

## Country Research & Project Development Research Tools to Get You Started (Not a complete list of resources.)

- **Millennium Development Goals and Other Data**

- **World Bank's Millennium Development Goals -**  
<http://www.worldbank.org/mdgs/> - a detailed discussion of the goals, data that supports their need, and their importance to the world.
- **Online Atlas of the Millenium Development Goals -**  
<http://www.app.collinsindicate.com/mdg/en-us> - an interactive atlas showing the different development goals for each country side-by-side. A good way to see where your country stands in relation to others on each issue.
- **MDG Monitor: Tracking the Millenium Development Goals -**  
<http://www.mdgmonitor.org/> - a great, easy to interpret resource outlining each country's progress towards each of the seven goals. Also, profiles of success stories are an excellent source for your inspiration for your own projects.
- **World Bank Countries and Regions -**  
<http://web.worldbank.org/WB...> - multifaceted information on countries around the world that is vital to the understanding of the current political environment and the country's own identified needs.
- **World Bank Group - Data and Statistics -**  
<http://www.worldbank.org/data/countrydata/countrydata.html> - Current statistics for individual countries as well as regions of the world to provide an excellent source for comparison.
- **Gapminder -** <http://www.gapminder.org/world/> - This site allows you to explore the data in your country over time and against the data of other nations of the world in a very powerful way. Highly recommended for mining meaning from the data and finding connections between wealth and other measures.
- **United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization - Food Security Data -**  
<http://www.fao.org/economic/ess/ess-fs/en/> - A Map showing the percentage of undernourished people in each country by year. Excellent and current data, easy to access.
- **CIA World Factbook -**  
<https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/index.html> - more information on a country by country basis with sections on geography, people, government and economy.
- **Avert.org -** <http://www.avert.org/> - avert is an international hiv/aids charity. Their site offers excellent access to data and a history of the disease in Africa.
- **Human Development Index -**  
<http://hdr.undp.org/en/statistics/> - The human development index is a categorical ranking of each nation by a variety of categories. Vital statistics are provided through comparison of each nation with similar nations.

- **Human Rights**

- **United Nations Millennium Declaration -**  
<http://www.un.org/millennium/declaration/ares552e.htm> - the document produced by the UN which outlines specific world priorities.
- **United Nations Declaration of Human Rights -**  
<http://www.un.org/rights/50/decla.htm> or [pdf](#) - from 1948, one of the original international documents concerned with the well being of all.
- **Youthink! -** <http://youthink.worldbank.org/> - a site dedicated to issues surrounding youth on a global scale. Highlights include how youth can and are actively changing the world for the better.

- **U.S. Department of State, Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights and Labor**- <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/hr/index.htm> - a site containing very detailed information regarding human rights issues for each country.
- **Human Rights Watch** - [www.hrw.org/](http://www.hrw.org/) - a great site for current events as well as information on current human rights issues.
- **The Environment**
  - **Africa Atlas of Our Changing Environment** - <http://www.unep.org/dewa/africa/AfricaAtlas/PDF/en/Chapter1.pdf> - An overview with awesome images of all of the major environmental issues affecting Africa. This takes a second to download, but it's worth it. After downloading, save it so you have it to use again without the wait.
  - **Africa Environmental Map** - <http://maps.howstuffworks.com/africa...ssues-map.htm> - a site with several thematic maps of Africa.
  - **Geography of Africa** - <http://geography.howstuffworks.com/afr...f-africa.htm> - an overview of the continent with sections on climate, vegetation, animals, etc.
  - **World Wildlife Fund Special Places** - [http://wwf.panda.org/what we do/where we work/](http://wwf.panda.org/what_we_do/where_we_work/) - An excellent overview of the work and environmental goals of the WWF in many of the places we are researching.
- **Country Development Project Profiles**
  - **World Bank In Action Booklet** - [pdf](#) - a 56 page booklet that describes specific public works projects in developing nations. An invaluable resource for planning your own project proposal.
  - **World Bank Project Profiles** - <http://web.worldbank.org/WBSITE/EXTER...> - more information about the implementation of specific projects being implemented around the globe. Includes a link to Development 360, a beautiful multimedia presentation of projects being implemented world wide. Great idea generator for projects as well as presentation.
- **History and Culture**
  - **Country Studies** - <http://www.countrystudies.us> - very simple, no graphic site, contains detailed information about individual country's colonial history, environmental, economic and political conditions, and much more. Research will be incomplete without a visit here.
  - **World Facts** - <http://www.worldfacts.us> - very simple, no graphic site, with the standard collection of almanac style facts. You may find the format easier to digest, but there is nothing here that isn't found in other places.
  - **Online Encyclopedias** - <http://www.wikipedia.org> ; <http://www.infoplease.com> - two easy to use and thoroughly detailed encyclopedias with lots of background information on your countries. With these sources, however, it is important that you corroborate the information you find with another source.
  - **Google Images** - <http://images.google.com>
  - **Trek Earth** - <http://www.trekearth.com> - Trek Earth's mission is to encourage people to learn more about the world through photography. Thousands of beautiful high resolution images can be found here from all corners of the world.
  - **Art & Life in Africa** - <http://africa.uima.uiowa.edu/> - Great photos of culture and art from many African countries. Also includes basic facts.