

WORKSHOP

USING HISTORY TO INFORM DEVELOPMENT POLICY
The Role of Archives

October 25-26, 2012 | Washington, DC | World Bank

WELCOME
TO THE WORKSHOP

Elisa Liberatori Prati
Chief Archivist, The World Bank Group

INFORMATION MANAGEMENT & TECHNOLOGY

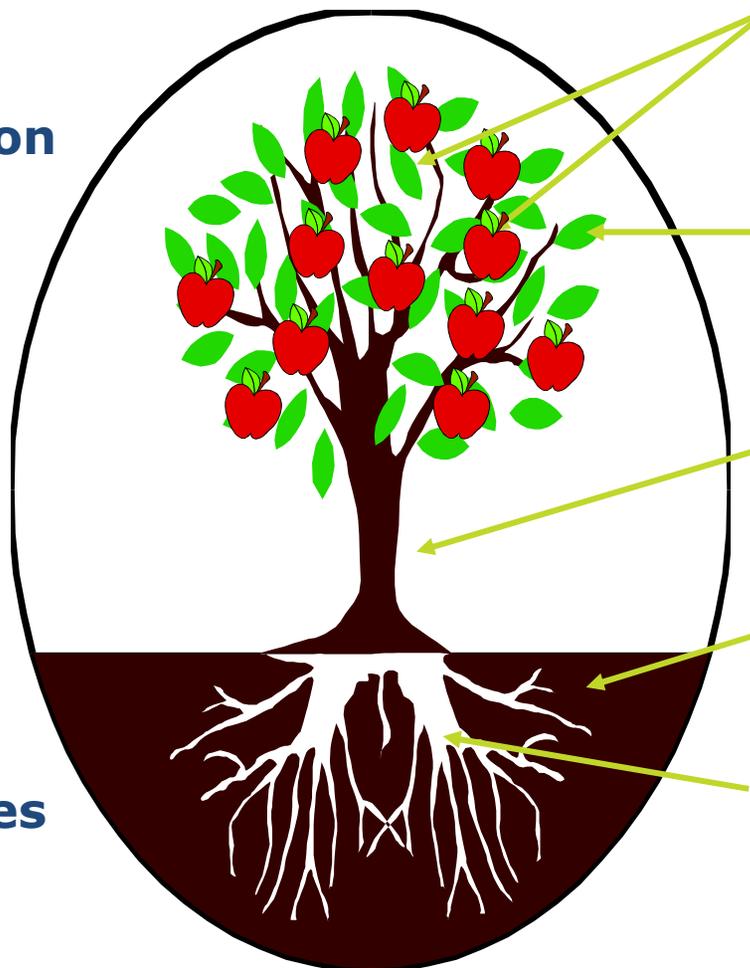


IMT

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!



ARCHIVES & THE SCIENCE OF DELIVERY



“Delivery”, “delivery failure”

“Evidence-based Support”

“Development results” not outputs

“Transmit the lessons ... in forms that others can use”

“Case-based learning”, “learning from failure”, “failfairs”

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

ARCHIVES & THE SCIENCE OF DELIVERY



“Delivery”, “delivery failure”

“Evidence-based Support”

“Development results” not outputs

“Transmit the lessons ... in forms that others can use”

“Case-based learning”, “learning from failure”, “failfairs”

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

ARCHIVES & THE SCIENCE OF DELIVERY



“Delivery”, “delivery failure”

“Evidence-based Support”

“Development results” not outputs

“Transmit the lessons ... in forms that others can use”

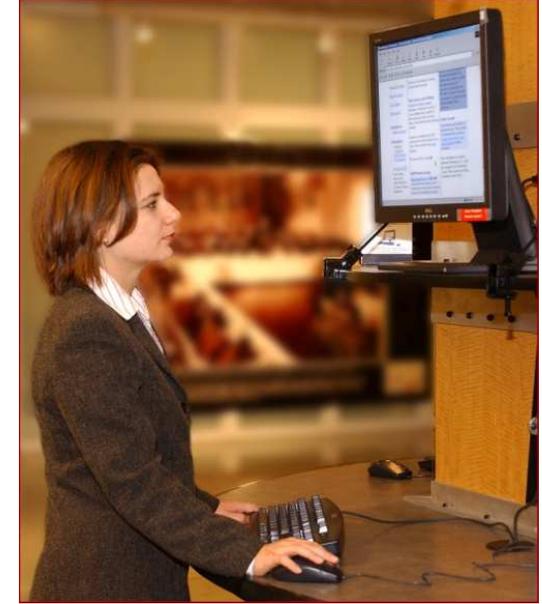
“Case-based learning”, “learning from failure”, “failfairs”

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.”

Bank tenure 1947-1978; **Oral History interview**, 1991, conducted by the authors of “The World Bank: Its First Half Century”



History Matters!

WB Research Department

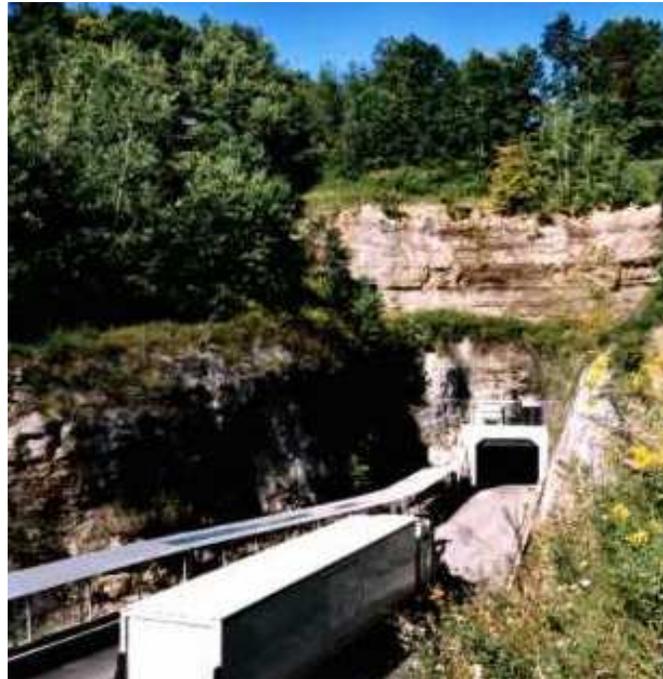
- Open and sustain a constructive dialogue between history—understood as both “the past” and “the discipline”—and development policy
- understanding causal mechanisms, contexts, and complex process of institutional change
- providing examples of historical research that support, qualify, or challenge 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.

**How and Why Does History Matter for Development Policy, Michael Woolcock, Simon Szreter (Univ of Cambridge), Vijayendra Rao. WB Policy Research Working paper 5425, Development Research Group, Poverty and Inequality Team, Sept 2010*



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”**

WORKSHOP

USING HISTORY TO INFORM DEVELOPMENT POLICY
The Role of Archives

October 25-26, 2012 | Washington, DC | World Bank

**WELCOME
TO THE WORKSHOP**

INFORMATION MANAGEMENT & TECHNOLOGY



IMT