

Foreword

The three organisations behind this book—AFD, IDS, and JICA—have different roles and responsibilities when it comes to global development, but each has long advocated for a more nuanced debate on growth, emphasising, for example, its distributional consequences, its human development impacts, and its environmental effects. As we enter into the post 2015 development era, all of these features of growth are becoming ever more integrated, and gaining importance as decisive factors for realising sustainable development.

We are delighted that the authors of this book have come together, supported by our respective institutions, to make a significant contribution to inform our debate on this subject. In the 21st century our decisions and policies will perhaps be judged less on the quantity of growth they help to achieve, but on its quality—what it does for the things that we, as citizens of this planet, really care about. This book will offer some guidance on what we have come to know about the quality of growth, and it will help to identify the research gaps that most urgently need to be filled.



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