Aid and Development Linkage

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- The Guardian has launched a new website in partnership with the Gates Foundation to focus attention on global development. The aim is to create a global hub for information, debate and action by promoting long-term development stories and funneling data, bloggers and readers towards one website. A fantastic initiative that should be replicated down south.
- How does foreign aid affect armed conflict? This blog post analyses a recent paper which concludes that sudden and severe drops in foreign aid significantly increase the probability of violent conflict and even civil wars.
- An interesting article on Samasource, an NGO which distributes IT work from large multinationals such as Google to workers in developing countries. And a response from a blogger sceptical of the initiative.
- A heated and entertaining debate between John McArthur, CEO of Millennium Promise, and William Easterly, co-editor of the Aid Watch blog, on the Millennium Development Goals and the accountability of regional organisations such as the World Bank.
- And finally, what we have learned from all this Millennium Development Goal talk? Among other things listed in this blog post, that summits are necessary but announcements can be distracting.

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