor people are mobilised politically depend to a large degree on the effectiveness and coherence of states and the policies they pursue.


This paper is motivated by the need to expand research on social capital and its effects on poverty. Studies of social capital and its economic payoffs have tended to focus on industrialised countries, whilst those studies which have focused on developing countries have been based on micro level survey data. This paper therefore addresses the need to look at social capital at the wider macro level while examining the impact of social capital on poverty.


This book provides a unique and detailed picture of the life of the poor and explains the constraints poor people face to escape from poverty in a way that more traditional survey techniques do not capture well. Through case studies across India, this project makes an exercise to expand our conventional views of poverty which focus on income expenditure, education, and health to include measures of voice and empowerment.

This is a national level report by civil society initiative PACS on poverty. Their programme has a right based approach with the principal aim of enabling the poor to realize their rights and entitlements through just and democratic means.


This paper access the successes and failures of EGS beyond economic terms, i.e., whether it reduces poverty, it is implemented properly and caters to target group. This paper examines the dynamics that makes this program such an instrument.


A. Sen argues that "the standard of living" has been poorly understood and narrowly defined; it is not just a function of opulence, and cannot be seen as utility. It is, he suggests, the "capabilities" offered in states of affairs.


While the terms ‘power’ and ‘rights’ are increasingly incorporated into the language of development agencies they have yet to fully permeate the practice of poverty reduction. Acknowledging that this partly results from a lack of clarity over the concepts of power and rights and partly from questions of how to operationalize these ideas. The first series of papers addresses competing definitions and conceptual issues around power and rights, illustrating these with experiences observing and applying the concepts in practice in different countries. Following this, papers address topics aimed at helping development practitioners to apply these concepts to their work.


This book focuses on globalization in terms of growing economic integration resulting from the increased flow of goods and services, people, capital, and information. The book is primarily concerned with the effect that this growing integration has on economic growth and poverty reduction.
Stratification and Exploitation (Gendered development)


  This paper outlines an analytic framework for understanding legal change, using as an illustration the process by which India’s inheritance laws (in particular the Hindu Succession Act (HSA) of 1956) have moved toward gender equality. The HSA sought to transform the major inheritance systems that governed Hindus from a situation of gross gender inequality to quite substantial equality.


  This article uses empirical data to discuss the links between ethnicity, inequality and governance in a framework that divides countries according to their levels of ethnic polarization. It makes three main arguments. First, types of diversity, not the existence of diversity per se, explain potentials for conflict or cohesion in multiethnic societies. Ethnic cleavages are configured differently in different social structures and are less conflictual in some countries than in others. Second, relative balance has been achieved in the public sectors of countries that are highly fragmented or those with ethnicity-sensitive policies, but not in those with ethnicity-blind policies. Third, the article is critical of institutional approaches to conflict management that underplay background conditions in shaping choices.


  Based on relevant global evidence and the notion of intentional action by certain groups to limit opportunities for others, the paper suggest policy options t
address all the barriers to access simultaneously, as piecemeal approaches, which only address one element of exclusion have limited success.


  Addressing ideologies like Marxism, secularism, and nationalism, this collection studies the tensions and contradictions in society as manifested through different social and political institutions. It seeks to develop the methods, concepts, and theories of the discipline through an in-depth exploration of various establishments.


  This collection of essays, the third after Antinomies and Sociology, reflects Beteille’s thinking on the large inequalities that exist in democratic societies. The essays examine the different forms of inequality and also the limits to the pursuit of equality. While the focus is primarily on India, a general and comparative method for discussion is also adopted. The essays draw from the author’s substantial work on class, status and caste as also on those concerning justice and equality.


  This is a thoroughly-documented study that provides hard evidence of widespread abuse and exploitation. The author contends that these appalling practices are rampant in India, and that state policies aimed at protecting children are poorly conceived and badly enforced.


  This book tracks various countries progress with implementing and financing the third World Bank Millennium Development Goal (MDG3) by examining national experiences and successes with policies and programs.


