

From the Editors

With this Fall issue, we bring you one research article, one forum piece, and two book reviews. Prashant Rajan, Shweta Chopra, A. K. Somasekhar, and Chad Laux contribute a research article on food security, analyzing the centralized online real-time public distribution system (COREPDS) in Chhattisgarh, India. COREPDS seeks to empower households by allowing them to choose when, where, and how they wish to exercise their right to food access. In their detailed examination of this system in which they combine data analysis, participant observation, and interviews, they find that an important aspect of COREPDS is how it empowers individual and collective freedom. Rather than being primarily a top-down monitoring system, COREPDS allows individuals and households to make their own decisions, but also enables community auditing of food distribution. This, they conclude, brings high levels of accountability to the food distribution system without bureaucratic surveillance.

Next, in this issue's Forum, Isabella Rega and Alessandro Inversini review 15 ICT4D journals and find that the ICT for development community has yet to acknowledge the role ICTs can play in enhancing tourism's contribution to development. They argue for more attention to eT4D (e-Tourism for Development) in order to explore the interplay among development studies, tourism studies, and ICTs and to support the creation of information systems that support local tourism entrepreneurs' digital literacy skills.

This issue closes with reviews of two recent books. Nagy Hanna reviews the World Bank's World Development Report 2016: Digital Dividends, and Rohan Samarajiva reviews Jonathan Donner's After Access: Inclusion, Development, and a More Mobile Internet. Both are important contributions to our field, the first because the World Bank addresses a topic its research department had not yet tackled; the second because it challenges us to examine what happens after mobile phones have achieved (almost) universal access. The two books provide complementary lenses, and contrasting views, to understand the implications of ICTs for development.

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To cite this article: Bar, F., Toyama, K. (2016). From the Editors *Information Technologies & International Development,* 12(2), iii.