
Transforming
the
Development
Landscape

The Role of the Private Sector

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Foreword

THE NEW MILLENNIUM has ushered in a heightened public awareness of global poverty and a renewed spirit of generosity among developed nations. So far, the public agenda has focused primarily on boosting official assistance and canceling official debt, with much less attention directed at the most dynamic engine of growth and poverty alleviation: the private sector. Yet private enterprise belongs at the very center of the development enterprise. By generating jobs, serving the underserved, promoting innovation, and spurring productivity, indigenous private sector development can raise living standards and promote opportunity. Indeed, leaders of poor nations have placed private sector development high on their own priority list. *Transforming the Development Landscape: The Role of the Private Sector* provides in-depth analysis of the role of the private sector in development.

This volume, edited by Lael Brainard, includes chapters by Warrick Smith of the World Bank, Jane Nelson of Harvard University, Timothy Freundlich of the Calvert Social Investment Foundation, Ross Levine of Brown University, Alan Patricof of Apax Partners, Julie Sunderland, David de Ferranti of the Brookings Institution, Larry Cooley of Management Systems International, and Rajiv Shah and Sylvia Mathews of the Gates Foundation. The chapters draw from a conference at the Aspen Institute from August 3 to August 6, 2005, when fifty preeminent international leaders from the public, private, and nonprofit sectors came together to address “The Private Sector’s Role in the Fight against Global Poverty.” The conference was hosted by

Richard C. Blum of Blum Capital Partners and Lael Brainard and myself of the Brookings Institution, with the active support of honorary cochairs Walter Isaacson of the Aspen Institute and Mary Robinson of Realizing Rights: The Ethical Globalization Initiative.

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STROBE TALBOTT
President

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