

The third system project papers

Building blocks for alternative development strategies

on microfiche

IFDA

International Foundation for Development Alternatives, Nyon, Switzerland

 IDC

Introduction

In October 1976, when the General Assembly of the United Nations was preparing to formulate a new international development strategy, the Dutch Minister for Development Cooperation, Jan Pronk, issued this challenge to those within the United Nations establishment and to some outside it:

In preparing for the future, the first task is to review, rethink and reassess the past. The next is to go beyond the horizons of today and to start formulating the strategy for the last quarter of the century. We may call on the wisest and most experienced among us, teachers and thinkers of today to advise the world on the future.

Having consulted with the International Foundation for Development Alternatives (IFDA) and the Third World Forum, Pronk invited the IFDA to organize what was termed the "third system project".

The IFDA responded to the challenge by attempting to broaden and deepen the discussion concerning development by stimulating participation in the debate of those who are seldom or never heard and, at the very least, organizations that endeavour to listen to people.

Within three years, more than 50 institutions and over 500 men and women from all regions of the world were involved in the third system project through 119 specific activities, meetings, and contributions to the *IFDA Dossier*.

Policy conclusions emanating from specific activities were circulated through the *IFDA Dossier* (now printed in 10,000 copies) but in addition a vast amount of background material was assembled that constitutes a major and innovative contribution to the development discussion.

The microfiche collection

Included in this microfiche collection are:

- a. the complete set of IFDA *Dossiers* from January 1978 to August 1987 (Order no. KH-21/1)
- b. the complete set of supporting and background papers, 347 in all (Order nos. KH-37-40/1)
 1. Local space (68 documents)
 2. National space (104 documents)
 3. Third World space (75 documents)
 4. Global space (100 documents)

Updating

Regular updating makes this research collection an extremely useful instrument for anyone who wants to be kept well informed about research and discussion concerning this vital issue of Third World Development.

Number of fiches	283
Size of fiches	105 x 148 mm
Film type	Positive silver halide
Reduction ratio	1 : 24
Internal finding aids	Eye-legible headers with document numbers
External finding aids	- A printed list of all 347 papers arranged according to the four broad levels of development (local, national, Third World, global) - A printed list of the first 20 <i>Dossiers</i> (to December 1980) with their date of publication and indexes by author and country
Storage	The microfiches are supplied in two sturdy plastic binders with dustcover
Order number	KH-21/1 ; KH-37-40/1

The International Foundation for Development Alternatives, established in 1976 is committed to an alternative approach to development and to genuine international cooperation. Another development must be need-oriented, self-reliant, indigenous, ecologically sustainable, and based on structural transformations; it is a comprehensive, people-centered, political, cultural, and economic process. Genuine international cooperation means moving from an imposed asymmetry, through a fundamental restructuring of international relations, to a new international order supportive of another development.

IFDA is not a research institution but an instrument designed to stimulate mutually informative dialogues between policymakers, action-oriented researchers, and communicators.

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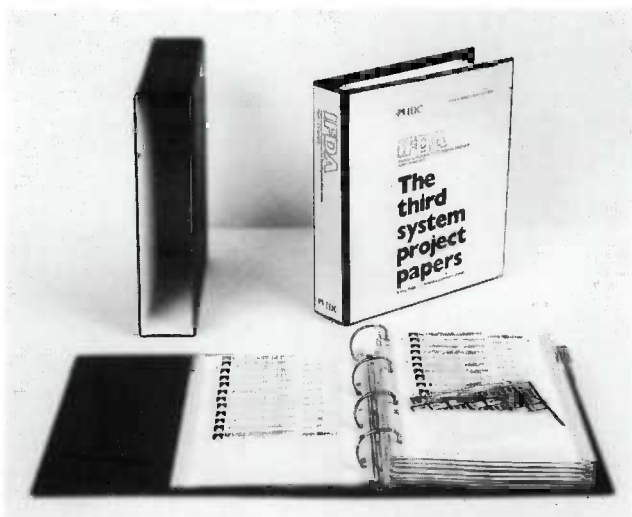
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Related IDC project free catalogues available

NEW INTERNATIONAL ORDER

One of the most dramatic and important developments at the end of the seventies was the call – made through the United Nations – for the creation of a New International Economic Order.

In response to this appeal, a project entitled *Reviewing the International Order* (RIO) was established to define the steps to be taken to achieve a world in which “a life of dignity and well-being becomes an inalienable birth-right”.

The RIO foundation established, in close cooperation with IDC, a documentation service published on microfiche. It received documents on a wide range of subjects from all over the world.

233 documents from the period between 1975 and 1979

