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Enhancing the Role of Higher Education in Achieving Sustained Development: A Dialogue with Funders
May 2-3, 2016

Resources on Systems Thinking and Localizing Aid

Aid on the Edge (http://aidontheedge.info/blog/) - Ben Ramalingam's web site and links to the book Aid On The Edge of Chaos which is an effort to apply systems thinking to development.

Dave Algoso (http://algoso.org/) - Dave Algoso's blog on development, often covers both capacity development and complexity.

Owen Barder (www.owen.org/blog) - Owen Barder's blog, he's a development economist and scholar at the Center for Global Development.

Carnegie Endowment (http://carnegieendowment.org/2013/04/16/development-aid-confronts-politics) - link to Tom Carother's book, around whether development actors can learn to think and work politically.

Ed Carr (www.edwardrcarr.com/opentheechochamber/) - Ed Carr, now back in academia, but formerly with USAID, writing on resilience and complexity.

Development is Capacity (www.developmentiscapacity.org/) - Tom Dichter's research (with colleagues) covering what works in capacity development.

Doing Development Differently (http://doingdevelopmentdifferently.com/) an organizing site for a lot of practitioner efforts to adopt best fit models and shift to complexity-aware approaches - systems from a practitioner's view.

European Centre for Development Policy Management (ECDPM) (http://ecdpm.org/dossiers/capacity-change-performance/capacity-change-and-performance-study/) The Capacity, Change and Performance study provides fresh perspectives on the topic of capacity and its development.

Overseas Development Institute (www.odi.org/projects/2696-localising-aid-budget-support-southern-actors) - ODI's research into questions of localizing aid.

Problem Driven Iterative Adaptation (www.cgdev.org/publication/escaping-capability-traps-through-problem-driven-iterative-adaptation-pdia-working-paper) – The authors argue that many reform initiatives in developing countries fail to achieve sustained improvements in performance because they are merely isomorphic mimicry—that is, governments and organizations pretend to reform by changing what policies or organizations look like rather than what they actually do.

USAID Local Systems Framework (www.usaid.gov/policy/local-systems-framework) - This Framework describes USAID's overarching approach to transforming innovations and reforms into sustained development.

Working with the Grain (http://workingwiththegrain.com/) - Brian Levy's work, also mostly around whether development work can adapt to political and contextual realities.