



# Nonprofit Studies Program

Working Paper 06-06  
November 2006

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# *A Comparative Analysis of the Global Emergence of Social Enterprise*

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*Abstract:*

This paper examines the different factors shaping the global emergence of social enterprise in six regions of the world: Western Europe, Eastern Europe, the United States, Southern Africa, South America, and Southeast Asia. It proposes that current differences in social enterprise found in various regions of the world are, in part, reflections of the regional socioeconomic contexts in which the term came to rest. To test this proposition, the paper matches data from a number of international social and economic databases with newly gathered information from regional social enterprise experts. In the process, it shows how region-specific factors may have differently shaped the conceptualization of social enterprise including its uses, organizational forms, legal structures, and supportive environment.

The author would like to thank Geoff Edwards for his help with development of the data. Please do not cite the paper without author's permission.

*Introduction*

Over the past three decades social enterprise has grown dramatically in many regions of the world. Broadly defined as the use of nongovernmental, market-based approaches to address social issues, social enterprise provides a “business” source of revenue for many types of socially-oriented organizations and activities. This revenue often contributes to the self-sufficiency and long-term sustainability of organizations involved in charitable activities. However, within these broad parameters, different world regions have come to identify different concepts and contexts with the social enterprise movement in their areas. What are the regional differences in social enterprise and what can account for them? This paper examines the different factors shaping the global emergence of social enterprise in six regions of the world: Western Europe, Eastern Europe, the United States, Southern Africa, South America, and Southeast Asia.

Though the idea of earned-income revenue generation in service of charitable activities is not new, the contemporary application of the term ‘social enterprise’ to this phenomenon is. With the new term came increased attention and an aura of a “newly discovered” form of revenue for social benefit. As the term spread, however, it appeared to become increasingly associated with a certain set of organizations and activities, old and new, that were relevant to the regional context at hand. Moreover, as the concept grew in popularity, the actors and institutions that became involved in its promotion and development seemed increasingly reflective of the larger regional environment in terms of social enterprise emphasis, structure, and resources. This paper proposes that current differences in social enterprise found in various regions of the world are, in part, reflections of the regional socioeconomic contexts in which the term came to rest. To test

this proposition, the paper matches data from a number of international social and economic databases with newly gathered information by regional social enterprise experts. In the process, it shows how region-specific factors may have differently shaped the conceptualization of social enterprise including its uses, organizational forms, legal structures, and supportive environment.

This paper also addresses the fact that social enterprise is rarely discussed as a global phenomenon. Most literature on social enterprise in relation to place focuses on country or regional analyses and case studies (Nyssens 2006; Borzaga and Defourny 2001; Dacanay 2004; Young 2003; Les and Jeliaskova 2005; Mulgan 2006). The discourse on social entrepreneurship, which generally focuses on the individual accomplishments of highly innovative social activists from different regions of the world, has been much more international in scope (Bornstein 2004; Nicholls 2006). However, even here, little attention has been paid to the immediate context of the socially enterprising activity and how that context has shaped the kind of need, purpose, activity, organizational form, legal structure, and process involved in its creation and realization. This paper begins to address these knowledge gaps, by examining how different regional contexts may have helped shaped broad conceptions of social enterprise. It draws on information from draft chapters of the book, *Social Enterprise: A Global Comparison*, an edited volume (currently in development) with contributions from social enterprise scholars from the six aforementioned world regions.

*Historical Contexts for the Development of Social Enterprise*

Though there is little existing data on social enterprise in different regions of the world, Salamon et al. (2004) does provide some evidence that not only is it a prominent phenomenon in civil society but also that its context can influence its occurrence. In terms of civil society organizations alone, Salamon et al. (2004:30), in their study of 34 countries around the world, found that, on average, 53 percent of civil society organization income comes, “from fees and charges for the services that these organizations provide and the related commercial income they receive from investments, dues, and other commercial sources.” Indeed, fees in 24 of the 34 countries represented the dominant source of revenue for these organizations. Of particular importance, they note that this is especially true of transitional and developing countries where the civil society sectors are small. For countries in their study that fall into these two categories, fees represented, on average, 61 percent of civil society organization income compared to 45 percent for developed countries (Salamon et al. 2004: 31-32). What these findings allude to is how a region’s history can shape social and economic factors which ultimately shape social enterprise activity. This section provides a brief overview of the historical contexts that shared in shaping the socioeconomic conditions and ultimately social enterprise in the six world regions under consideration.

