Sustainable Poverty Alleviation Strategies

Information, Records, Archives

FRUITS
- poverty alleviation
- sustainable development

FOLIAGE
- effective decision-making
- enforceable civil rights

TRUNK
- information infrastructure

NUTRIENTS IN SOIL
- information in records

ROOTS
- information systems
- record keeping systems for preserving evidence

INFORMATION lies at the roots of development!
1) "We continue to push the boundaries of knowledge because we know it can make the world a better place. […]"

At the center of our development model, we must lay the groundwork for a **new kind of knowledge**, what some have called a **science of delivery**, that countries will use to meet the demands of their people.

*Jim Yong Kim, October 9, 2012, Seoul, Korea*
2) “We must advance from the experiential know-how of individual practitioners to the level of analytical knowledge—the level of science.

3) To encompass the complexity of delivery challenges, a future delivery science will have to be multidisciplinary from the outset. [...] Delivery learning will draw on the natural sciences; the social sciences; engineering and applied mathematics; and the business disciplines; but also humanities fields like history...”

Jim Yong Kim, October 9, 2012, Seoul, Korea
4) “We’ll build a library of delivery case studies and use these as a resource for training Bank staff and country implementers…”

Jim Yong Kim, October 9, 2012, Seoul, Korea

Archives contribute the time dimension
Case Studies: Before and After Curation....

- Archives: Information Capture and Curation
- Archivists: Enablers of research, facilitators, catalysts at times...

Archivists have no opinion on the direction that research takes or the conclusions that are reached
ACCESS & OPEN AGENDA

• The Institution is changing
• The Vision is Open Development
• Information/Data are the Bank’s most valuable assets

• “Today the Bank remains the largest single source of development knowledge. But knowledge must be opened to all…”

(Former President Bob Zoellick, From Hubris to Humility, Speech given at Georgetown University, Sept 29, 2010)

• New Access to Information policy in July 2010 - Presumption to disclose (open by default), clearly defines what is and is not accessible

• Open Data Initiative

“Case studies for all those who want to learn”  Jim Yong Kim, October 9, 2012, Seoul, Korea
Why History?
William Diamond

“...it [my training in history] may have helped me in the use of evidence,... in insisting on evidence before I wrote and spoke, and before I believed what I read or heard...”

“...history study helped give me a time outlook. Everything has a background, which background led to where we are today and today is the beginning of tomorrow.”

History Matters!

WB Research Department

- Open and sustain a constructive dialogue between history—understood as both “the past” and “the discipline”—and development policy

- understanding causal mechanisms, contexts, and complex process of institutional change

- providing examples of historical research that support, qualify, or challenge the most influential research (by economists and economic historians) in contemporary development policy

- offering some general principles and specific implications that historians, on the basis of the distinctive content and method of their research, bring to development policy debates.

If history matters, archives can help
Let’s go to the Mine and find case studies

The World Bank Group Archives:
60 Years of Development Knowledge
on the “Science of Delivery”
WELCOME TO THE WORKSHOP