  This paper suggests a simple model for the relationships between poverty, schooling and gender inequality. It argues that poverty – at both national and household levels – is associated with an under-enrolment of school-age children, but that the gendered outcomes of such under-enrolment are the product of
cultural practice, rather than of poverty per se. It follows that gender inequalities in schooling outcomes, measured in both qualitative and quantitative terms, will not necessarily be reduced as incomes rise.


  This paper tries to understand the employment outcomes of Dalit and Muslim men in India. The paper uses entry into self-employment for educated minority groups as a proxy for minority enclaves. Based on multinomial logistic regression, the analysis finds that the minority enclave hypothesis does not hold for Dalits but it does overwhelmingly for Muslims. The interaction of Dalit and Muslim status with post-primary education in urban areas demonstrates that post-primary education confers almost a disadvantage for minority men: it does not seem to affect their allocation either to salaried work or to non-farm self-employment but does increase their likelihood of opting out of the labor force - and if they cannot afford to drop out, they join the casual labor market. Due to the complexity of these results and the fact that there are no earnings data for self-employment, it is difficult to say whether self-employment is a choice or compulsion and whether builders of minority enclaves fare better than those in the primary market.


  This paper aims to stimulate a wider interest and debate among practitioners as well as in the academy, concerning the conceptual understandings of inequality and the implications of these for development policy and practice.


  This book is the study of the Indian experience with policies of systematic preferential treatment. Galanter includes a discussion of the relation of the courts to public policy in his analysis of the choices and tensions in the Indian policies of compensatory preference.


  This book examines the broader philosophy of social development and its linkages with the concept of human rights and the fundamental rights as enshrined in the Indian Constitution. It discusses and elaborates the concept of development in a liberal society which recognises the existence of inequities and is concerned with how to minimise them and with what role social workers can play in it.

The 18 selected essays deal with religion, caste, gender, as well as class and status.


Situated at the interface of policy and political processes, this study explores the dynamics and strategies of the state with regard to Muslims and lower castes. It examines the underlying issues that influence state policy towards disadvantaged groups and assesses specific strategies and whether these need rethinking and reshaping to take India forward in its quest for equality. It also looks at the constitutional framework, the institutional structures, and the responses and debates surrounding the inclusion for lower castes and minorities, especially the emphasis on affirmative action for the former and the continuing opposition to the inclusion of the latter in this framework.


The authors present experimental evidence that a history of social and legal disabilities may have persistent effects on a group's earnings through its impact on individuals' expectations. The results suggest that when caste identity is salient, mistrust undermines motivation and low-caste subjects expect that others will judge them prejudicially.


This book offers an inventory of the kinds of assumptions which lead to gender-blind policy, and assesses integrationist and transformative strategies by feminist advocates to influence the mainstream policy agenda. An analytical framework for examining the gender inequalities generated by key institutions through which development takes place occupies a central place in the book. A selection of original case studies from the Indian context serves to illustrate different aspects of the framework and its application.


The high incidence of both child labour and out-of-school children in the South Asian region has given rise to competing explanations. Broadly speaking, these can be categorised as those which focus on poverty and under-development and those which focus on policy failure and poor implementation of educational
services. This paper reviews the empirical evidence put forward for each of these explanations, focusing primarily on India and Bangladesh, and concludes that they mutually reinforce, rather than contradict, each other.


Self-help groups (SHGs) play a major role in providing microfinance in India. But the paper shows they do not work alone. State institutions are also a big part of the microfinance landscape. They promote and finance SHGs. The paper shows how does this kind of ‘institutionalised co-production’ in service delivery affects access to bank credit, particularly to women’s groups, who are in a dependent relationship, and are subject to, and tarnished by, the institutional imperatives, systemic corruption and political compulsions that shape the behaviour of rural development bureaucracies and banks.


This paper documents how indigenous and tribal children are often specially vulnerable to child labour. This paper aims at stimulating further debate which addresses central child labour challenges and links up with ways to secure quality education for all.


In an account of the lives of those at the bottom of Indian society, the authors explore the construction of the Untouchables as a social and political category, the historical background that led to such a definition and their position in India today. The authors argue that, despite efforts to ameliorate their condition, a considerable edifice of discrimination persists. The book promises to make a major contribution to the social and economic debates on poverty, while its wide-ranging perspectives will ensure a readership from across the disciplines.