The general theme underlying the emergence of social enterprise in all six regions is the absence of state social programs or funding, due to either the retreat or poor functioning of the state. The United States, Western and Eastern Europe, as well as South America all experienced, to differing degrees, a withdrawal of state support in the 1980s and/or 1990s. In the United States, scholars attribute the beginning of the

contemporary social enterprise movement to government cuts in funds supporting nonprofits. A slow down in the U.S. economy in the late 1970s resulted in government deficits in the 1980s that, in turn, brought on government cuts in funds for nonprofits by the Reagan administration. These cuts were estimated to have affected a wide array of nonprofits not just those involved in human services. According to some scholars, nonprofits seized upon the idea of commercial revenue generation as a way to replace the loss of government funds (Crimmins and Keil 1983; Eikenberry and Kluver 2004; Salamon 1993, 1997).

In Western Europe, a faltering economy was also at the root of the emergence of contemporary social enterprise in the region. However, the consequences played out in slightly different form. As unemployment grew and government revenue fell, government employment programs in Western Europe were increasingly found to be ineffective. Moreover, given dwindling resources, many West European governments resorted to retrenchment of their welfare states which had become large and cumbersome over time. Reforms were characterized by decentralization, privatization, and a reduction in services. The social enterprise movement was in part a response to the unemployment problem as one of its main initiatives was work integration of the unemployed often through social cooperatives. Social enterprises also stepped in to provide human services the welfare state was no longer directly responsible for (Borzaga and Defourny 2001).

In Central Europe, social enterprise was also spurred on by a withdrawal of the state though in this case the cause was the fall of communism. Here the withdrawal of the state was much more dramatic and compounded by an already weak civil society undercut by communist rule. In addition, the transition to a market economy brought

large increases in unemployment. The international community responded to these crises with sizable amounts of foreign aid as well as policy recommendations. A small but growing number of Central European social reformers seized upon social enterprise (borrowing mostly from the West European model) as a viable solution and received support for its development from international sources. Though still largely framed as an unemployment and human service tool, the concept of social enterprise in Central Europe is already beginning to reflect the realities present there (Les and Kolin 2006).

On the other hand, many countries in South America experienced a withdrawal of the state due to “Washington Consensus” structural adjustment programs instituted as a part of market reform. Not only did reforms shrink universal social benefit programs, but changes in the economy resulted in rising unemployment. Roitter et al. summarizes that social enterprise in Argentina, “...appeared and grew as a result of the vacuum left by a shrinking state. Its widespread appeal as a [solution] to unemployment and social exclusion [underscores] problems related to poverty, inequality in income distribution, and conditions for production that were no longer being addressed by the economic sphere” (2006:5). Social enterprise, particularly in Argentina, became associated with a broad range of cooperatives and mutual benefit societies to address unemployment.

By contrast, the histories of Southern Africa and Southeast Asia are marked by a persistent lack of state support and poor economies. In Southern Africa, this situation was compounded by structural adjustment programs similar to those in Argentina. Here, employment-oriented social enterprises emerged after structural adjustment programs resulted in unemployment rates reaching 60-80 percent. Large amounts of international aid increasingly went to non-state actors as state institutions’ capacity to manage the

economy came in doubt (Masendeke and Mugova 2006). According to Chabal and Daloz (1999), this focus of international aid on non-state actors was the single most important factor leading to the development of social enterprise through NGOs. Rather than cooperatives, international aid focused on micro-credit for small businesses though lack of state reforms in certain areas continues to constrain their success.

Southeast Asia has also long been associated with high rates of poverty and unemployment. However, the situation appears to be improving somewhat as economies in the region show signs of growth. The term “social enterprise” is just now beginning to be associated with a certain type of organization most often involved in sustainable development, likely due to international influence rather than any identifiable event. These organizations, whether for-profit or not-for-profit, are small social ventures that simultaneously address unemployment, provide needed services, and protect the environment (Kobayashi 2006).

