# CONVERGING DIVERGENCE? UNPACKING THE NEW GEOGRAPHY OF GLOBAL DEVELOPMENT

#### **RORY HORNER**

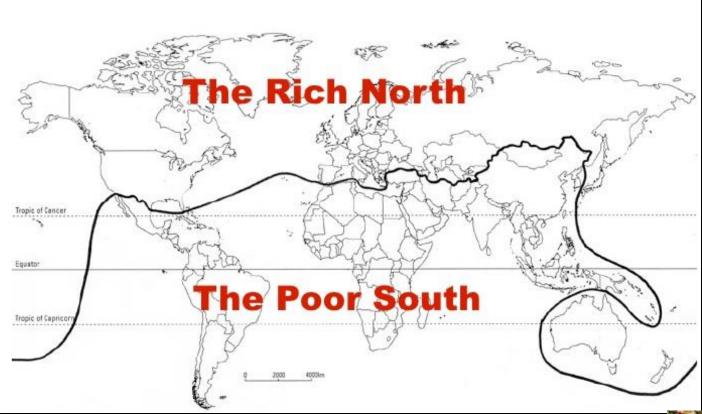
#### GLOBAL DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTE, UNIVERSITY OF MANCHESTER

RSA ANNUAL CONFERENCE, DUBLIN 07<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2017





#### **BEYOND THE INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT ERA?**



MANCHESTER 1824

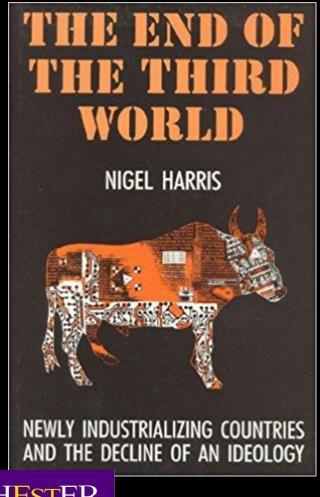
The University of Manchester

*"Divergence, Big Time"* 





#### END OF THE THIRD WORLD?



PRINCETON STUDIES IN CULTURE/POWER/HISTORY Encountering Development THE MAKING AND UNMAKING **OF THE** THIRD WORLD

ARTURO ESCOBAR



## **BUT NORTH-SOUTH DIVIDE ENDURES**

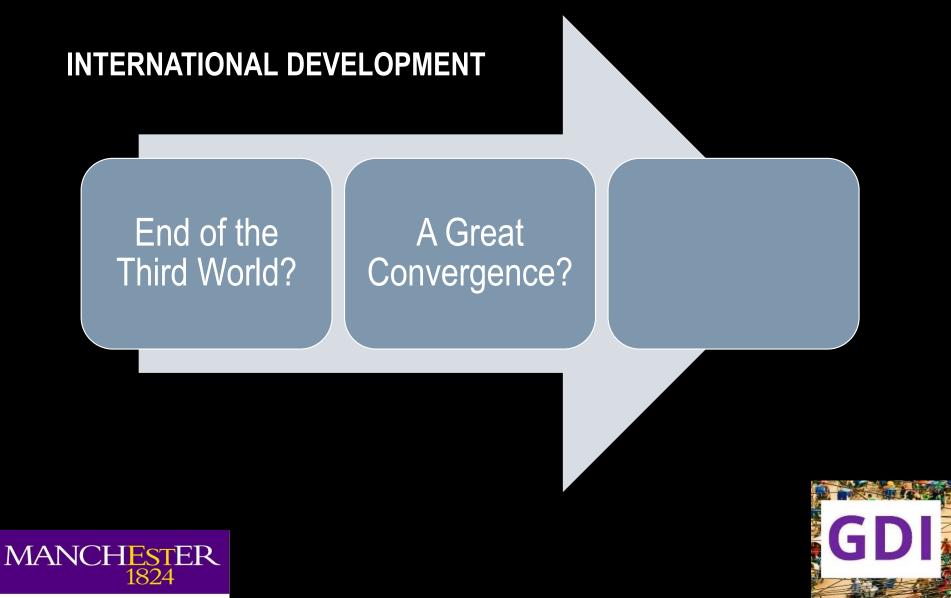
"Divergence, Big Time" (Pritchett 1997)

"if recent history can prove anything, it proves that North-South bipolarity is—if not the only real thing—at least the most perennial one" (Bhagut Khorany 1994, 13)











#### We're no longer distinguishing between "developing" and "developed" countries

Last November, Tariq Khokhar and Umar Serajuddin asked the question: "Should we continue to use the term 'developing world?" The conclusion was that it's becoming less relevant, and with the focus of the SDGs on goals for the whole world, we should start phasing out the term "developing world" in our data publications and databases.

