

Systems thinking and system dynamics in international development

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Ben Ramalingam is a researcher, consultant and writer specialising in international development and humanitarian issues. His portfolio of work spans innovation and technology, humanitarian assistance, sustainability and resilience, ecosystem services, state fragility, economic development and global health. His work on innovation includes provision of advice to USAID leadership on systemic innovation in development; work with Nesta on the state of innovation efforts in development; advising DFID's work to set up a series of in-country innovation laboratories; work on innovation systems in aid; research on global digital networks for infectious disease efforts, and being an advisory panel member on innovation for the UN Secretary General's 2016 Summit.

Ben is author of [Aid on the Edge of Chaos](#), a bestselling 2013 book on complex systems approaches and international aid published by Oxford University Press. He is also founder and chair of the Humanitarian Innovation Fund, the first ever fund for operational innovations in disaster responses. In his previous role as Head of Research and Development at ALNAP/ODI, he led a team of researchers, communications specialists and consultants to develop and implement a programme of research aimed at improving aid effectiveness through innovation, learning and accountability.

Ben was previously deputy director of the Humanitarian Futures Programme at Kings College, and also set up and led the knowledge and learning programme at ODI. Prior to joining the development sector, he worked in strategy consulting and investment banking.

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