### *Differing Characteristics of Social Enterprise in Six World Regions*

The six regions in this study are compared across six variables that help characterize differences in social enterprise: outcome emphasis, program area focus, common organizational type, legal framework, societal sector, and strategic development base. Information that informs these factors for each region was drawn from draft chapters written by the regional authors mentioned above and, with the exception of the brief histories already presented, is not provided here. As a comparison, regions were characterized *relative to the other regions in the study*. The following section provides explanations of the variables and examples of how regional variations were determined.

*Outcome emphasis* is focused on the overall immediate goal in implementing a social enterprise activity relative to other regions' emphases. Thus, the United States has more of an emphasis on revenue generation for the purpose of supporting a charitable organization than does Western Europe where the outcome is more social in nature such as employment or the reduction of social exclusion. *Program area focus* is the type of activity that is generally supported by social enterprise in a region. In the United States, basically all nonprofit activities can be supported by social enterprise to one degree or another. In Eastern Europe, on the other hand, most of the programs associated with social enterprise are employment or human service oriented. In many of the regions there are a number of *organizational types* or arrangements in which social enterprise is conducted. This factor considers the most common organizational form. For example, in the United States, though there are many different organizations in which social enterprise is undertaken, ranging from corporate forms to charitable organizations, the most common is the nonprofit, or more specifically, charitable organizations with a 501(c)(3) tax exempt status. In Western Europe, on the other hand, the association and cooperative are most commonly used for social enterprise. Closely related is whether or not a separate *legal framework* has been established for social enterprises, even if it is not the organizational form most often used for social enterprise in the region. Western Europe is the clear leader in this area with legal designations for social enterprises established in several European countries, most recently the United Kingdom. Southeast Asia, on the other hand, has not begun to move in this direction with little or no discussion on the topic at present.

Also considered is the *societal sector* social enterprise is most commonly associated with. Here the focus is on the immediate environment in which the social enterprise activity operates or is perceived to operate. In the United States, given the emphasis on revenue generation, the market economy is the most relevant sphere. In South America, on the other hand, where social enterprise has taken on a role of meeting citizen needs, it falls into civil society commonly referred to there as the social economy (the same is found in Eastern and Western Europe). Finally, *the strategic development base* is the source of funding and development initiatives for social enterprise in a given region. In the United States, this base is clearly the private foundation and business world with limited government involvement. Whereas in Southern Africa, this base mostly consists of international aid programs implemented by foreign-based organizations and governments. Table 1 on the following page provides an overview of where social enterprise in the various regions falls with regard to the six characteristics.

Table 2 synthesizes the above regional characterizations in relation to their emphasis on four areas: market, civil society, international aid, and state.<sup>1</sup> For example, for the variable ‘outcome emphasis’ the question was, what immediate benefit is social enterprise oriented towards in the region? Is it more a market benefit in terms of revenue or is it considered more of a civil society benefit in support of a collective group of citizens? For ‘common organizational type’, the question was whether the most visible organizational types used for social enterprise were more civil society or market-based. The relevance of the last two factors, ‘societal sector’ and ‘strategic development base’, to the four areas is readily apparent. Two factors, ‘program focus’ and ‘legal

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<sup>1</sup> Nicholls (2006) uses market, civil society, and state to characterize and differentiate social entrepreneurship in different regions of the world. Nyssens (2006) also draws on these three elements in her discussion of social enterprise in Europe.

framework’, were not considered because of their similar focus on one of the four areas across all regions. The last row in Table 2 shows the composite model for social enterprise for each region. Figure 1 illustrates where social enterprise in each region falls with respect to other regions for market, civil society, international aid and state.

