

The Sociology of Development section of the American Sociological Association (ASA) promotes the study of societal development within the discipline of sociology. We believe that engagement is an integral part of the research process, hence we have established a **Sociological Insights for Development Policy** series to build bridges between development sociologists examining the social determinants and consequences of development and professionals engaged in formulating development policy and practice. We see this as mutually beneficial since real life experiences of development professionals will inform scholarly research at the same time that research-based evidence helps to shape and motivate policy interventions.

The purpose of the **Sociological Insights for Development Policy** is to strengthen engagement between scholars, policy makers and development practitioners, thereby enhancing sociology's impact on development discourse and practice throughout the world. Each **Sociological Insights for Development Policy** brief will be two pages in length and written in non-technical yet sophisticated language. To the extent possible, each brief will include at least one graph, chart, map or picture illustrating the substantive content.

We recommend the following structure for **Sociological Insights for Development Policy**:

- the policy issue and why it is important;
- the nature of the research project;
- the research question(s) that shaped and motivated the research;
- how the research was conducted;
- the main findings;
- and, what this research contributes policy development and/or program administration.

The end of a brief will include:

- links to the published research on which the brief is based;
- the Author's contact information;
- and a disclaimer indicating that the opinions expressed are those of the author(s); not the section nor ASA.

For more information about the **Sociological Insights for Development Policy** series, or if you would like to contribute a brief, please contact Alaka Basu ([ab54@cornell.edu](mailto:ab54@cornell.edu)).