RETHINKING POOR PEOPLE AND POOR NATIONS: EXPLORING LONG-TERM SUSTAINABLE BUSINESS STRATEGIES TO REDUCE WORLD POVERTY AND IMPROVE U.S. NATIONAL SECURITY

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ABSTRACT

The global economy started recovering from stagnation but growth remains anemic. Twentieth and Twenty-First Century globalization has left the world economically polarized between countries that enjoy heretofore unimaginable wealth and countries that are crippled by poverty. Both the gap between rich and poor continues and terrorism remains a constant threat, diverting significant public and private resources to address security concerns. Over the past decades, business has begun reacting to growing societal pressures by broadening its focus from profit maximization alone to the "triple bottom line†of people, planet and profit. Efforts to reduce world poverty have improved living conditions for billions of people around world, but the results are very uneven and deteriorating conditions in some parts of the world have offset the gains in others. What are we doing about the poorest people around the world? Although NGOs work tirelessly to promote local solutions and local entrepreneurship, the idea of large-scale entrepreneurship as a possible solution to poverty has not taken root (Prahalad, 2010). What can U.S. companies do about poor people and poor nations to reduce world poverty and improve U.S. national security? The purpose of this research is to explore long-term sustainable business strategies to reduce world poverty and improve U.S. national security.

Keywords: Agriculture, Conflicts, Economic Integration, Eradication, Global Threats, Globalization, Migrations, National Security, NGOs, Poor Nations, Poverty, Primary Industries, Sustainability, Tensions, Violence.