

# Can the World Bank get it together?

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## Some Common Sense Don'ts

- Don't evade the issue of free markets in favor of PR babble like "Millennium Development Goals"
- Don't give aid to gangsters
- Don't try to do everything
- Don't use a hairdryer in the bathtub

What do the following  
World Bank reports have in common?

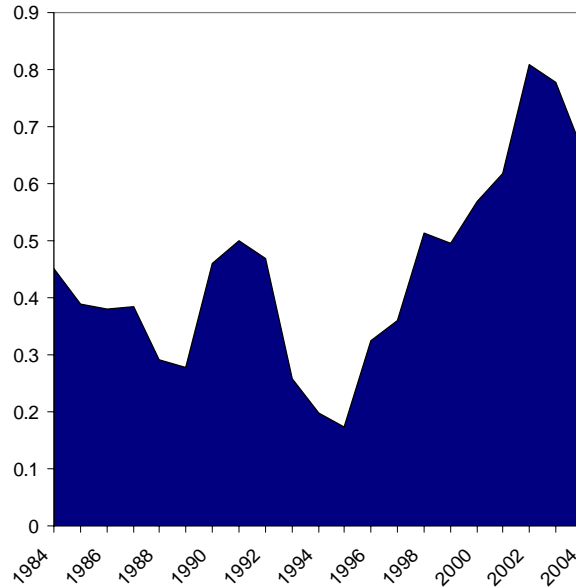
- 2005 World Development Report *A Better Investment Climate for Everyone*
- World Bank's 1,260 page *Sourcebook for Poverty Reduction Strategies*
- *Global Monitoring Report 2006: Millennium Development Goals: Strengthening Mutual Accountability, Aid, Trade, and Governance*

In thousands of pages of text in  
these reports, the following two  
words are never mentioned:

“free markets”

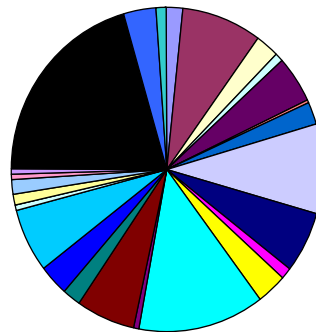
Aid to gangsters

Share of World Bank's IDA money going to "very corrupt" countries



Trying to do everything (I)

World Bank's IDA budget by category 2004



- I.1.a) Education, Level Unspecified
- I.1.b) Basic Education
- I.1.c) Secondary Education
- I.1.d) Post-Secondary Education
- I.2.a) Health, General
- I.2.b) Basic Health
- I.3 Population Programmes
- I.4 Water Supply & Sanitation
- I.5.a) Government and civil society - general
- I.5.b) Conflict, Peace and Security
- I.6 Other Social Infrastructure & Services
- II.1 Transport & Storage
- II.2 - Communications
- II.3 Energy
- II.4 Banking & Financial Services
- II.5 Business & Other Services
- III.1.a) Agriculture
- III.1.b) Forestry
- III.1.c) Fishing
- III.2.a) Industry
- III.2.b) Mining
- IV.1 General Environment Protection
- IV.3 Other Multisector

## Trying to do everything (II): Current list of “Issue Briefs”

- Aid Effectiveness
- Agriculture and Rural Development
- Avian Flu
- Civil Society
- Climate Change
- Communicable Diseases
- Community Outreach
- Conflict-Affected Countries
- Corruption
- Debt Relief
- Disability
- Education
- Environment
- Extractive Industries
- Forests and Forestry
- Gender
- HIV/AIDS
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- Indigenous Peoples
- Infrastructure
- Institutional Integrity
- International Migration and Remittances
- Malaria
- Microfinance
- Middle-Income Countries (MIC)
- More and Better Jobs for Shared Growth
- Parliamentarians
- Post-Conflict
- Poverty
- Sustainable Development
- Trade
- Water
- Youth

## Some bad news and good news for Mr. Zoellick

- Bad news: the World Bank is violating elementary common sense in all of its aid operations
- Good news: all the other aid agencies are worse

There are three things that could be done to make sure common sense does a little better at the World Bank:

- (1) Independent Evaluation
- (2) Independent Evaluation
- (3) Independent Evaluation