

Social Enterprise Resources

Acumen Fund is a not-for-profit venture fund that invests [patient capital](#) in enterprises that improve the lives of millions. We are building a movement for a world beyond poverty through social entrepreneurship, impact investing, and harnessing the power of markets.

In this document, you will find a host of resources that our team uses regularly and recommends, providing a foundation for understanding patient capital and social enterprise. We invite you also to view the [Acumen Fellows' reading list](#), the texts that we believe will help to shape the next generation of leaders in this sector.

Acumen Fund Resources

- + [AcumenFund.org](#): General information, updates, articles, videos, documents and research on Acumen's approach to poverty, our investments, and ways to get involved
- + [Blog.AcumenFund.org](#): News and commentary on patient capital, entrepreneurship, Base of the Pyramid (BoP) business strategies, and projects related to Acumen Fund's mission to build transformative businesses to solve the problems of poverty
- + [Community.AcumenFund.org](#): A social network for supporters of Acumen to connect, interact, and collaborate with one another.
- + [The Blue Sweater: Bridging the Gap Between Rich and the Poor in an Interconnected World](#), by Acumen founder and CEO, Jacqueline Novogratz
- + [Acumen Fund on Twitter](#): Follow @acumenfund to stay plugged in to news on Acumen Fund and the sector

Blogs/Magazines/Journals

- + [NextBillion.net](#): A blog that explores the connection between development and enterprise. It is co-managed by Acumen Fund, the World Resources Institute, the William Davidson Institute, Ashoka, Avina and Technoserve
- + [Social Edge](#): An online community managed by the Skoll Foundation where social entrepreneurs and other practitioners in the social sector connect to network, learn, inspire and share resources
- + [Stanford Social Innovation Review](#): A quarterly magazine that explores strategies, management tools, and ideas for nonprofits, foundations, and socially responsible businesses
- + [Innovations: Technology, Governance, Globalization](#): A journal jointly hosted by George Mason University's School of Public Policy, Harvard's Kennedy School of Government, and MIT's Legatum Center for Development and Entrepreneurship. It features case studies, commentary, essays and research from leading academics, globally recognized executives and political leaders
- + [Aid Watch](#): on bringing accountability to foreign aid and international development. A project of New York University's Development Research Initiative and Professor William Easterly
- + [Beyond Profit](#): An online magazine on innovative social enterprise solutions to challenges related to poverty, climate change, education, and health
- + [Tactical Philanthropy](#): A blog on effective giving and philanthropy as a mechanism for social change by Sean Stannard-Stockton, CEO of Tactical Philanthropy Advisors
- + [Sasha Dichter's Blog](#): Acumen Fund's Director of Business Development blogs on philanthropy, generosity, and social change

Books

- + *The Fortune at the Bottom of the Pyramid*, C.K. Prahalad
- + *Capitalism at the Crossroads: The Unlimited Business Opportunities in Solving the World's Most Difficult Problems*, Stuart L. Hart
- + *In the River They Swim: Essays from Around the World on Enterprise Solutions to Poverty*, Michael Fairbanks, Malik Fal, Marcela Escobari-Rose, Elizabeth Hooper
- + *Creating a World Without Poverty: Social Business and the Future of Capitalism*, Muhammad Yunus
- + *Next Generation Strategies for the Base of the Pyramid: New Approaches for Building Mutual Value.*, Ted London and Stuart Hart, eds.

Reports

- + "[Emerging Markets, Emerging Models](#)," The Monitor Group
- + "[The Next 4 Billion: Market Size and Business Strategy at the Base of the Pyramid](#)," World Resources Institute
- + "[More than Money: Impact Investing for Development](#)," Center for Global Development
- + "[Impact Investments: An Emerging Asset Class](#)," JP Morgan, Rockefeller Foundation, Global Impact Investing Network
- + "[Creating Value for All: Strategies for Doing Business with the Poor](#)," UN Development Program

Conferences

- + [Skoll World Forum on Social Entrepreneurship](#): Prominent figures from the social, academic, finance, corporate and policy sectors engage for three days and nights in a series of debates, discussions and work sessions focused on accelerating, innovating and scaling solutions to some of the world's most pressing social issues
- + [Social Capital Markets](#): Annual conferences in San Francisco, Europe, and Washington DC to build "the market at the intersection of money and meaning"
- + [Pop!Tech conference](#): Five hundred visionary thinkers in the sciences, technology, business, design, the arts, education, government and culture come together for a three-day summit that "explores the cutting-edge ideas, emerging technologies and new forces of change that are shaping our collective future"
- + [Global Engagement Summit](#): Student conference at Northwestern University that trains students participating in on-the-ground international development and social entrepreneurship, puts driven students in touch with one another and with innovative leaders, and develops a resource network to support student global change projects
- + [StartingBloc](#): National conference/network that educates, empowers and connects emerging leaders to drive positive social change across sectors
- + [Harvard Social Enterprise Conference](#): Creates a forum for both students and professionals to explore the synergies between for-profit, non-profit, and public sector approaches to addressing critical social issues