**Table 1. Comparative Overview of Social Enterprise in Six World Regions**

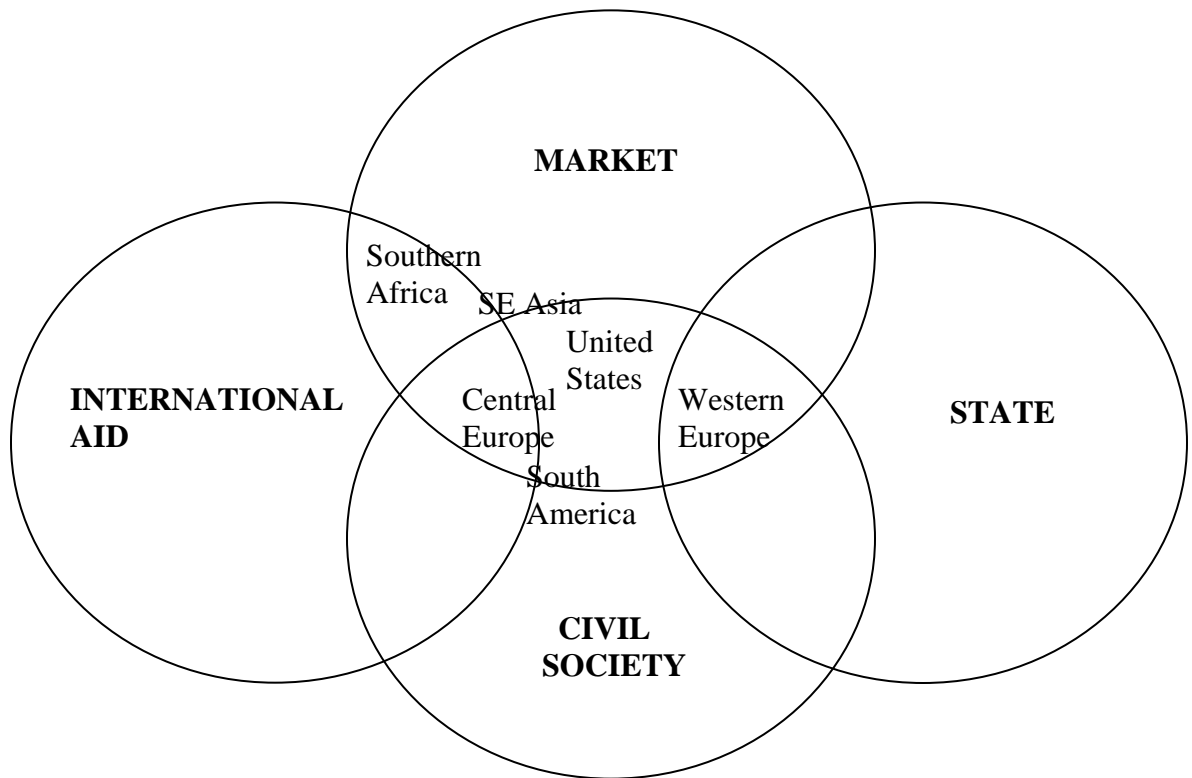
	<b>United States</b>	<b>Western Europe</b>	<b>Central Europe</b>	<b>South America</b>	<b>Southern Africa</b>	<b>Southeast Asia</b>
<b>Outcome Emphasis</b>	Sustainability	Social Benefit	Social Benefit	Social/Political Benefit	Self-Sustainability	Sustainable Development
<b>Program Area Focus</b>	All Nonprofit Activities	Human Services/ Employment	Human Services/ Employment	Human Services/ Employment	Employment	Employment/ Services
<b>Common Organizational Type</b>	Nonprofit (501(c)(3))	Association/ Cooperative	Association/ Cooperative	Cooperative/ Mutual Benefit	MFI*/ Small Enterprise	Small Enterprise/ Not-for-Profit
<b>Legal Framework</b>	Under Discussion	Developing	Developing	Under Discussion?	Not Yet Considered	Not Yet Considered
<b>Societal Sector</b>	Market Economy	Social Economy	Social Economy	Social Economy	Market Economy	Market Economy
<b>Strategic Development Base</b>	Foundations	Government/ EU	International Donors/EU	Civil Society	International Donors	Mixed/Unclear

\*Micro Finance Institution – small banks with micro-credit lending programs.

**Table 2. The Emphasis of Social Enterprise in Four Areas: Market (M), Civil Society (CS), State (S), and International Aid (I)**

	<b>United States</b>	<b>Western Europe</b>	<b>Central Europe</b>	<b>South America</b>	<b>Southern Africa</b>	<b>Southeast Asia</b>
Outcome Emphasis	M	CS	CS	CS	M	M
Common Org. Type	CS	CS(M)	CS(M)	CS(M)	M	M,CS
Societal Sector	M	CS	CS	CS	M	M
Strategic Devel. Base	M	S	I(S)	CS(I)	I	I,M,S
<b>Social Enterprise Model</b>	<b>Civil Society/ Market</b>	<b>Civil Society/ State</b>	<b>Civil Society/ Int’l Aid</b>	<b>Civil Society/ Civil Society</b>	<b>Market/ Int’l Aid</b>	<b>M,CS,I,S</b>

