

THREAT: Poverty

*Give a man a fish and you feed him for a day.
 Teach him how to fish and you feed him for a lifetime.*

- attributed to. Lao Tzu

Poverty in the developing world should not be confused with *emergencies*. Anyone can have a sudden need for food and shelter (New Orleans after *Katrina*). International programs against “poverty” go beyond this to building the capacity of a population to maintain and grow the means of self-sufficiency.

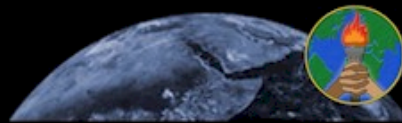
If “real” aid is drilling wells, not bottled water, it is also about training locals to drill wells and maintain machinery. Action against poverty is now seen as a mix of **Aid, Trade, Investment, Migration, Environment, Security, Technology**. As well as shipping in bags of grain, it is more important to stop the war that will destroy the next crop, to invent appropriate technologies (the **cow-dung radio** in India), and to build local economies through investment and trade. *Migration* is contentious – accepting the unskilled and displaced counts as aid, but enticing every trained nurse in Ghana to London not only does not count as aid but is a negative step for Ghana.

The US is 20th in the world for aid as a portion of GDP (0.14%). 72% of this is **tied aid** (“with strings”) and much goes to less poor and totalitarian regimes.* US aid is perceived to be largely directed by national interest, whereas some nations, such as **Denmark** (first in world ranking), seem motivated otherwise – if Danish secret agendas exist they are well hidden. But in the broadest view aid *is* about self-interest. In **Somalia**, failure to understand root problems and obsession with forming a nation in a preconceived image led to a decade of bronze-age governance. **Islamists** now seem the only hope for stable government, and a shining hope in Africa for **Taliban**-style regimes. What started as an aid problem ended as a political problem because the earlier efforts were unbearably tainted with politics.

*Many facts quoted are from **Center for Global Development**. [USA], <http://www.cgdev.org>.

Near-Term	Mid-Term	Long-Term
<p>For aid to be effective in the longer term – to be “real” – donors need to understand bottom-line causes. Some are geographical (systematic lack of water), many are social/political (enduring clan and tribal rivalries), many are simple perfidy (corrupt regimes and callous middle class elites).</p> <p>In each case the solution is dictated by the cause and is often obvious. Educating policy-makers in the underlying causes of each aid case goes a long way to making aid effective.</p>	<p>Even blind incompetence is better than aid for doctrinaire or the wrong reasons. The <i>top-down</i> approach of the 1960’s – fortify the rulers and elites and they will fix their countries – is discredited for good reason. It resulted in a sudden demand for Rolls Royce cars, weapons, and deterioration in subsistence societies.</p> <p>Recipients should not have to convert to Jesus – or the Danish way of life – to eat. A recent notion – fix poverty one village at a time (bottom-up) – is the most rational approach with the best chance of success thus far.</p>	<p>Many Asian nations jumped from primitive telephone networks to ubiquitous internet and cellular networks. This technological <i>leap-frog</i> awaits developing nations. The West will be burdened with 2nd or 3rd generation modalities when poorest nation will suddenly have 4th generation technologies. In 10 years the West will be weighed down by old costly infrastructure (the London tube) and many “developing” nations will be growing from strength to strength driven by clean, green high-tech practices.</p>

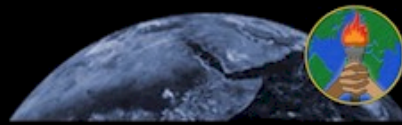
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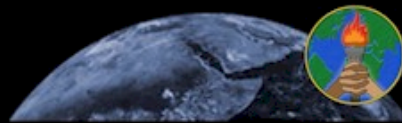
Hazard Level

