

# Launch and presentation of a new UNU-WIDER study on New Sources of Development Finance: Funding the Millennium Development Goals by A. B. Atkinson

Organized jointly by UNU-WIDER, UN-DESA & UNU-New York Office

Monday 15 November 2004, 3:00 – 5:00 pm

Premises of the Permanent Mission of Germany to the United Nations  
871 UN Plaza, New York (1<sup>st</sup> Avenue, between 48<sup>th</sup> and 49<sup>th</sup> streets)

This new study undertaken by the **World Institute for Development Economics Research of the United Nations University (UNU-WIDER)** for the **United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN-DESA)** at the **behest of the UN General Assembly**, examines innovative ways in which resources can be mobilized for economic development, so as to secure the doubling of flows required to achieve the Millennium Development Goals by 2015. It sets out a framework for the economic analysis of different sources, applying the tools of modern public economics and considers the underlying political economy. It examines in turn a series of new and controversial proposals.

#### The seven potential options:

Global environmental taxes (e.g. carbon-use tax); Global lottery and global premium bond; Tax on currency flows (the so-called 'Tobin tax' designed to discourage excessive currency speculation); Creation of new Special Drawing Rights (creation of SDRs for development purposes, with donor countries making their SDR allocation available to fund development); International Finance Facility (making available long-term, but conditional, funding guaranteed to the poorest countries by donor countries); Fostering greater private donations for development by firms and individuals; Facilitating the means for emigrants to send their money home.

The study responds to a request of the General Assembly for a rigorous analysis of advantages, disadvantages and other implications of proposals for developing new and innovative sources of funding, both public and private, for dedication to social development and poverty eradication programmes.

**Admission is free and followed by a reception.**

**Please register online at [www.ony.unu.edu](http://www.ony.unu.edu) or contact:**

**Tel. (212) 963-6387**

**E-mail: [unuona@ony.unu.edu](mailto:unuona@ony.unu.edu)**

**The venue is made available for this event  
by the Permanent Mission of Germany to the UN.**

#### SPEAKER

**A. B. Atkinson** is Warden of Nuffield College, Oxford. He was previously Professor of Political Economy at the University of Cambridge, and Tooke Professor of Economic Science and Statistics, London School of Economics. He is a Fellow of the British Academy, and has been President of the Royal Economic Society, of the Econometric Society, of the European Economic Association and of the International Economic Association. He has served on the Royal Commission on the Distribution of Income and Wealth, the Pension Law Review Committee, and the Commission on Social Justice.

#### CHAIRPERSONS

**José Antonio Ocampo** is the Under-Secretary-General for UN Economic and Social Affairs since 1 September 2003. Previously he was the Executive Secretary of the UN Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC).

**Tony Shorrocks** is the Director of WIDER and has previously held positions at the London School of Economics and University of Essex. He has published widely on income and wealth distribution, inequality and poverty.



**United Nations  
University  
WIDER**

**World Institute for Development  
Economics Research**

The presentation is based on the following publications

## **New Sources of Development Finance**

Edited by A. B. Atkinson

(hardback) 0-19-927855-5

(paperback) 0-19-927856-3

October 2004

UNU-WIDER and UN-DESA

UNU-WIDER Studies in Development Economics

Oxford University Press

[www.oup.co.uk](http://www.oup.co.uk)



## **Policy Brief B No. 10**

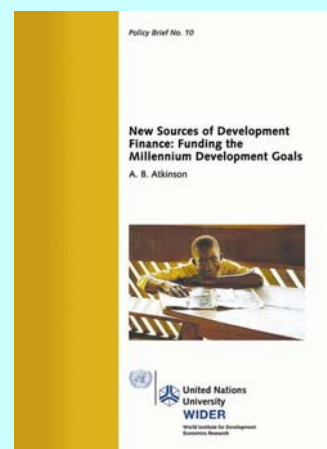
### **New Sources of Development Finance: Funding the Millennium Development Goals**

A. B. Atkinson

September 2004

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## **World Institute for Development Economics Research of the United Nations University (UNU - WIDER)**

undertakes multidisciplinary research and policy analysis on structural changes affecting the living conditions of the world's poorest people; provides a forum for professional interaction and the advocacy of policies leading to robust, equitable and environmentally sustainable growth; and promotes capacity strengthening and training for scholars and government officials in the field of economic and social policy making. WIDER is the first research and training centre of the United Nations University (UNU), established in Helsinki, Finland in 1984.

[www.wider.unu.edu](http://www.wider.unu.edu)

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is a vital interface between global policies in the economic, social and environmental spheres and national action. The Department works in three main interlinked areas: (i) it compiles, generates and analyses a wide range of economic, social and environmental data and information on which States Members of the United Nations draw to review common problems and to take stock of policy options; (ii) it facilitates the negotiations of Member States in many intergovernmental bodies on joint courses of action to address ongoing or emerging global challenges; and (iii) it advises interested Governments on the ways and means of translating policy frameworks developed in United Nations conferences and summits into programmes at the country level and, through technical assistance, helps build national capacities.

[www.un.org/esa/desaov.htm](http://www.un.org/esa/desaov.htm)