**Figure 1. Relative Placement of Social Enterprise for Six World Regions with Regard to Market, State, Civil Society, and International Aid**



*The Socioeconomic Environment for Social Enterprise in Six World Regions*

The socioeconomic environment for social enterprise in the six world regions was also found to vary significantly across the four areas of market, international aid, state, and civil society. Data for each of these areas was collected from a number of sources including the World Bank's World Development Indicators, Transparency International, Freedom House, and the Johns Hopkins Comparative Nonprofit Sector Project. For each of the four areas, one to two indicators were used to represent the general presence or functioning of that area as shown in Table 3 (endnotes for each indicator provide detailed information on data sources, definitions, and exceptions). The regional values and scores for each indicator shown in the table are composites of individual country information. The countries representing each region are found in box 1.

These regional composite figures were each given a rating of one to four to reflect their position relative to one another, with one being the lowest and four the highest (these ratings are found in parentheses next to the composite figures). An overall rating was then given for each of the four areas which, in most cases, involved taking the average of the ratings for the composite figures. These overall ratings are found in bold in Table 3 along with the relevant description of that rating ranging from weak to strong.

**Table 3. Ratings of the Socioeconomic Environments of Six World Regions**

	<b>United States</b>	<b>Western Europe</b>	<b>Central Europe</b>	<b>South America</b>	<b>Southern Africa</b>	<b>Southeast Asia</b>
GDP, PPP, per capita, international dollars <sup>i</sup>	\$36,465	28,072	11,039	8,721	1,383	10,034
Gross fixed capital formation, per capita <sup>ii</sup>	\$6,616	4,492	895	865	64	198
<b>Market Functioning Rating</b>	<b>4 Strong</b>	<b>3.5 Strong</b>	<b>1.5 Weak</b>	<b>1 Weak</b>	<b>1 Weak</b>	<b>1.5 Weak</b>
International aid per capita <sup>iii</sup>	NA	NA	\$72	10	54	13
<b>International Aid Rating</b>	<b>None</b>	<b>None</b>	<b>4 Strong</b>	<b>1 Weak</b>	<b>3 Mostly Strong</b>	<b>1 Weak</b>
Public spending on educ/health, % of GDP <sup>iv</sup>	6.5% (4)	6.4 (4)	4.8 (3)	3.3 (1)	3.3 (1)	2.6 (1)
Corruption Perception <sup>v</sup> (1 corrupt – 10 clean)	7.5 (4)	8.0 (4)	3.7 (1)	3.0 (1)	2.5 (1)	2.9 (1)
<b>State Capability Rating</b>	<b>4 Strong</b>	<b>4 Strong</b>	<b>2 Mostly Weak</b>	<b>1 Weak</b>	<b>1 Weak</b>	<b>1 Weak</b>
Civil Liberties <sup>vi</sup> (1 free - 7 not free)	1 (4)	1 (4)	1.8 (4)	2.5 (3)	5 (1)	4.6 (1)
Global Civil Society <sup>vii</sup> Index Score (1-100)	61 (4)	52 (4)	26 (1)	34 (1)	36 ? (1)	27 (1)
<b>Civil Society Rating</b>	<b>4 Strong</b>	<b>4 Strong</b>	<b>2.5 Moderate</b>	<b>2 Mostly Weak</b>	<b>1 Weak</b>	<b>1 Weak</b>

**Box 1. Countries Representing the Six World Regions**

<b>United States</b>	<b>Eastern Europe</b>	<b>Southeast Asia</b>
	Albania	Cambodia
<b>Western Europe</b>	Bosnia&Herzegovina	Indonesia
Austria	Bulgaria	Lao PDR
Belgium	Croatia	Malaysia
Denmark	Czech Republic	Myanmar
Finland	Hungary	Papua New Guinea
France	Macedonia, FYR	Philippines
Germany	Poland	Thailand
Ireland	Romania	Vietnam
Italy	Serbia&Montenegro	
Netherlands	Slovak Republic	<b>Southern Africa*</b>
Norway	Slovenia	Zambia
Portugal		Zimbabwe
Spain	<b>South America*</b>	
Sweden	Argentina	
Switzerland	Peru	
United Kingdom		
	*These regions were limited to two countries because they were the only countries for which there was information on social enterprise.	