In “Denial and Distress” the authors analyze the gender-differentiated impact of globalization on women and men in the various parts of Asia and the Commonwealth of Independent States. They provide evidence that not only is the incidence of poverty increasingly more severe among women than men but that the dimensions of women’s poverty and the causes or process of their poverty are different from those of poor men. They conclude that the challenge
for development agencies in Asia is to address the deep-rooted gender-specific causes of poverty, rather than the symptoms.

  Study to understand the varied dalit movements that have sought to alter the terms of the dominant order. This book looks at alternative traditions, nurtured within Dalit movements, which have questioned this way of looking at India society and its history of secular discourse, which is often steeped in higher Hindu ethos.


  Employing a view of culture as a communicative phenomenon involving discursive engagement, which is deeply influenced by social and economic inequalities, the authors argue that the struggle to break free of poverty is as much a cultural process as it is political and economic. In this paper, they analyze important examples of discursive spaces - public meetings in Indian village democracies (gram sabhas), where villagers make important decisions about budgetary allocations for village development and the selection of beneficiaries for anti-poverty programs. They illustrate how the poor and socially marginalized deploy these discursive skills in a resource-scarce and socially stratified environment in making material and non-material demands in their search for dignity. The intersection of poverty, culture, and deliberative democracy is a topic of broad relevance because it sheds light on cultural processes that can be influenced by public action in a manner that helps improve the voice and agency of the poor.

  The aim of this book is to bring about a thorough understanding of the complexities of caste. It offers essays on the subject of caste and politics in contemporary India. It covers all the important ground to get to grips with the idea, ideology, and ground realities of India’s caste system.


This paper develops an understanding of caste based economic exclusion and its consequences on poverty of excluded groups and discusses Indian government strategy against exclusion/discrimination and policy for empowerment.


This paper provides a theoretical introduction to the study of discrimination with particular reference to the caste system. It sets the stage for the four empirical papers that follow, by highlighting the ways in which caste persists as a system of inequality that burdens the Indian Economy with inefficiencies in the allocation of labour and other critical resources, reducing the full development of human capital in society.


This volume contextualize the issues of social exclusion in Indian society associated with multiple group identities like caste, ethnicity, religion, gender, and other forms of exclusion. It also discusses the theoretical framework for developing inclusive polices to deal with the consequences of historical exclusion.


This book provides a detailed and comprehensive account of the status of Dalits in contemporary India. It delineates their economic and social status and charts the changes since 1947 with respect to important indicators of human development.

The aim of this article is to focus on the meanings of caste that emanate through writings of some Dalit activists. The common tendency to treat caste as a static phenomenon of ‘traditional’ India will be interrogated.


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Health and Education


Participation of beneficiaries in the monitoring of public services is increasingly seen as key to improving their efficiency. In India, the current government flagship program on universal primary education organizes community members, specifically locally elected leaders and parents of children enrolled in public schools, into committees and gives these powers over resource allocation, monitoring and management of school performance. However, in a baseline survey this paper finds that people were not aware of the existence of these committees and their potential for improving education.


This book provides a key to understanding the four most widely accepted theories of what lies behind inequality in healthcare: behavioural, psychosocial, material and life-course approaches.


This book addresses the familiar issue of unequal access to education in a new perspective. In this regard, whether one looks at gender or caste or tribes or class differences, the gap between the privileged and the disprivileged is a matter of everyday experience. The manner and form of asymmetries reflected in the domain of education is the question at the core of this collection of essays.


This paper is part of a broader attempt to identify the key producers of social goods and how social policy interventions can support them.


This collection turns a critical anthropological eye on the nature of health policy internationally. The authors reveal the prevailing social inequalities that often represent significant threats to the health and well-being of the poor, ethnic minorities, and women. The authors define an anthropology of policy concerned with decision-making and the impact of health policy on human lives.

The overall purpose of this paper is to discuss women’s health with the context of the need to improve both women’s productivity and welfare. Women's health status, its determinants and consequences, are explored, leading ultimately to the identification of interventions required to improve it and thereby to improve women’s productivity. Women’s health is intricately linked with family health, and their productivity with family productivity and related characteristics. This paper documents the nature of these relationships, using available data on Indian women which relate to a variety of health indices, and construing “productivity” in the broadest possible way, including labor force participation, work output, income and so on.