Therefore, In WDI 2016, there is no longer a distinction between developing countries (defined in previous editi as low- and middle-income countries) and developed countries (previously high-income countries). Regional groupings (such as "East Asia") are now based on geographical coverage rather than a sub-set of countries that were previously referred to as developing. In some occasional cases, where data availability or context have dictated it, we've excluded high income from some charts or tables, and we've indicated that in the footnotes.

#### April 2016



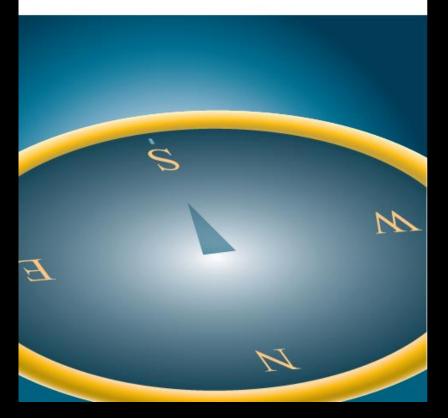


## THE 21<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY RISING SOUTH

#### Human Development Report **2013**

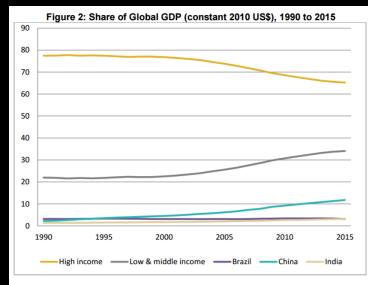


The Rise of the South: Human Progress in a Diverse World

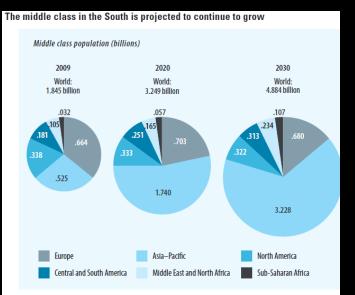




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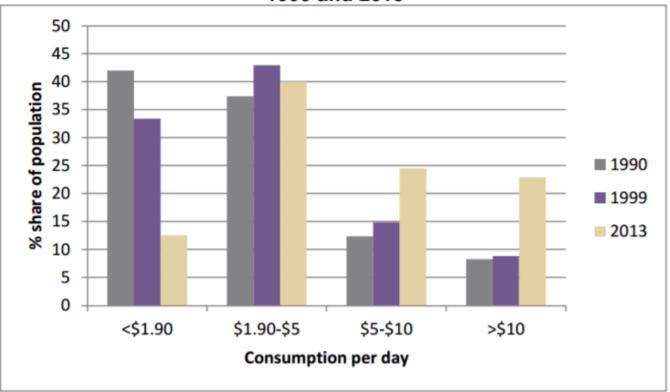
Source: Authors' construction based on World Bank World Development Indicators.



Note: The middle class includes people earning or spending \$10-\$100 a day (in 2005 purchasing power parity terms). Source: Brookings Institution 2012.

#### $\downarrow$ EXTREME POVERTY

Figure 5: Population share in the Global South by daily consumption level, 1990, 1999 and 2013



Source: Authors' construction based on data from the World Bank's PovcalNet (<u>http://iresearch.worldbank.org/PovcalNet/home.aspx</u>). The regions included are: East Asia and the Pacific, Latin America and the Caribbean, South Asia and Sub-Saharan Africa. See also Sumner (2016a) for a detailed discussion of these trends.