*Social Enterprise Models and their Socioeconomic Environments*

Table 4 compares the different social enterprise models for each of the regions with their corresponding ratings for the four socioeconomic factors of market performance, international aid, state capability, and civil society. Interestingly, the comparison finds, almost without exception, that the strongest socioeconomic factors for each region were reflected in that region’s social enterprise model.

For the United States and Western Europe, each strong in all three areas of market, state, and civil society, their social enterprise models reflected two of the three strengths. While both shared the strength of civil society in social enterprise, the second strength for the United States was the market while for Western Europe it was the state. This difference is likely explained by long traditions of market reliance in the United

States and state intervention in Western Europe. Though closely following Western Europe in use and type, Central Europe varies in its source of support for social enterprise. The high levels of international aid that shore up this transitioning region are also found to be the main source of support for a small but growing social enterprise movement there. By contrast, in South America, civil society was the one socioeconomic factor that showed a slightly elevated level and thus, not too surprisingly, civil society appears to completely define social enterprise in that region.

Southern Africa shows an interesting phenomenon where, though social enterprise is accurately associated with high levels of international aid in the region, its association with market does not fit with the weak market situation there. One explanation may be that international donors, interested in finding solutions for weak markets and poverty, are pushing the more market-oriented concept of social enterprise involving microcredit institutions and small enterprise thereby making it a dominant model there. Finally, Southeast Asia, with its mixed social enterprise model, was found to be weak on all four socioeconomic factors. This widespread weakness may in fact explain why there is no clear focus of social enterprise on any one area. Given all areas are weak, social enterprise draws a little from where it can, resulting in a mixed social enterprise model.

**Table 4. Comparative Overview of Social Enterprise Models and Four Socioeconomic Factors for Six World Regions**

	<b>United States</b>	<b>Western Europe</b>	<b>Central Europe</b>	<b>South America</b>	<b>Southern Africa</b>	<b>Southeast Asia</b>
<b>Social Enterprise Model</b>	Civil Society/ Market	Civil Society/ State	Civil Society/ Int'l Aid	Civil Society/ Civil Society	Market/ Int'l Aid	M,CS,I,S
<b>Market Performance</b>	<b>Strong*</b>	Strong	Weak	Weak	<b>Weak*</b>	Weak*
<b>International Aid</b>	None	None	<b>Strong*</b>	Weak	<b>Mostly Strong*</b>	Weak*
<b>State Capability</b>	Strong	<b>Strong*</b>	Mostly Weak	Weak	Weak	Weak*
<b>Civil Society</b>	<b>Strong*</b>	<b>Strong*</b>	<b>Moderate*</b>	<b>Mostly Weak*</b>	Weak	Weak*

*Conclusion*

Though a modern movement for social enterprise appears to be developing simultaneously around the world, there are important regional differences in what the term means and how it is supported and developed. Differences in the regions appear to be explained at least in part by the different regional socioeconomic contexts. Most importantly, social enterprise appears to draw on those dominant socioeconomic factors that offer the most strength in the region. Researchers, donors, and practitioners involved in social enterprise on an international level may find it useful to understand the direction social enterprise is moving in a given region and what is influencing that direction. This knowledge not only provides a starting point for analysis and intervention, but also a basic understanding of the regional differences in social enterprise from which international dialogue and exchange of information can flow.

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<sup>i</sup> Source: World Development Indicators, World Bank, International Comparison Programme database, 2004.

Definition: GDP per capita based on purchasing power parity (PPP). PPP GDP is gross domestic product converted to international dollars using purchasing power parity rates. An international dollar has the same purchasing power over GDP as the U.S. dollar has in the United States. GDP at purchaser's prices is the sum of gross value added by all resident producers in the economy plus any product taxes and minus any subsidies not included in the value of the products. It is calculated without making deductions for depreciation of fabricated assets or for depletion and degradation of natural resources. Data are in constant 2000 international dollars.

Data for Papua New Guinea and Cambodia are estimates based on regression. The following countries were omitted due to lack of available data: Myanmar and Serbia & Montenegro.

