



National Sovereignty Versus “Aid Cartel” in the Global South

**Friday, April 13, 2007
3:00 pm–5:00 pm**

**Gender Action
1875 Connecticut Avenue NW, Suite 1012
Washington D.C.**

A discussion featuring presentations by:

Nancy Alexander, Globalization Challenge Initiative, Washington

Sun Baohong, Counselor, Policy Analysis Section, Embassy of the People’s Republic of China

Oscar Ugarteche, Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México

Mark Weisbrot, Center for Economic and Policy Research, Washington

Ruth Castel-Branco, 50 Years Is Enough Network, Washington

The collapse of the International Monetary Fund's (IMF) policy influence, legitimacy and relevance across many countries in the Global South is one of the most critical changes in the international financial system. Alternative sources of financing are now emerging, where policy conditions do not accompany loans and investments, thus increasing national policy space to choose the best mix of policies possible to achieve sustainable and equitable development. In Latin America, the government of Venezuela is an alternative financing source whose loans overshadow that of the IMF's and come without policy conditions. In Asia, China is playing the role of lender and investor. The proposals for a Bank of the South in Latin America and the Chiang Mai Initiative in Asia Pacific as regional monetary funds are vital developments. Also important are the recent debt cancellations in Sub-Saharan countries which yield expanded policy space. At the same time, the Development Assistance Committee (DAC) of the Club of Western nations the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) is implementing an "aid effectiveness" initiative that would unify all donors and creditors in a large-scale "aid cartel." To what extent can alternative sources of financing and increased national policy space enable developing countries to avoid dependence on such an "aid cartel"?

Event Sponsors: Jubilee USA, Action Aid USA, Gender Action, 50 Years is Enough Network, Center for Economic and Policy Research, and the Center of Concern.

Please RSVP by April 11 to debi@jubileeusa.org.