#### **CONVERGING HEALTH, EDUCATION, ENVIRONMENT?**

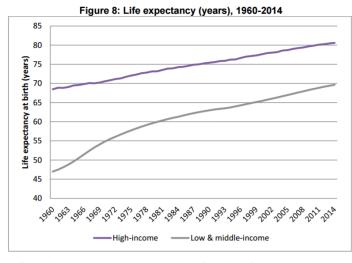
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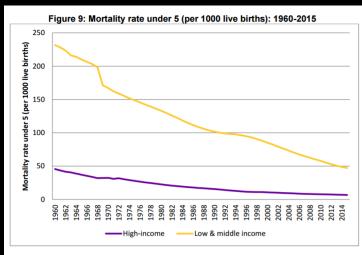
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1950

1960



Source: Author's construction based on World Bank World Development Indicators.



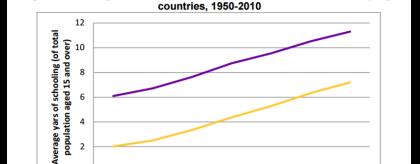


Figure 10: Average educational enrolment in "advanced" and "developing"

Source: Authors' construction based on Barro and Lee (2013) dataset. Advanced includes 24 countries and developing 122. Trend line based on observation at decadal-intervals.

1980

1990

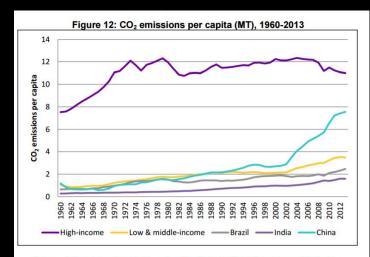
Developing

2000

2010

1970

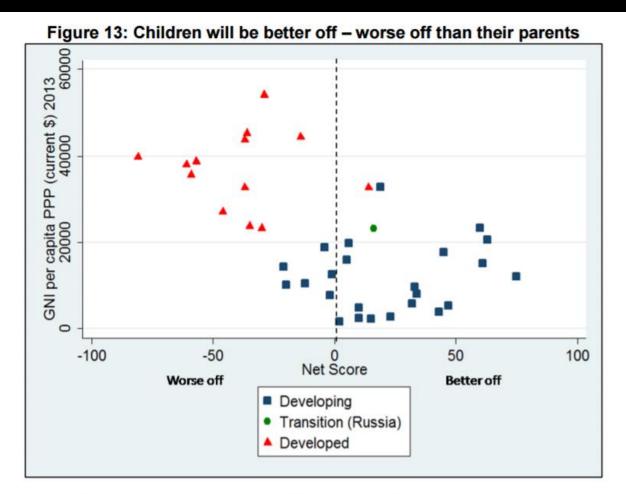
Advanced



Source: Authors' construction based on World Bank World Development Indicators.

Source: Authors' construction based on World Bank World Development Indicators.

### WILL CHILDREN BORN TODAY IN YOUR COUNTRY HAVE A BETTER LIFE THAN YOU HAVE?



Source: Author's construction. Data on belief whether children will be better off is from Pew Research 2013. GNI per capita PPP (current international \$) is from World Bank World Development Indicators.