Change Codes
↓ Deteriorated
• Steady
↑ Improved
!!! Alert

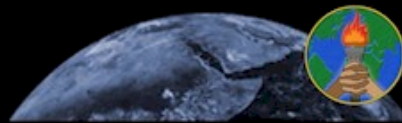
week-ended	See daily list of news items
2007 Jul 01	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Urbanization is now be the single most important factor in <i>development</i> but this will be largely due to <i>rural poor</i> moving to <i>urban slums</i>; "You cannot keep people away from settling in cities" – but "much of the misery and degradation that we encounter in cities today <u>could have been prevented</u>". <i>"We are wasting food in the North. We are eating too much, <u>burning grain as fuel</u>, and <u>growing grain to feed pigs</u> to slaughter for ham. ... last year enough food was produced to feed <u>12 billion people</u>. This is why a child that dies from famine is murder."</i> says Jean Ziegler, UN special rapporteur on the right to food.
2007 Jun 24	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The 2007 Failed States Index, by <i>Foreign Policy</i> magazine, finds 8 of the worst 10 states in Africa, along with Afghanistan and Iraq -- Iraq now ranked second among world's failed states.
2007 Jun 17	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Red Cross and Red Crescent societies have developed a new <i>disaster response framework</i> that may bring a more "real-time" ability to help -- Cutting Red Tape in Disaster Response. India and Brazil continue to lead a global majority that is increasingly impatient with the fat cats of history -- No pleasing the rich, say India and Brazil.
2007 Jun 10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • G8 promises are often <u>worthless</u> -- G8's failure to honour pledges a betrayal. The World Bank's own web-site is now noting commentary on the G8's brazen <i>false promises</i> -- Rich Countries Not Keeping Their Promises For Africa. Uganda, Zambia set out Africa's priorities to G8; "Too much aid is not good for our economies" -- it is solid INFRASTRUCTURE that is needed. [Aid often destroys local industries.] In Zimbabwe, "<i>crop failures</i> in southern provinces and rising poverty would see about <u>2.1 million people</u> [a third of the population] facing <i>serious food shortages</i> by the third quarter of this year." [Most of the "crop failures" have been a result of government <i>land policy</i>.] The <i>Shangri-La Dialogue</i> of senior Asian defense and security officials heard the proposition that "<i>Defence for development [aid and development] sets the framework for lasting solutions to insurgency, poverty and illiteracy</i>" -- Development aid 'vital in fight against terror'. [The southern Philippines used as the example may or may not be a shining case, but the realization is growing that <i>schools</i> and <i>irrigation</i> are cheaper than <i>Blackhawks</i>, and don't get as many Americans killed.]
2007 Jun 03	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Malaysia (and Indonesia) are continuing to focus on <i>social development</i> at the core of instability in the <i>Islamic</i> world – "<i>The real threats to the Muslim world are poverty, illiteracy and backwardness</i>" says Malaysian Prime Minister Badawi.
2007 May 27	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A <i>maize</i> harvest less than half that of the 1990s has left Swaziland with a <i>food crisis</i>. The UN WFP has appealed for international action to stamp out <i>pirates</i> off the <i>Horn of Africa</i> threatening delivery of humanitarian supplies to Somalia.
2007 May 20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Liberation Theology</i> has been put in the news again (paradoxically) by the Pope's visit to <i>Latin America</i>; for current resources see Jesus, Marx, and Liberation Theology and http://www.liberationtheology.org/



