Development

some of us live it

some of us work in it

some of us strive for it

some of us challenge it!

Yardena Tankel

Ofa Guttenbeil-Likiliki

Yvonne Underhill-Sem
What is Development?
Describe what development is in 25 words or less
“A very mixed term that can encompass lots of things. Despite the move away from development as ‘economic’ development, I still believe that this is a vital component and should still be aimed for”

- Development consultant, Marrakesh Morocco
“Development can be in the form of social, community, economic or sustainable development, with education underpinning any form.... Without an educational component most initiatives fail”

- President of a Community College, East Coast Canada
“For me development is about having avenues of social mobility, and to not be constrained by others ideas and thoughts about how to live”

- Member of local NGO, Mumbai India
“Development: ‘happy, healthy, creative, peaceful human beings that achieve this state without destroying the natural resources and other species with whom we share the planet’”

— Author and former BBC journalist (lives half of each year in West Africa)
“Development is the liberal idea that people's lives can be improved through outside interventions, using rights and needs ideas to justify a narrow trajectory of change”

- Lecturer in political studies, Aotearoa / New Zealand
“Development is what you make out of it”

- Professor of International Development, University of Quebec at Montreal
“Development for me is different to mainstream ideas. It is about freedom from capitalist constraints”

- Social justice activist, Buenos Aires Argentina
“It’s about helping people to help themselves, and in turn they can be productive contributors to building their societies”

- World Bank programme staff member, Thailand
“The ‘development project’ has been to help people’s struggles to have more choices and greater control over their lives, to give them the space in which they can develop themselves as social, economic, political and cultural beings”

- Program staff, USC Canada
“Development is all about the money! It know means big business”

- Development Practitioner, Australia
“Development is about advocating for and implementing progress for people, drawing them out of poverty and bettering their life circumstances and choices”

- Social justice activist, Aotearoa / New Zealand
“Development means communities have access to the economy”

- Development consultant, Geneva Switzerland
The opportunity for feminist movements to challenge development...