

Fortnightly links: tax havens, the localisation debate, maternal deaths, and more



Side event at COP23 (ILO in Asia and the Pacific/Flickr/CC BY-NC-ND 2.0)

by Sachini Muller, Terence Wood and Tara Davda

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Why do [development finance institutions use tax havens](#), and should they continue to do so?

Dr Larissa Fast [writes](#) about overcoming the practitioner-academic gap.

Here in the southern hemisphere we're used to casting an envious eye north to DFID, and how well it has fared under successive Conservative governments. [This](#) fascinating article from Prospect magazine suggests our envy has been misplaced — DFID has its own suite of unenviable woes. Meanwhile ODI's team of experts have a [list of priorities](#) for the new UK Secretary of State for International Development.

WHO has published [new guidelines](#) on averting maternal deaths.

Now that [Syria has signed on to the Paris Agreement](#), the US is the only nation remaining outside the treaty, and [references to climate change are disappearing from US government websites](#).

Irwin Loy [reports](#) on the localisation debate in the Pacific.

Co-Impact, a [new philanthropic effort](#) announced by a group of leading philanthropists (including Bill and Melinda Gates) aims to serve as a new model for philanthropic collaboration, and plans to invest in proven solutions that are ready to scale beyond what individual organisations could do alone, providing them with the kind of support they need to change underlying systems.

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