

## 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 the 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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