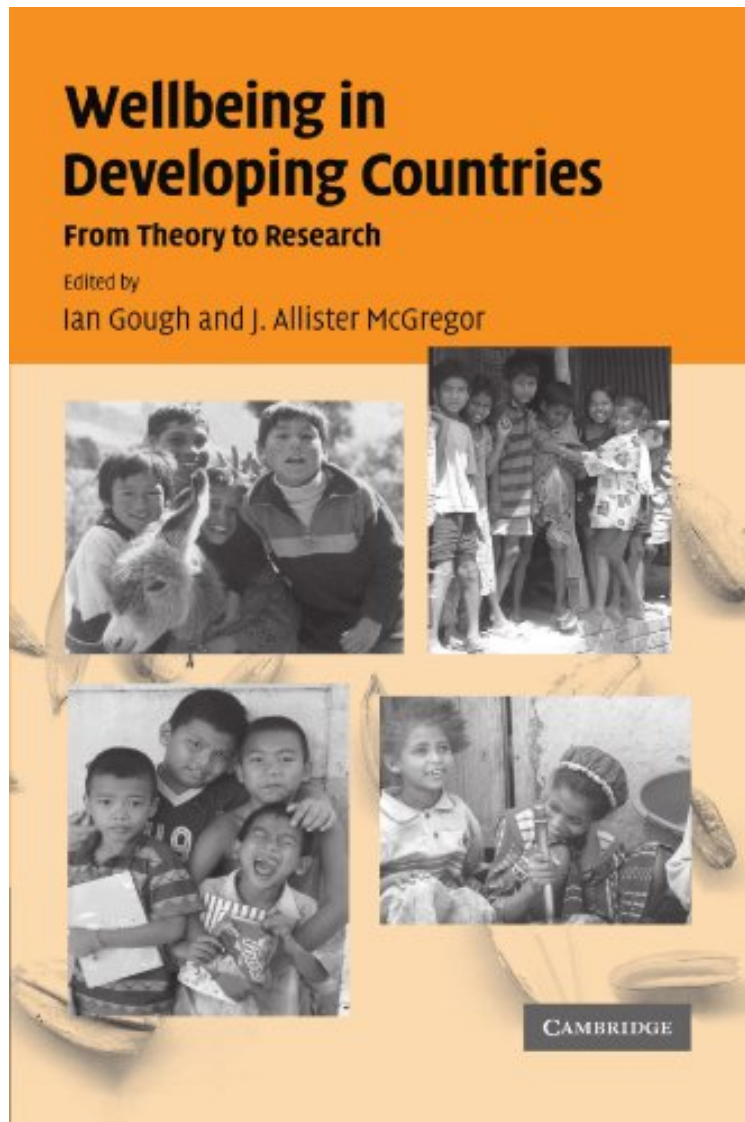


Wellbeing in Developing Countries: From Theory to Research

From Gough Ian McGregor J Allister
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In a world where many experience unprecedented levels of wellbeing, chronic poverty remains a major concern for many developing countries and the international community. Conventional frameworks for understanding development and poverty have focused on money, commodities and economic growth. This 2007 book challenges these conventional approaches and contributes to a new paradigm for development centred on human wellbeing. Poor people are not defined solely by their poverty and a wellbeing approach provides a better means of understanding how people become and stay poor. It examines three perspectives: ideas of human functioning, capabilities and needs; the analysis of livelihoods and resource use; and research on subjective wellbeing and happiness. A range of international experts from psychology, economics, anthropology, sociology, political science and development evaluate the state-of-the-art in understanding wellbeing from these perspectives. This book establishes a new strategy and methodology for researching wellbeing that can influence policy.

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About the Author Ian Gough is Professor of Social Policy and Deputy Director of the ESRC Research Group on Wellbeing in Developing Countries at the University of Bath. He is the co-author of *Insecurity and Welfare Regimes in Asia, Africa and Latin America* (Cambridge, 2004) and *A Theory of Human Need* (1991) which was the winner of both the Deutscher and the Myrdal prizes. Allister McGregor is an economic anthropologist and lectures in development policy analysis at the University of Bath. He is Director of the ESRC Research Group on Wellbeing in Developing Countries and is the author of numerous articles on development policy and practice. He has worked with a wide range of international development agencies and has extensive primary fieldwork experience in South and Southeast Asia.