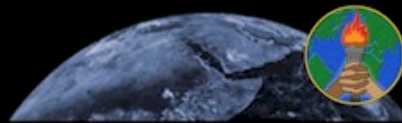
	<p>In Angola 20,000 people have been left <i>homeless</i> in clearing <i>squatters</i> from land for development.</p>
2007 May 13	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• It's an old trick, and much used -- "aid" is often not money but pressured purchases of goods from the "donor" that may be of little real benefit -- Poor Could Lose 67 Billion Dollars. <p>The Bishop of Rome promises that no-one is going to get "<i>real conditions of a just life</i>" anytime soon on his watch -- Pope slams liberation theology during flight. "<i>About 10.2 million children under five die each year around the world</i>" -- 94% of child deaths take place in just 60 countries, says study. Population: NGOs Warn of World Bank "Fundamentalists" -- a Wolfowitz appointee "<i>obviously working in line with the ultra-conservative forces in the United States and abroad tried to impose his own fundamentalist religious agenda on women worldwide.</i>"</p>
2007 May 06	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Summit of South American-Arab Countries has produced resolutions for ongoing technical exchanges to achieve <i>Millennium Development Goals</i>. Queen Rania of Jordan has launched a <i>micro-finance</i> system that will operate initially in the <i>Middle East</i>. <i>United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)</i> commends investigation of <i>bio-fuels</i> but in the context of <i>food supply, water scarcity, and deforestation</i>.
2007 Apr 29	<p>↓ A meeting of the International Labour Organization in Addis Ababa said the number of <i>working poor</i> will increase by 20% by 2015 -- "<i>most of the work in Africa is of a near-subsistence nature, with more than eight out of 10 workers in the informal economy</i>". "<i>Rising opportunism of the elite class and dirty tricks of the western world are breeding corrupt African dictators leading to run-down economies and mass suffering.</i>" -- Elite Fuelling Continent's Woes, Say Activists. [This is "news" only in as much as nothing has changed in several decades.]</p>
2007 Apr 22	<p>↓ The World Food Programme says fighting in the southern Philippines has <i>displaced</i> more than <u>40,000</u> people; WFP is delivering 85 tonne of rice to areas of Jolo. Inefficiency and costs are chewing up the majority of US Emergency Food Aid -- cost of <i>transportation</i> - not food - is now <u>65%</u> of the total expenditure. A opinion piece in <i>The Guardian</i> paints the UK and other members of the G7 with a terminal <i>imperial delusion</i> played out through the IMF, "<i>a plutocracy whose loan conditions continue to condemn developing countries to a vicious cycle of misery.</i>" -- If Britain wants to help Africa's poor, it must stop acting like an emperor. The UN secretary-general says the world must do more for <i>displaced Iraqis</i> -- Jordan and Syria together already host nearly <u>two million</u> Iraqi refugees (of a total of some <u>four million</u>) and are unable to accept more. A conference of experts says <i>cities</i> are a key in helping the poor; by 2030 <u>two-thirds</u> of humanity will live in cities, and more than <u>half of all Africans</u> -- it's in cities that most good can be done.</p>
2007 Apr 15	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The patchwork of various lists around the world of proscribed "<i>terrorist organizations</i>" is presenting <i>aid agencies</i> with a new bureaucratic burden that diverts attention from <i>humanitarian</i> tasks. A brief survey of <i>land-cover imagery</i> systems around the world used in early <i>famine</i> warning -- US Uses Landsat Satellite Data to Fight Hunger, Poverty. Africa has contributed least to <i>climate change</i> but will be the continent most badly impacted -- only <i>regional planning</i> can tackle <u>threats that do not respect boundaries</u>. The UN warns that conditions in parts of Sudan (Darfur), Chad, and Central



