

**OECD, The Development Effectiveness Of Food Aid: Does Tying Matter? Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development, PARIS, 2006.PP. 121. ISBN 92-64-01346-6.**

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Food aid has been one form of aid that has been critical and central in promoting development through enhancing food security in societies that have deficient particularly in some African countries. The book is, thus, well-intentioned to as it seeks to unearth controversies surrounding the effectiveness of food aid.

The executive summary acts as the introduction provides the overall scope of the issues the text addresses. Chapter one offers a conceptualization and categorisation of food aid. It also analysed the various actors involved in food aid within the framework of OECD countries. The chapter questioned the centrality of food aid as an appropriate resource for development. Factors affecting the availability of food aid were analysed to which the author noted that,

*An assessment of the appropriateness of food aid as a resource for development should take into account evidence about how successful agencies have adapted operationally to the specific uncertainty attached to food aid, and also of the efficiency costs involved (p. 33).*

Dwelling on the effectiveness of food aid the chapter analysed the issues involved and in essence concluding that,

*Because of the resource uncertainties, the logic of development planning is to use food aid to compliment other resources within recovery plans and sectoral programmes, rather than to look for ways of drawing other resources into strengthening food aid supported projects (p. 48).*

Chapter two interrogates issues of tied aid. Beginning with Conceptualising tied aid and how it operates. It provided an analysis of the operation of donor countries on one hand and recipient countries on the other. The overall effects of tied aid and hoe they affect success of food aid were analysed. The chapter offers interesting examples and case studies contributing to easier comprehension of issues under scrutiny.

Chapter three acts as the conclusion to the texts highlighting major assessment of food aid and how issues of tying aid affect it. The most important aspect of the chapter is that it provides areas that require further research and investigation in attempting to comprehend burning issues in food aid.

In the final it is a valuable text highly recommended for development practitioners and researcher involved not only in food aid but overall development cooperation. The text is easy to follow, with well analysed and explained concepts and issues. It offers valuable statistics, case studies and pertinent examples.