<sup>ii</sup> Source: World Development Indicators, World Bank national accounts data, and OECD National Accounts data files, 2004.

Definition: Gross fixed capital formation consists of outlays on additions to the fixed assets of the economy plus net changes in the level of inventories. Fixed assets include land improvements (fences, ditches, drains, and so on); plant, machinery, and equipment purchases; and the construction of roads, railways, and the like, including schools, offices, hospitals, private residential dwellings, and commercial and industrial buildings. Inventories are stocks of goods held by firms to meet temporary or unexpected fluctuations in production or sales, and "work in progress." According to the 1993 SNA, net acquisitions of valuables are also considered capital formation. Data are in constant 2000 U.S. dollars. Gross fixed capital formation per capita is calculated by dividing total gross capital formation by the population estimate.

The following countries were omitted due to lack of available data: France, Laos, Myanmar, and Papua New Guinea. Data for Switzerland and the United States are from 2003.

<sup>iii</sup> Source: World Development Indicators, Development Assistance Committee of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development, and World Bank population estimates, 2004.

Definition: International aid per capita includes both official development assistance (ODA) and official aid, and is calculated by dividing total aid by the midyear population estimate.

The following countries were not included because they do not receive international aid: Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Spain, Switzerland, Sweden, United Kingdom, and the United States.

<sup>iv</sup> Source: World Development Indicators, Education spending data are from the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) Institute for Statistics. Health spending data are from the World Health Organization, World Health Report and updates and from the OECD for its member countries, supplemented by World Bank poverty assessments and country and sector studies. Education spending data are from 2002 except for the following countries: Laos (2003), Myanmar (2001), Thailand (2001), Zambia (2001), and Zimbabwe (2000). All health spending data are from 2003.

Definition: Public expenditure on education consists of current and capital public expenditure on education plus subsidies to private education at the primary, secondary, and tertiary levels. Public health expenditure consists of recurrent and capital spending from government (central and local) budgets, external borrowings and grants (including donations from international agencies and nongovernmental organizations), and social (or compulsory) health insurance funds.

The following countries were omitted from public education spending total due to lack of available data: Bosnia & Herzegovina, Papua New Guinea, and Serbia & Montenegro.

<sup>v</sup> Source: Transparency International Annual Report's Corruption Perceptions Index (CPI), 2004.

Definition: From Transparency International's 2004 Annual Report, "The Corruption Perceptions Index is a poll of polls, reflecting the perceptions of business people and country analysts, both resident and non-resident. The 2004 index draws on 18 surveys provided to Transparency International between 2002 and 2004, conducted by 12 independent institutions." The CPI score ranges from 0 (highly corrupt) to 10 (highly clean).

The following countries were omitted due to lack of available data: Cambodia and Laos.

<sup>vi</sup> Source: Freedom House (2005) *Freedom in the World*, survey for the period covering December 1, 2003 through November 30, 2004.

Definition: The Civil Liberties Index score rates each country according to its residents' freedoms of assembly, association, education, religion, and expression. The score ranges from 1 (highest level of freedom) to 7 (lowest level of freedom).

<sup>vii</sup> Source: Johns Hopkins Comparative Nonprofit Sector Project via *Global Civil Society, Volume Two* (2004) by Lester M. Salamon, S. Wojciech Sokolowski, and Associates.

Definition: The Global Civil Society Index Score is comprised of three scores from three different dimensions of the civil society sector: capacity, sustainability, and impact. Capacity measures the ability of an individual country's civil society sector to mobilize. Sustainability measures the ability of the civil society sector to sustain such mobilization. Impact measures the contribution of the civil society sector to the broader society.

Data for countries in this index were collected in 1995 for most of the countries and between 1997 and 2000 for the rest. (2004). There was no data available for the following countries: Albania, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Cambodia, Croatia, Denmark, Indonesia, Laos, Macedonia, Malaysia, Myanmar, Papua New Guinea, Portugal, Serbia & Montenegro, Slovenia, Switzerland, Thailand, Vietnam, Zambia, and Zimbabwe. The following countries were substituted for Zambia and Zimbabwe: Kenya, Tanzania, and Uganda. Southeast Asia was represented in the data solely by the Phillipines.

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