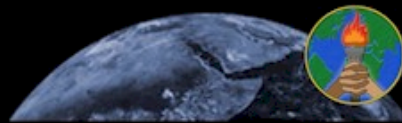
2007 Apr 08	<p>African Republic are now – this minute -- <i>desperate</i>.</p> <p>↓ In Chad, because of spillover of <i>instability</i> from Central African Republic and Sudan, <i>oil revenue</i> promised for development is being used for <i>armaments</i>. The World Food Program is able to cut <i>food aid</i> in <i>southern Sudan</i> slightly now local <i>food production</i> has increased 4%, also aid will now be “traded” for work such as <i>farm improvements</i>.</p> <p>Most African countries are still falling short of meeting the <i>Millennium Development Goals</i> -- <i>Africa</i> has healthy aggregate growth of 5.7% but alleviation of poverty is hampered by single-commodity economies, poor infrastructure, incompetence and corruption. <i>Eastern</i> and much of <i>southern Africa</i> is the only region in the world not connected to global <i>broadband</i> – now Kenya, Burundi And Madagascar have funds to make the connection.</p> <p>A good quick survey of the <i>global grain situation</i> -- Despite Improved World Cereal Supply, 33 Countries Are in Crisis.</p> <p>Thailand is taking a more radical position than even Brazil on breaking <i>patents</i> on impossibly expensive <i>pharmaceuticals</i> -- Thailand and the Drug Patent Wars.</p>
2007 Apr 01	<p>↓ WFP says ten of thousands lack <i>food</i> in east Chad -- "<i>life in eastern Chad has always been precarious, but now tens of thousands of Chadians are being pushed to the breaking point.</i>" Many of the 7,000 <i>refugees</i> in Angola who have been living in Angola since fleeing DR Congo [then <i>Zaire</i>] in 1960s do not want to return home. <i>Adverse weather</i> [climate change?] brings an "unprecedented food crisis" to usually self-sustaining Botswana putting it to the verge of a <i>food crisis</i>. Some suggest that <i>Africa</i> now needs “its own OPEC” to enforce the sort of "<i>resource nationalism</i>" newly emerged in <i>Latin America</i>.</p> <p>In Colombia <i>rural poverty</i> has fallen, but is still over 62%.</p>
2007 Mar 26	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Although self-rated <i>poverty</i> in the Philippines stands at 56%, the Arroyo administration says relief will <i>trickle down</i> if confidence in the <i>status quo</i> is maintained. <p>The G-33 developing nations have met in Jakarta and decided to present a united front to affluent rich states to cut <i>agricultural subsidies</i> -- "<i>I feel we should be more confident of success as a result of this meeting in Jakarta.</i>"</p> <p>The World Bank says the world’s <i>four billion poor</i> have <i>\$5 trillion purchasing power</i> -- perhaps the West will have a mind-shift when it sees two-thirds of the world as a coherent market crying out for services. [Four billion pennies can buy a lot.]</p> <p>India (and elsewhere) now needs a <i>qualitative</i> rather than <i>quantitative</i> leap in infrastructure if it is to feed its urban millions -- a standards-driven <i>cold chain</i>.</p>
2007 Mar 19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A current snapshot of <i>food emergencies</i> in 12 locations (mainly Africa): Hunger’s global hotspots 16 Mar 2007. <p>Doha was a central issue in President Bush’s talks in Brazil – if Brazil and the US can agree, as surrogates for the <i>South</i> and <i>North</i>, a revival of Doha may be possible.</p> <p>The Vatican’s war against <i>liberation theology</i> continues in El Salvador. [The hereditary bankers of <i>Opus Dei</i> ensure the downtrodden stay that way.] But the Vatican’s Inquisition may this time be challenged in its repeated attempts to cripple liberation theology on theological pretexts.</p> <p>"President Bush promised this week to deliver ‘<i>social justice</i>’ to poor and struggling Latin Americans left behind by the global economy." [How was not detailed.]</p> <p>A checklist of arguments why the World Bank and IMF monetarism are part of the <i>problem</i>, not the <i>solution</i>: IMF, World Bank are a Major Cause of Poverty.</p>
2007 Mar 12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The UN World Food Programme has published a paper in the ongoing ‘<i>food vs cash transfers</i>’ debate on the best method of delivering aid – food rather than cash can destroy local markets but both forms are welcome.