This paper suggests a simple model for the relationships between poverty, schooling and gender inequality. It argues that poverty – at both national and household levels – is associated with an under-enrolment of school-age children, but that the gendered outcomes of such under-enrolment are the product of cultural practice, rather than of poverty per se.


This paper provides an overview of recent work on quality measurement of medical care and its correlates in four low and middle-income countries-India, Indonesia, Tanzania, and Paraguay. The authors describe two methods-testing doctors and watching doctors-that are relatively easy to implement and yield important insights about the nature of medical care in these countries. The paper discusses the properties of these measures, their correlates, and how they may be used to evaluate policy changes. Finally, the authors outline an agenda for further research and measurement.


The authors study the impact of governance and administrative factors on communicable disease prevention in the Indian state of Karnataka using survey data from administrators, frontline workers, and elected local representatives. They identify a number of key constraints to the effective management of disease control in India, in misaligned incentives, and the institutional arrangements for service delivery.

This volume presents eleven case studies that document how well or poorly health, nutrition, and population programs have reached disadvantaged groups in the countries of Africa, Asia, and Latin America where they were undertaken.


This paper presents an analysis of the determinant of school participation in rural north India, based on a recent household survey which includes detailed information on school characteristics. School participation especially among girls, responds to a wide range of variables, including parental education and motivation, social background, dependency ratios, work opportunities, village development, teacher posting, teacher regularity and mid-day meals. The remarkable lead achieved by the state of Himachal Pradesh is fully accounted for by these variables. School quality matters, but it is not related in a simply way to specific inputs.


‘Unleashing India’s Innovation’ analyzes enterprise innovation in the Indian context. Innovation is broadly defined to include both creation and commercialization of new knowledge, and diffusion and absorption of existing knowledge in new contexts.


The main stress of this paper is to try and establish the extent and nature of inequalities which affect segments of Indian people. Further educational expansion by itself will not bring about equality. Schools themselves foster differences of various kinds. The entire process of acquisition of knowledge, which includes curricula as well as attitudes of teachers and others whom pupils interact, is weighed against the underprivileged child.

This collection examines the educational policies, programs, and practices that offer and/or deny adolescent girls and young women the opportunity for change and advancement, from both comparative and international perspectives. Grounded in social and feminist theory, the essays focus on the dynamic interaction between agency and structure.


This paper aims to review the effectiveness, efficiency and impact of public spending on nutrition in India, and to suggest how these might be enhanced. It identifies the programs that are working and the areas where action is needed. It also projects the possible cost of the suggested programs.


The educational backwardness of the dalit communities is generally attributed to poverty and illiterate home environments prevailing among them. This article draws attention to the effect the learning environment within formal educational system has been having on the dalit pupils. It argues that besides poor infrastructural facilities, lack of effective pedagogic supports to acquire linguistic, numerical and cognitive competencies effect the schooling of dalit children. More importantly, despite active encouragement from impoverished family members, the apathetic treatment by teachers and school administrators largely shape the learning experiences of these socially disadvantaged groups.


This collection is an attempt to map the Indian educational scenario from two perspectives: a) gender disadvantage in access to basic education and b) the debates in the field of educational access and the NGO functioning, the articles in this book cover a wide range of topics focusing on the demand, supply and institutional dimensions of female educational disadvantage. The key distinguishing feature of this book is the specific attention given to the NGO sector. The responses to the NGO sector to poor educational performance and to the gender gap are explored in detail.
Inter- and intra-state disparities in levels of literacy rates in India are striking, especially for the marginalized groups of women and low caste population. The present paper offers an explanation of this disparate development in terms of elite dominance that discriminates against the minority groups of people and systematically under-invests in mass education. This analysis also identifies land reform and poverty alleviation as two important policy instruments to erode the initial disadvantage of the marginalised people.

The social exclusion knowledge network will focus on and examine the relational processes that work to exclude particular groups of people in particular contexts from engaging fully in community/social life. The SEKN will also examine the linkages between exclusion and proximal concepts—social capital, social networks and social integration. These relational and exclusionary processes are interconnected and dynamic and in most cases have a bi-directional relationship with health.

