

THE END OF POVERTY SOON?

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Unfortunately, all the redirected money and even anti-corruption measures in the world won't solve poverty unless you do one additional thing: End Rent-Seeking. As long as land and resource monopolists can make unlimited private gain from charging "rent" for land, oil, seeds, or anything else that nature provides but which private interests control, they will simply jack up these rents whenever poor people have a little more surplus. Rent-seekers collect all the surplus that is not drained in taxes. The real solution is to collect the economic rent from the commons for the common good (aka a Land Value Tax). In the U.S. economic rent of various kinds adds up to 1/3 of GDP, economists who have studied this tell us. Collection of this amount of money would eliminate the need to tax productive work at all: income, sales, and true capital (buildings, trucks, gumball machines, etc.).

Then, people would be rewarded for working, not hoarding and speculating. <<