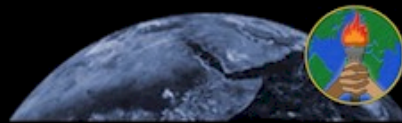
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- 2007 Mar 05
- The UN says 25% to 50% of the *medicines* used in *developing* countries now are *fakes*.
Brazil, India, US and **EU** will meet in London and Geneva in a few days to try to restart the moribund *Doha Round* of **WTO** negotiations.
The **EU** has allocated 135M Euros for *food programs* in *Africa* -- the funds, channeled through **WFP**, will assist around 12.5 million of the 820 million starving people. Nearly half of **Indian** children below three are *underweight* and more than 200 million people in India go to bed hungry every day.
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- 2007 Feb 26
- ↑ **India** will soon introduce enabling laws on *micro-finance* -- "*a legal framework for the entities engaged in micro financing*". The **Gates Foundation** has granted \$5.4 Million to start *microfinance banks* in five *African* nations -- the millions of micro-loans the initiative will make possible may do more good than many times the money being invested.
"*Hunger in a land of plenty*" -- **Guinea-Bissau** is a case study in disaster wrought by a little bit of bad luck and an immense amount of *incompetence*.
In an example of *South-South* technology exchange, **India** and *East African* countries have established cooperation arrangements on **agriculture**.
The **Indian** Government is assisting *farmers* to *register seeds* they have bred -- "*India is the trend-setter in the world as no other country has legally covered farmers' rights to this extent.*"
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- 2007 Feb 19
- The UN reminds the world that 18,000 children die of *hunger* each day -- "*it's the most important, significant, humanitarian, political, or economic investment the world can make in its future.*"
Critics say **China's** *cheque-book diplomacy* in *Africa* is undermining long-developed complex *aid programs*; it's "*rogue development aid*". [giving away a fish, not teaching how to fish]
A report by the *Forum for Food Security in Southern Africa* of the **UK-based Overseas Development Institute** concludes a balance is needed between free market and state-run food security measures -- "*some form of government intervention is still required to prevent hunger in the region.*" [Free markets are a fine religious fantasy for Wall Street but not in the real world.]
The former head of the **UK National Health Service** says health-care needs around the world should be seen as a single *integrated global health system* [not just continual sporadic emergencies].
The **US** says it is open to more flexibility in **WTO Doha Round** negotiations but wants **India** to take lead -- "*We are willing to make difficult choices Simply stated: India's leadership is required to achieve an agreement.*" [Presumably the US prefers an Indian lead rather than, say, Venezuela.]
Thailand [like several *African* countries] says it will issue *more patent-override licences* for local drug production unless big-pharma cut prices on badly needed but expensive drugs.
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- 2007 Feb 12
- **Intel** and **USAID** have signed an MoU committed to providing access to *information technology* in *developing countries* ["emerging markets"]. [One of the most important things for the developing world after food and water is *access to information*.]
The **World Food Programme** Regional Director for *Southern Africa* joins the debate on whether *food aid* destroys local poor economies -- [Another View of Food Aid](#) More than half of **South Africa's** children - 10 million - do not have enough money to survive. "*Nearly half of the population of sub-Saharan Africa lives below the international poverty line, a higher percentage than in any other region.*"
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- 2007 Feb 05
- **USAID** has provided around \$9 per head for the immediate needs of *flood* victims in
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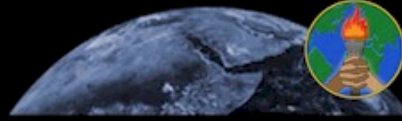
	<p>Angola. NGOs say the UN Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF), created a year ago improve aid response, is inefficient and actually increases procedural delays. <i>International Maize and Wheat Improvement Center</i> in Nairobi has launched a new drought-tolerant maize variety. Ukraine is dumping thousands of tonne of grain into the <i>Black Sea</i> because of a misplanning and absurd market logic. President Lula of Brazil at the Davos WEF has offered Brazilian technology to <i>Africa</i> to produce ethanol biofuels.</p>
2007 Jan 29	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Poorly targeted food aid often depresses and destroys local market prices and local producers -- alternative measures, such as cash or vouchers, could be more effective. The Davos Forum will consider the strategic importance to development of radio-based broadband access in the remotest areas.
2007 Jan 22	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Micro-finance is a key to alleviation of poverty in developing nations -- India announced it will "<i>try to facilitate varied models</i>". A placard at the World Social Forum, planned to coincide with the Davos Forum, says "<i>Another world is possible, even for slum dwellers</i>". Doha proponents say that if the Round fails "<i>the inevitable response will be each for himself, and every continent will be the worse for it</i>".
2007 Jan 15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are more malnourished children in India than in Sub-Sahara Africa -- "<i>Poor hygiene condition and illiteracy among women, particularly in rural India, were among the prime causes of malnutrition among children in India.</i>" The US is counting on Brazil to get the stalled Doha talks restarted -- "<i>We encourage Brazil to play a leadership role in moving the G-20 towards a successful Doha outcome ...</i>" Transnational corporations are not doing African countries a favor -- through transfer pricing, tax avoidance, and biblical pollution they owe big. The ninth annual list released by Medecins Sans Frontieres highlights the millions affected by the world's "invisible" conflicts. see Top 10 most underreported crises of 2006
2007 Jan 08	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No better snapshot of global inequities ... the FDA has approved the first drug for obese dogs. In Yemen, U.S. military engineers from Camp Lemonier, Djibouti, installed a solar-powered electric pump at a well.
2007 Jan 01	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ↓ US aid to African countries has tripled and is now around \$4 billion a year. The "dollar" a day (and less) that is average income of much of the world is a "parity-adjusted" (PPP) dollar; in absolute terms this is about 20 cents per day -- globalization has left undernutrition and malnutrition all but intact, or worse, for over a billion people. In Guatemala, "the social stage set by the war still prevails" -- over 60% still live in extreme poverty.
2006 Dec 25	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ↓ The Administrator of UNDP is seeking a more equitable face to globalization - "we can characterize our age as one of exploding inequalities". In Thailand, the rate of women dying in childbirth in the southern Islamic provinces is worse than that of Ethiopia, objective proof of social disparities that underpin the ongoing insurgency.
2006 Dec 18	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transparency International in its latest Corruption Perception Index estimates that \$1T is paid in bribes throughout the world annually -- that out of the 20 most corrupt countries 10 are in Africa. Kazakhstan is an example of a vast developing nation that can achieve a remarkable public health success and become officially free of iodine deficiency disorders by taking steps to put iodized salt in the diet. In Zimbabwe where professional (white) farmers were evicted and land given to



