
Preface: *PRAXIS* in Transition

The theme of this year's journal—"Development in Transition"—is timely because, just like the international development field, *PRAXIS* is also undergoing a transition. In 2003 the journal entered its second year of collaboration with The Institute for Human Security at The Fletcher School and launched a new website at <http://www.fletcherpraxis.com>. These developments promise to move *PRAXIS* in exciting new directions.

True to our journal's mission to unite theory with practice, the eighteenth volume of *PRAXIS* brings together a range of articles from international development professionals who are creating new theoretical frameworks for development initiatives. They truly represent a global perspective, from Vietnam to Zambia to West Lafayette, Indiana.

Within our focus this year on "Development in Transition," we first bring you a series of articles on the nexus between development and relief in protracted refugee 'emergencies'—a word that our authors argue is a misnomer. Oliver Bakewell explores the theoretical and practical difficulties in operationalizing UNHCR's community services approach, while Shelly Dick fills out this picture with in-depth case studies of refugee camps where development has become more appropriate than relief. Richard Black then takes us to Ethiopia and Mozambique for an analysis of how sustainable development can be incorporated into work with refugee populations in their countries of first asylum.

In our next section on "Leading the Transition," *PRAXIS* presents interviews with five leaders at the forefront of their disciplines discussing emerging and continuing trends in development: HIV/AIDS and its effects on human infrastructure in Africa, a living example of NGO coordination in the San Francisco Bay area, human security in Afghanistan in the aftermath of coalition intervention, conflict resolution in Africa's complex Great Lakes region, and the UN role in promoting sustainable development.

Focusing on Asia, Devalina Mookerjee and Ishara Mahat present the findings of research they conducted in India and Nepal, reminding us of the urgent need to listen to women's voices in the practice of development. Jessica Berns discusses the importance of government transparency and accountability, and Claudio Schuftan issues a powerful call to action to development practitioners and thinkers around the globe. Finally, Tsering Yangki's book review points out the benefits and drawbacks of tourism in China's struggle for economic and social development.

The staff of *PRAXIS* hopes you enjoy reading these articles as much as we did. We invite you to contact us with comments and insights.

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