Improving the operation and management of primary schools is a major challenge for the Indian society and economy. The Pratichi Trust has been involved in trying to facilitate discussions on basic education. Primary education in India suffers from many deficiencies. The paucity of financial resources. But the major difficulty lies in the weak institutional structure in primary schools. A major difficulty lies in the weak institutional structure of the primary schools. Extensive inefficiencies in operation in general is reinforced by particular inequities in the failure to provide fair opportunity to children from less privileged backgrounds. The difficulties are especially severe in bringing 1st generation school attendees into a sympathetic and equitable system of primary education.

The Pratichi trust has made an enquiry into the state of the health delivery system aimed at finding interconnections between non-functional health centres; non-availability of basic services; private health care; exploitation and medical deceit; immunization and other services; economic deprivation and induced destitution; neglect of basic health knowledge.
Rao, Mohan. (2009). The unheard scream: Reproductive health and women’s lives in India. Cambridge; Cambridge University Press.'

This collection of essays by journalists explores a range of issues - from the quinacrine sterilization scandal, to the rip-off that is the assisted reproduction industry, to the declining age of marriage among Muslim girls in Malabar. It reveals how issues in women’s health are deeply imbricates in the lives of Indian women.


Based on a two year study of education, inclusion and exclusion in South Africa and India, this report focuses on the qualitative experiences of excluded groups.


This book shows how most indigenous and minority education contributes to linguistic genocide. S.Tove brings together theoretical concerns and research areas which no other contemporary book synthesizes: linguistic human rights; minority and multilingual education; language ecology and threatened languages; the relationship between biodiversity and linguistic and cultural diversity; the impact of linguistic imperialism and unequal power relations on ethnicity, linguistic, and cultural competence, and identities.


This policy brief discusses evidence for policy making within the context of attaining the Millennium Development Goal of universal primary enrollment. Despite recent progress, many developing member countries will not attain this goal by 2015. Given this backdrop this brief summarizes a simple analytical framework introduced to address- what methods are available to identify constraints to increasing enrollment among the poor; what do we know about the effectiveness of various corrective policies aimed at improving enrollment rates.


School health is an important aspect of children's health and an integral part of school education. The book looks at school health in a holistic manner by locating the context of children's socio-economic circumstances and the health needs that arise from it. It uses empirical work to look at the context and programmes that address these needs and then examines the engagement of health related issues in the school curriculum. It brings together original research that addresses the socio-economic context of school-going children and
programmes such as Midday Meal programme and the school health services that are designed to address the nutritional needs and health concerns of children.


  The report provides data on progress and trends in reaching the Millennium Development Goals for health, nutrition and population. It looks at poor and non-poor disparities; health system reforms as a means of laying building blocks for the efficient and equitable delivery of interventions; the financing of health spending through domestic resources and aid; and improving the effectiveness of development assistance in health. In doing so, the report links the health Millennium Development Goal agenda with the broader poverty-reduction agenda.


Internet Source:


This paper is based on literature reviews of the international experiences of decentralization and also the literature produced in the region. It is also based on the author's involvement in action in the region with partner organizations on gender, citizenship and governance. The focus of this paper is therefore on decentralization as political project, as a form of governance that not only is justified on grounds of efficiency but on grounds that is open to the participation of subordinate groups in society and accountable to their interests.

LOGIC and LOCATION

Social capital can be defined as the institutions and networks of relationships between people, complemented by the attitudes, norms and values that underlie them.

Governments and donor agencies increasingly recognise the need to provide protection for the poor against income fluctuations or livelihood shocks. In this context, 'social protection' is an umbrella term covering a range of interventions, from formal social security systems to ad hoc emergency interventions to project food aid (e.g. school feeding, public works).

The concept of “destitution” presents challenges to several preoccupations of contemporary poverty discourse: the definition of poverty (narrowly income-based versus broader multi-dimensional approaches); the measurement of poverty (quantitative versus participatory methods); and the temporal dimension (chronic versus transitory poverty). Recognition of the multi-dimensionality of poverty has rarely been reflected in integrated analytical or policy frameworks