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Empowering Development: Why Open is Right for Development

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The world we live in today is more connected than ever before. Technology is the great enabler, with citizens around the world accessing information on their mobile phones, smart phones, tablets, and PCs. The World Bank has responded to this change by adopting an "Open Agenda," a sea change in how it makes available its data, information, and knowledge. In the last three years, the World Bank has implemented an Access to Information policy, an Open Access Policy, Creative Commons licensing, and has "opened" statistical databases and other datasets that were previously not available to the public or available via subscription only. At the World Bank we believe that openness drives transparency, which leads to greater accountability, which—in turn—leads to better development results. This presentation reviews the World Bank's Open Agenda and how it is driving transparency, accountability, and—most important—helping to deliver better development results.

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