DEVELOPMENT IN AFRICA [HAITI]: FOREIGN AID OR FREE-ENTERPRISE

If you have another article you believe the discussion group should read, please send it to me and I will post it on my website.

Africa
New York Times columnist, Nicholas Kristof, a long time advocate of private and governmental aid to the developing world, recognizes in this article the merits of promoting greater commercial growth, and suggests a melding of aid and business as a solution to the problems faced in Africa and Haiti.

Dambisa Moyo, a Zambian-South African economist with Goldman Sachs, has been an out-spoken critic of the dependency and corruption created by the stream of aid that has flowed into Africa.

Patrick Bond, a professor at the University of KwaZulu-Natal, and Richard Kamidza, a PhD candidate there, argue that European insistence upon trade liberalization in Africa promotes both economic dependency and corrupt, anti-democratic governing elites.

New York University Professor William Easterly, a critic of foreign aid, cites examples of ground-up entrepreneurship that offer the best opportunities for African development.

New York Times reporter Blaine Harden describes the social and environmental ravages in the Congo caused by the mining of coltan, crucial in the manufacturing of electronic merchandise like computers or cell phones, while some native entrepreneurs see the mining as a great economic opportunity.

Haiti
Illinois State Professor Anthony DiMaggio points out that American aid to Haiti, when measured as a percent of GDP, is behind many other nations in spite of U.S. media claims of great American compassion for Haitians.
“Saving Haiti from Disaster Capitalism [Naomi Klein],” The New Statesman (January 17, 2010).
Canadian Naomi Klein, well known for her bestseller The Shock Doctrine: The Rise of Disaster Capitalism, argues that Haiti is just another example where so-called foreign aid from the U.S. is really a mechanism to restructure a developing economy so that it serves American capitalist economic interests.

Instability in Haiti threatens prospects for economic development.

http://www.treasury.gov/press/releases/js558.htm
The Bush Under Secretary of the Treasury outlines how economic liberalization policies are necessary for Haitian development.