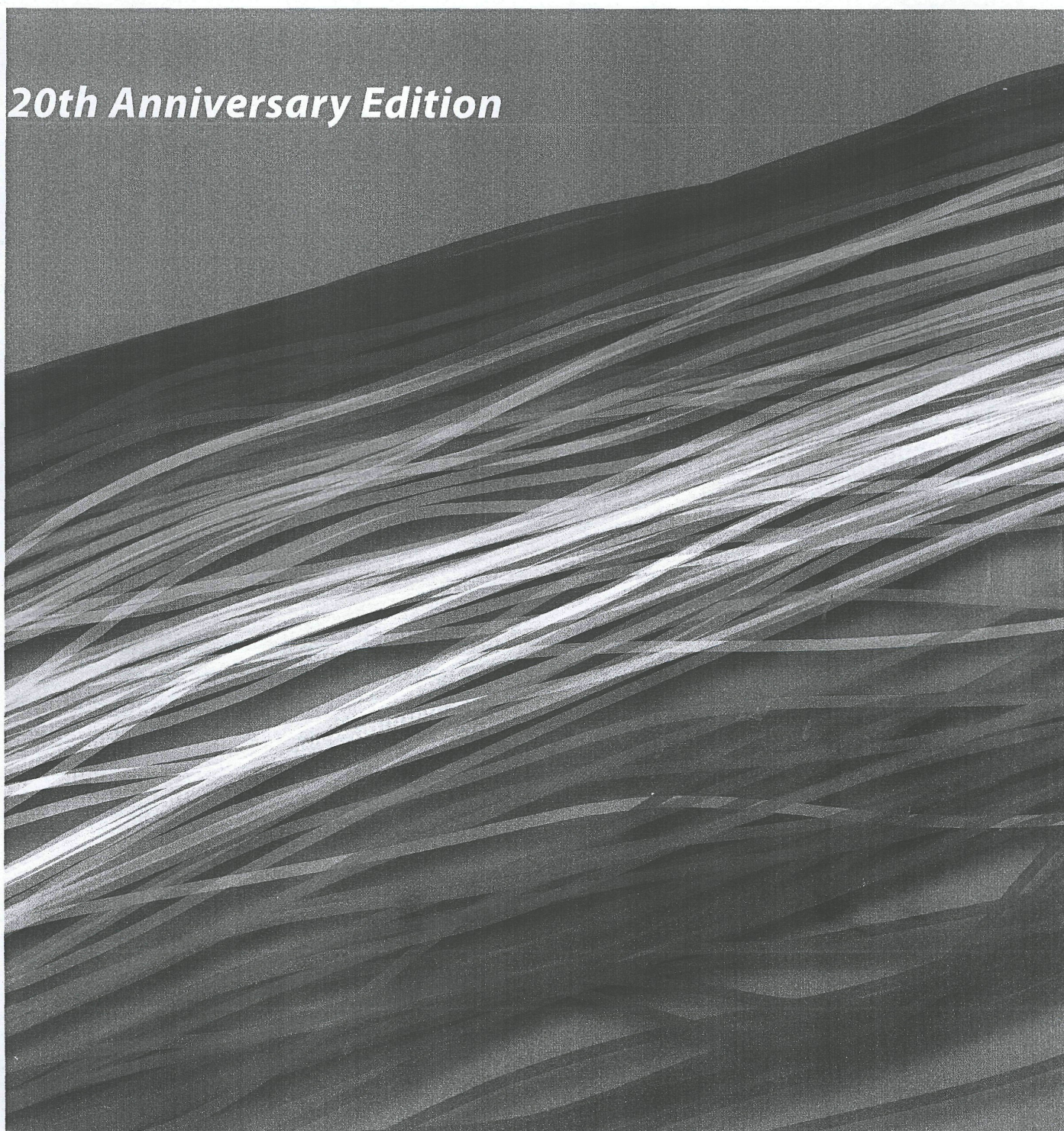


Human Development Report 2010



The Real Wealth of Nations:
Pathways to Human Development

20th Anniversary Edition



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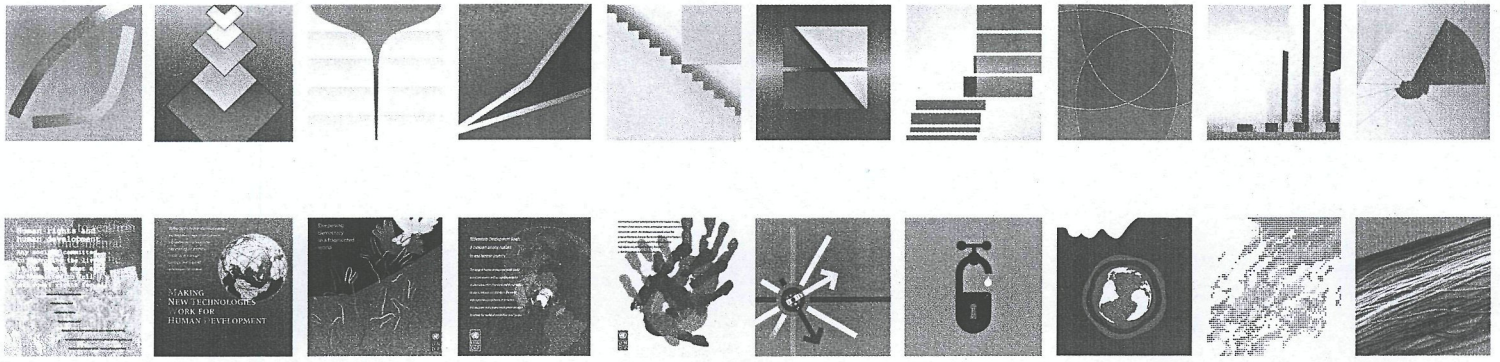
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The first *Human Development Report* in 1990 opened with the simply stated premise that has guided all subsequent Reports: "People are the real wealth of a nation." By backing up this assertion with an abundance of empirical data and a new way of thinking about and measuring development, the *Human Development Report* has had a profound impact on development policies around the world.

This 20th anniversary edition features introductory reflections by the Nobel Prize-winning economist Amartya Sen, who worked with series founder Mahbub ul Haq on the conception of the first *Human Development Report* and contributed to and inspired many successive volumes.

The 2010 Report continues the tradition of pushing the frontiers of development thinking. For the first time since 1990, the Report looks back rigorously at the past several decades and identifies often surprising trends and patterns with important lessons for the future. These varied pathways to human development show that there is no single formula for sustainable progress—and that impressive long-term gains can and have been achieved even without consistent economic growth.

In keeping with the innovative spirit of its founders, the Report this year introduces an updated version of its signature Human Development Index (HDI) and presents pioneering new indices:

- The Inequality-adjusted HDI, which reduces national HDI values by the degree of inequalities in health and education standards and the distribution of income.
- The Gender Inequality Index, which factors in women's participation in government and the workforce, as well as health and education status, to reflect disparities between men and women within and across countries.
- The Multidimensional Poverty Index, which identifies overlapping deprivations at the household level—including health, schooling and living conditions—and calculates that fully a third of the people in the 104 countries studied live in extreme multidimensional poverty.

Looking beyond 2010, this Report surveys critical aspects of human development outside the scope of these indices, from political freedoms and empowerment to sustainability and human security, and outlines a broader agenda for research and policies to respond to these challenges.

As Amartya Sen writes: "Twenty years after the appearance of the first *Human Development Report*, there is much to celebrate in what has been achieved. But we also have to be alive to ways of improving the assessment of old adversities and of recognizing—and responding to—new threats that endanger human well-being and freedom."

The 20th anniversary edition is a response to that human development imperative.



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