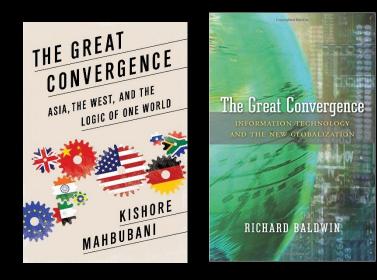


# SUSTAINABLE G ALS





### THE GREAT CONVERGENCE?

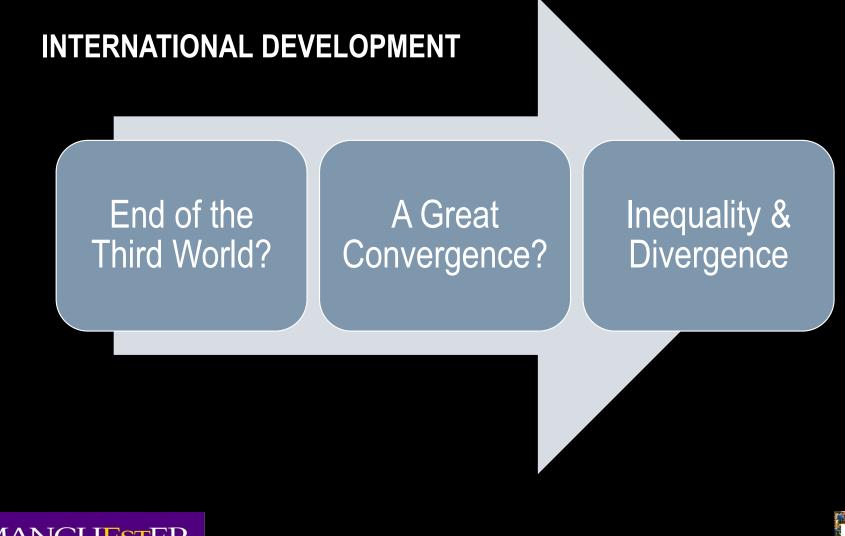


BUT.....