	<p>Mugabe loyalists, the new unskilled farmers have dismally failed -- "Land reform was only meant to benefit a few special individuals, and that may lay the ground for future conflicts." UNICEF says Guatemala has the highest rate of malnutrition in Latin America and ranks sixth in the world for chronic malnutrition.</p>
<p>2006 Dec 11</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Some characterized the inaugural South America-Africa Summit as "the missing link in South-South co-operation"; the 2nd Summit will be in Caracas [Venezuela] in 2009. An insight into Nicaragua's grinding poverty – the annual value of Nicaragua's goods and services of about \$5 billion is roughly equal to the revenue of Radio Shack Corp. Aggregate poverty in Latin America continues to decrease for the third consecutive year and this year saw the best performance in 25 years in economic and social terms, but 209 million still live in poverty in Latin America and Caribbean. The international aid community says West Africa needs \$309M of aid in 2007; 16 West African countries are among the poorest in the world. The UN reports that the world's richest 1% own 40% of all wealth; Oxfam says "<i>Global levels of inequality are grotesque</i>". In the US, 19% of urban-dwellers live in poverty; poverty in the suburbs is a lesser portion (9%) but of a larger population and represents 20 million people.
<p>2006 Dec 04</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The UN and EC are helping upgrade Ethiopia's food security information system – "to support production systems in various areas of the country." In Bolivia, the opposition-controlled Senate has bowed to public demonstrations and President Morales' sweeping land reforms have become law.
<p>2006 Nov 27</p>	<p>↑ From Nepal senior vice president of the World Bank admits that economic inequality is responsible for political instability and conflict in the world. In Bangladesh, millions of people without electricity and running water are getting access to the internet over cellular phones. USAID announces an MoU with the World Bank's International Finance Corporation on support for grass-roots business development projects in the developing world. GM cotton with the gene "turned off" that produces <i>gossypol</i> which is toxic to human would make significant quantities of protein available for human consumption -- "It tasted better than soybean."</p>
<p>2006 Nov 20</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The UN observes that indigenous business is essential to progress in the developing world; for that, broadband is as necessary as electricity and water. Broken promises -- Five years after assurances of cheap drugs at Doha, the US "at the behest of the pharmaceutical industry is uniquely guilty of seeking ever higher levels of intellectual property protection in developing countries."
<p>2006 Nov 13</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A story on poor Pakistanis donating [selling] kidneys for money foreshadows how market forces may mean the rich will live off the poor in a new way. The UN observes that global warming will particularly hurt poor rural economies. Transparency International's latest report says (unsurprisingly) there is a "strong correlation" between corruption [in relation to aid monies, and otherwise] and poverty. In India, over 6,000 children below the age of five die every DAY mainly due to the lack of basic micro-nutrients like vitamin A, iron, iodine, zinc, folic acid. US undersecretary of State Josette Sheeran has been chosen executive director of the World Food Programme that in 2005 assisted 97 million people with a total expenditure of \$3.1B.
<p>2006 Nov 06</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> [nothing significant to report]
<p>2006 Oct 30</p>	<p>↓ The UN says 852 million people were gravely, permanently undernourished on this planet at the end of 2005, an increase of 11 million from the year earlier.</p>
<p>2006 Oct 23</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Indicative of many nations, the Philippines is unable to form policy against poverty because it does not yet have reliable data on the problem. UNICEF reminded the world that child poverty is not just an Africa problem; 25% of children in eastern Europe and 80% in parts of central Asia are living in poverty.



