

Responding to Poverty



Ch. 12 (p. 397-400, 413-419)



Lending a Hand

- When a country's government is unable (or unwilling) to help its poor, where can help come from?



International Aid (NGOs)

- Non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and other non-profit organizations have a large presence in many poverty stricken countries
- They build schools and housing, help with infrastructure and other projects
- Examples: Red Cross, Oxfam, World Vision, Free the Children



International Aid (CIDA)

- Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA)
 - Government agency responsible for the distribution of foreign aid to those in need
 - Originally created to increase foreign aid
 - Current goal is to work with people in developing countries to help them become self-sufficient



Multilateral / Bilateral Aid

- Multilateral Aid

- Aid to less-developed country or region that is funded by a number of different governments

- Bilateral Aid

- Assistance from one government to another
 - Aid is given more often now in the form of grants, rather than loans



Tied Aid

- Often multilateral and bilateral aid can be classified as **tied aid**
 - Definition: aid given to a developing country that is given with certain conditions (aid with strings attached)
 - Conditions often include having to buy products from the country giving aid
 - Sometimes criticised for benefitting rich countries and businesses at the expense of the poor



United Nations

- Helps organize and direct aid to the poor through its various agencies
- Keeps the peace and helps resolve human rights issues in war-torn countries



World Health Organization (WHO)

- WHO is a branch of the United Nations dedicated to world health issues
- Assists countries in controlling disease and outbreaks, and helps with immunization programs



World Bank

- World Bank is an international agency that lends money to developing countries to help them build infrastructure projects and improve the standard of living



UNICEF

- United Nations International Children Emergency Fund (UNICEF)
 - A UN agency that helps with children's issues around the world
 - Ex. education/schools, immunizations, infrastructure improvements



Debt Relief

- The idea that highly indebted poor countries are unable to improve their standard of living because of their crushing debt, so that debt should be reduced or forgiven by those that lent it
- Debt for nature swap
 - Debt reduced or forgiven in exchange for better environmental practices by the poor country