## Introduction to Security and Development

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## Development of concepts of security Security and Development

## The new Human Security debate

### About me....

More than thirty years in the UK government service, travelling around the world

Parallel academic career for many years, as author and lecturer, especially in Africa

Took early retirement in 2008

### **Very fuzzy concepts**

#### Security Development

## The essential issue is, who has the power to say what security and development mean?



Governments and organisations define these terms in pursuit of their own interests. Naturally.



## What we define, we can aspire to control.

So the history of the definition of "security," for example, is partly the history of a struggle for control of the subject.



## **Types of security**

#### Basic needs – food, warmth, shelter

## Protection against natural threats <u>Individual security</u> Collective security

## **Defining** security

" those means, active and passive, which serve to protect and preserve an environment that allows for the conduct of activities within the organisation or society without disruption". (Post and Kingsbury 1991)

"the absence of threats or a low probability of damage to acquired values" (Wolfers, 1990)



But the real issue is the ability of groups, organisations and governments to enforce their definitions, by political or financial power



## **Development of Security**

Village/family/clan Hereditary ruler Political/economic elite Ruling group Revolutionary or liberation movement



#### The State as Security Provider

From hereditary ruler through oligarchy to society as a whole.

But in practice never neutral.

Security means different things to different people.



### **Useful ideas on security**

## State-making and organised crime - Tilly (1985) State consolidation – Herbst (2000)

## Which brings us neatly to the question of the relationship between security and development.



## **Three Questions**

What do we think is the relationship between security and development? What is the historical experience? What should we do?

## First ....

## How do we define development?



## It's changed over time

## We used to talk about economic development Now we talk more about human development



### Human Development

"... is about putting people at the centre of development. It is about people realizing their potential, increasing their choices and enjoying the freedom to lead lives they value." – UNDP 2010



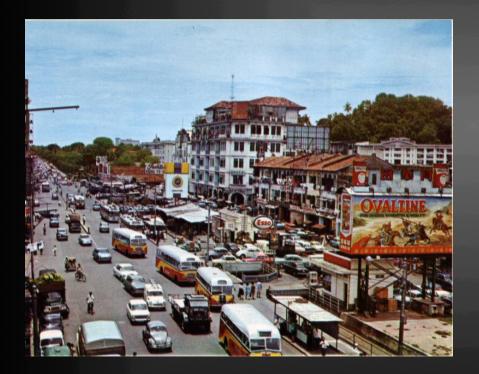
So this is the objective .... But how do you actually do it ? Does development make people happier?



## This is development ....

#### Singapore in 1960

#### Singapore today



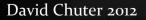




### **Important distinctions**

#### Economic growth ≠ development

### **Development** *≠* happiness





## The uses of history

The relationship between development and security remains complex and controversial.

There's no agreement on what the terms mean.

Perhaps we should look at history.



## A simple historical model

A secure environment promotes economic activity

Economic activity increases revenue Revenue is spent on infrastructure

Infrastructure promotes development

## Security leads to growth

#### For example:

The Tudor Kings achieved "a royal monopoly of violence both public and private ... which profoundly altered not only the nature of politics but also the quality of daily life."

- Stone (1965)

## Conflict, security and development

**Domestic** conflict slows development

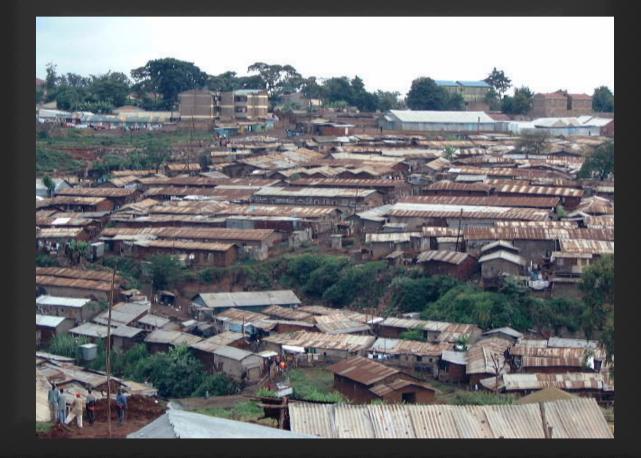
Foreign conflict may not

Domestic conflict may be unavoidable for social and political change

**Conflict and insecurity are different** 



## Development doesn't always produce security





## And never has done ....



Democracy, security and development

Nice if they went together No particular evidence that they do Usual order is security → development → democracy Development creates a middle class



#### No development without security 🗸

#### No security without development \*



## What's the political significance of this issue?

## **Human Security**

## **Human Security**

Here's one definition, which is full of ambiguities, special pleading and intellectual dishonesty

## We'll highlight a few points

Human security in its broadest sense embraces far more than the absence of violent conflict. It encompasses human rights, good governance, access to education and health care, and ensuring that each individual has opportunities and choices to fulfil his or her own potential...Freedom from want, freedom from fear and the freedom of the future generations to inherit a healthy natural environment - these are the interrelated building blocks of human, and therefore national security (CHS 2003)



And this leaves out ... what, exactly? Everything is therefore human security

"Once anything that generates anxiety or threatens quality of life becomes [...] labelled as a security problem, the field loses all focus..." Sir Lawrence Friedman



A concept which includes everything arguably includes nothing How would you go about implementing it?



"The traditional goal of 'national security' has been the defence of the state from external threats. The focus of human security, by contrast, is the protection of individuals." Human Security Report, 2005

#### It was never as simple as that



But secure states do not automatically mean secure peoples... Indeed, during the last 100 years far more people have been killed by their own governments than by foreign armies.

Human Security Report, 2005



## So is human security about education, the environment or protecting people from their own governments? Or all at once? And how?



#### Some consequences

## Humanitarian intervention Responsibility to Protect Failed and fragile states

The issues raised by the Human Security debate are certainly important. But they are not new They are just being relabelled



# In the end, we are seeing a political struggle for control of the definition of security