2006 Oct 16	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ↑ Economist Muhammad Yunus was awarded the <i>Nobel Peace Prize</i> for his creation of a <i>microcredits</i> loan system in Bangladesh that has given \$5.72B in unsecured loans to 6.6 million Bangladeshi; 97% of borrowers are women and the repayment rate has been 99%.
2006 Oct 09	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Twenty countries met to on how to retrieve aid funds that has been <i>stolen</i> by senior politicians and stashed in private accounts. Aid groups again warn that an end can be brought to all but the most unpredictable <i>food crises</i>, but money is not being spent intelligently.
2006 Oct 02	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ↑ UNICEF reports good progress on delivery on <i>safe water</i> and <i>sanitation</i> but still 20% lack drinkable water and up to 50% lack sanitation.
2006 Sep 25	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ↑ This years <i>Clinton Global Initiative</i> raised \$7.3B for anti-poverty programs , almost 3 times that of 2005 — the World Bank has put "the fight against graft at the heart of the bank's work", but Europe said this may hurt the poor.
2006 Sep 18	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The World Bank has made arrangements with large commercial banks that may assist in detection of corruptly misdirected development monies — the UK has protested that the World Bank is "interfering in the affairs of developing countries by imposing overly strict conditions on the granting of aid". <i>George Soros</i> has donated \$50M a world poverty project.
2006 Sep 11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Negative aid</i>: The UN Population Fund (UNFPA) annual report stressed the problems caused to countries who can least afford it in the outflow of professionals, particularly in the health sector, from developed countries to the West.
2006 Sep 04	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • [nothing significant to report]
2006 Aug 28	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • [nothing significant to report]
2006 Aug 21	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “It is astonishing that we still know so little about what sort of aid works.” said the Financial Times [UK] — increased food production won by the chemical-heavy “green revolution” has now been consumed by population increase; <i>rice</i> is set to double in price in the next two years and the prospect of <i>global shortages</i> has returned — the number of obese people in the world now exceeds the number of hungry — the US and Pakistan are planning <i>Reconstruction Opportunity Zones</i> for Pakistan's tribal areas to curb terrorist propensities through economic development.
2006 Aug 14	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • [nothing significant to report]
2006 Aug 07	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An example of the developing world losing to the developed – over 48,000 Filipino nurses lost to the US over ten years.
2006 Jul 31	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ↓ The WTO Doha Round, one hope for spreading growth to developing nations, after a long illness, died – with many, rightly or wrongly, blaming the US.. But some, such as China, say it is just resting and can be resuscitated.
2006 Jul 24	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • G8 conspicuously failed to add anything constructive to global poverty issues – since the promises of <i>Gleneagles</i> remain unfulfilled, that was little point. But observers started to remind The Powers that this is as much a strategic issue as a moral issue – in Africa, for instance, the gaps of neglect are being rapidly filled by Islamist movements, and China.
2006 Jul 17	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The World Bank says the US needs make the first move to break the deadlock on the Doha Round; Tony Blair says making the G8 into G13 may help tackle global poverty; climatologists say climate change may erode any advances against poverty in Africa. One ray of hope comes in a plan to trial a “one village at a time” approach bypassing entirely any top-down aid model.
2006 Jul 10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ↓ Robust trade is thought to be the real answer to poverty but the West, particularly the US, are accused of failing to trade as equals with the developing world.



2006 Jul 03

↓ Prime Minister Tony Blair (UK) and others acknowledge that G8 nations have not met last year's commitments to the world's poorest countries. Reform of trade arrangements had been particularly neglected. In some cases debt write-off had been counted as aid.

Commencement of Service

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