Videos

- + [Acumen Fund YouTube Channel](#) and [Knowledge Center Video Archive](#)
- + [Pop!Casts](#): Videos and podcasts from Pop!Tech conference speakers
- + "[Social Entrepreneurs Are Pioneering Social Change](#)": Skoll Foundation video that overviews social entrepreneurship
- + [ViewChange.org](#): A video site run by LinkTV, dedicated to telling stories about real people and progress in global development
- + [TEDTalks](#): A nonprofit devoted to "Ideas Worth Spreading." The best talks and performances from TED conferences are available on TED.com for free. More than 450 TEDTalks are now available, with more added each week. Favorites include:
- + [Jacqueline Novogratz](#) on escaping poverty
- + [Jacqueline Novogratz](#) on patient capitalism

- + [Andrew Mwenda](#) takes a new look at Africa
- + [Hans Rosling's](#) new insights on poverty
- + [Iqbal Quadir](#) says mobiles fight poverty
- + [Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala](#) on aid versus trade
- + [Nandan Nilekani's](#) ideas for India's future
- + [Seth Godin](#) on the tribes we lead

Job & Internship Resources

- + [Seen & Heard](#): A bi-weekly feature on the Acumen Fund blog with jobs at Acumen Fund and in the sector
- + [NextBillion.net Career Center](#)
- + [Aspen Network of Development Entrepreneurs' Jobs in the Network Page](#)
- + [Global Impact Investing Network Job Board](#)

Resources on related subjects

Networks and new marketing

- + [Here Comes Everybody: The Power of Organizing Without Organizations](#), Clay Shirky
- + [Tribes](#), Seth Godin
- + [Purple Cow](#), Seth Godin
- + [Seth Godin's blog](#): The most popular marketing blog on the web
- + [Guerrilla Marketing, 4th edition: Easy and Inexpensive Strategies for Making Big Profits from Your Small Business](#), Jay Conrad Levinson

Nonprofits and philanthropy

- + [Uncharitable: How Restraints on Nonprofits Undermine Their Potential](#), Dan Pallotta
- + [Philanthrocapitalism](#), Matthew Bishop and Michael Green. Also have a blog: www.philanthrocapitalism.net
- + [Just Another Emperor: The Myths and Realities of Philanthrocapitalism](#), Michael Edwards
- + [Good to Great and the Social Sectors: A Monograph to Accompany Good to Great](#), Jim Collins
- + [Philanthropy 2173](#): Blog by Lucy Bernholz, Founder and President of Blueprint Research & Design, Inc
- + [Social Venture Partners blog](#): Venture Philanthropy blog run by a network of engaged donors.
- + [Global Philanthropy Forum](#)
- + [Creative Capitalism](#): A collection of essays and commentary on capitalism, philanthropy and global development. Provoked provoked by Bill Gates' speech at the 2009 World Economic Forum in Davos.

Business and entrepreneurship

- + [From Good to Great](#), Jim Collins
- + [On Competition](#), Michael Porter
- + [Four Steps to the Epiphany](#), Steve Blank
- + [Harvard Business Review](#)
- + [Ideablob](#): A forum where entrepreneurs and small business owners can share and grow their business ideas and have a chance to win \$10,000.

Aid and sustainable development

- + [Development As Freedom](#), Amartya Sen
- + [The End of Poverty](#), Jeffrey Sachs
- + [The Bottom Billion](#), Paul Collier
- + [Reinventing Foreign Aid](#), ed. William Easterly
- + [The Elusive Quest for Growth](#), William Easterly
- + [Dead Aid](#), Dambisa Moyo
- + [Mystery of Capital](#), Hernando De Soto
- + [Making Globalization Work](#), Joseph E. Stiglitz

Peer Institutions

- + [Aspen Network of Development Entrepreneurs \(ANDE\)](#)
- + [Global Impact Investing Network \(GIIN\)](#)
- + [Ashoka](#)
- + [Endeavor](#)
- + [Root Capital](#)
- + [E+Co](#)
- + [The Rockefeller Foundation Harnessing the Power of Impact Investing Initiative](#)