- "Citizenship premiums"
- Global middle classes?
- Poverty to precarity



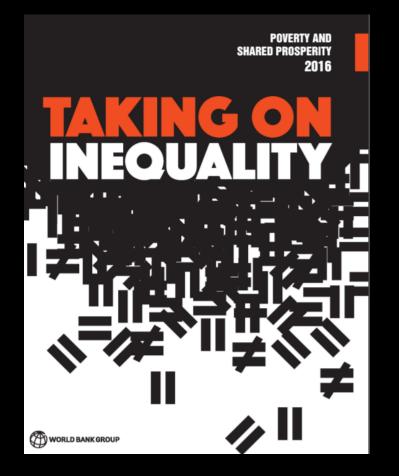


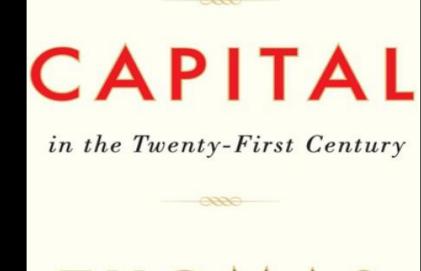






#### BUT WHAT ABOUT WITHIN-COUNTRY INEQUALITY?

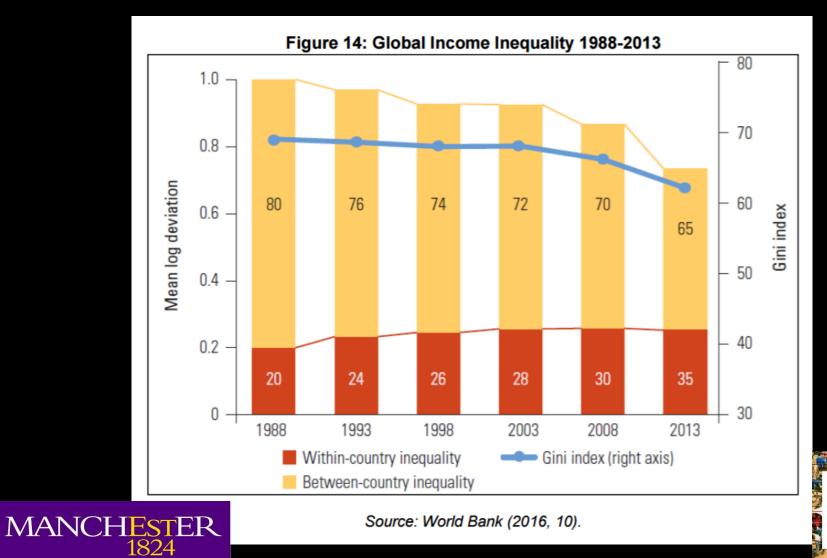




THOMAS PIKETTY

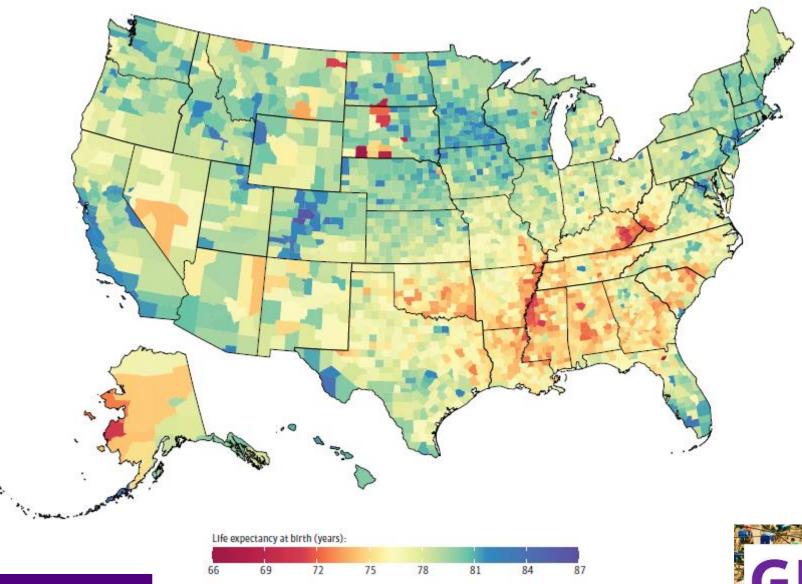


#### **CONVERGING DIVERGENCE?**



Source: World Bank (2016, 10).

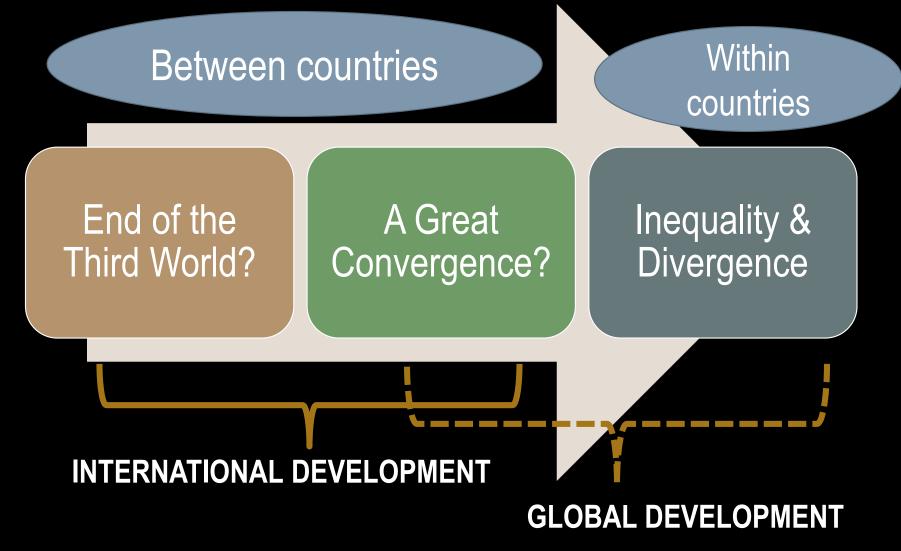
#### Figure 1. Life Expectancy at Birth by County, 2014



MANCHESTER 1824

Source: Dwyer-Lindgren et al. (2017, E4)









ISSUE	International Development – "Divergence, big time"	Global Development – "Converging divergence"
Geographic focus	Place-specific: synonymous "poor countries", "poor people" and global South	Universal: Sustainable development issues anywhere - Interconnected issues, shared issues across North and South, 'one world' and graduated challenges
Spatial nomenclature	First-Second-Third Worlds; Developed/Developing; Global North-South	Global convergence, national and sub- national divergence (enclaves, peripherality, connectivity/exclusion)
Prominent meaning of development	Modernisation and growth: Southern countries becoming like the global North	SDG agenda: Transformation, true "global development"; sustainability; social justice





## CONVERGING DIVERGENCE: INTERNATIONAL TO GLOBAL DEVELOPMENT

- North-South differences declining, although still greatest
- Domestic inequalities a growing share of global inequalities → uneven development









# A working paper on which much of this presentation and data is based is available at:

http://hummedia.manchester.ac.uk/institutes/gdi/publications/worki ngpapers/GDI/GDI\_WP2017010\_Horner\_Hulme.pdf