GDAE, Partners Launch Triple Crisis Blog

On February 1, the Global Development and Environment Institute (GDAE) joined with India's Economic Research Foundation (ERF) and the Heinrich Boell Foundation to launch the "Triple Crisis Blog." The blog brings together sixteen economic analysts from nine countries to provide global perspectives on the crises in finance, development, and the environment. "While there are a number of commendable blogs on various aspects of these three crises," note co-chairs Kevin P. Gallagher from GDAE and ERF's Jayati Ghosh in their inaugural posting, "this blog will examine all three crises and from a global perspective not often found in mainstream media outlets." Response to the initiative has been very positive, with Triple Crisis postings picked up by other important economic commentators.

Recent posts include:

Financial Crisis:
- Not Your Grandfather's IMF by Ilene Grabel
- Volcker Rule Might Not be the Right Rule by Jeff Madrick
- Employment in the Recovery by C.P. Chandrasekhar

Climate Change and the Environment:
- Obama Goes Nuclear by James K. Boyce
- Climate in Crisis, Crisis in Climate Talks by Martin Khor
- Is the U.S. Underpricing Carbon? by Frank Ackerman

Global Development:
- Knowledge in Development by Sanjay Reddy
- Aiding Haiti: Let's Get it Right by Timothy A. Wise

Check out the blog, and weigh in on the debate with your own comments and questions.

New Research from Globalization Fellows

GDAE's Globalization Fellows are leading important research in the areas of Intellectual Property, Climate Change and Industrial Development, and the True Costs of Gold Mining, in addition to Carmen Vera-Diaz's work on Climate Change and Deforestation in the Amazon.

GDAE Senior Fellow Lyuba Zarsky, now at the Monterrey Institute, in her new GDAE Working Paper, *Climate-Resilient Industrial Development Paths*, and a recent *Triple Crisis Blog* post, considers how industrial transformation and economic development must evolve along new "climate-resilient" paths. Zarsky is also heading up a new GDAE project on the true economic costs of Goldcorp's Marlin Mine in Guatemala, in a project supported by the Moriah Fund and others. The mine has proven very controversial, with widespread complaints of environmental and health impacts as well as human rights violations against the mine's opponents.

**GDAE’s Globalization Program Active in Policy Debates**

GDAE recently released two critical analyses on the impacts of the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) on Mexico, building on ten years of empirical research on the Agreement. Kevin P. Gallagher and Timothy A. Wise (pictured at left) presented their two "Lessons From NAFTA" reports at an event organized by the Pardee Center at Boston University. See the report on the event, watch the video of the presentation, and read coverage of GDAE’s findings on the topic on the New York Times Economix blog.

A related paper by Timothy A. Wise estimating the costs of US trade policies to Mexican agricultural producers was also covered on the New York Times and other blogs, and was covered in the Mexican daily newspaper El Economista. Wise presented the research as the featured speaker at the National Family Farm Coalition board meeting February 1, and in an academic setting February 24 at Harvard's David Rockefeller Center for Latin American Studies. Meanwhile a Policy Brief released in January by Wise and Betsy Rakocy on the benefits of trade and agricultural policies to multinational livestock producers was covered by The Wall Street Journal, and sparked a debate on the National Review and other blogs.

With his inaugural post on the IMF's sanction of capital controls, Kevin Gallagher joined the fray of Politico.com's "Arena" - a section of the popular blog devoted to experts from across disciplines weighing in on the politics and policy debate of the day. Gallagher took part in a Congressional briefing by a State Department Advisory Committee on the related topic of reforming US investment treaties, which garnered coverage by Congressional Quarterly, BNA, and Inside US-China Trade. Gallagher was recently quoted in The Wall Street Journal on the Obama Administration's dubious promise to double exports.

**Recent Publications**

- **U.S. BITs and Financial Stability** by Kevin P. Gallagher, Vale Columbia Center Policy Brief #19, February 2010
- **Hogging the Gains from Trade** by Timothy A. Wise and Betsy Rakocy, *GDAE Policy Brief 10-01*, January 2010.
- **"The True Cost of Cheap Food,"** by Timothy A. Wise, appears in the March/April 2010 issue of the magazine *Resurgence* as part of its special issue: "Seeds of Change: The Future of Food."
- **Standing Tall: BRICs Improve FDI Impacts and Reduce Risks** by Michael Mortimore, Leonardo
Coming Soon from the Globalization and Sustainable Development Program:

- Kevin P. Gallagher is finalizing an important paper for UNCTAD on the policy space for capital controls in developing countries.
- **GDAE's 2010 Leontief Prize to be awarded to Bina Agarwal and Daniel Kahneman** for advancing the frontiers of economic thought. Award to be presented March 29, 2010 at Tufts University.
- **The Future of North American Trade Policy: Lessons from NAFTA**, the Task Force Report from the Pardee Center, will be published in Spanish by the University of Zacatecas in Mexico.
- Timothy A. Wise is working with Sarah Trist of Tufts Friedman School of Nutrition on an analysis of the extent to which Smithfield and other large hog producers have driven down prices for independent hog farmers, to contribute to this year's **US Department of Agriculture - Department of Justice hearings** on corporate concentration in agriculture.

The Global Development and Environment Institute's Globalization and Sustainable Development Program examines the economic, social and environmental impacts of economic integration in developing countries, with a particular emphasis on the WTO and NAFTA's lessons for trade and development policy. The goal of the program is to identify policies and international agreements that foster sustainable development.