Access to Capital = Growth & Prosperity



Many parts of the world are fortunate...

The financial institutions (banks, stock exchanges) work well and are generally very efficient.

Easy access to capital allows existing businesses to grow, and new businesses to start.



But what happens when access to capital isn't so straightforward?

Existing businesses can't grow.

New businesses can't start.



There is a strong correlation between access to capital and poverty levels.

Enter Microfinance & Microcredit



Muhammad Yunus Economist 2006 Nobel Peace Prize

Check out this excellent video:

<u>Muhammed Yunus - Banker to the Poor</u>





Providing small "microloans" to poor people, enabling new economic opportunities for them and their families.

And it's not just a poor country problem...

What happened in 2008?



Several Wall Street banks made some bad investments...



...which led to the bankruptcy of several large banks across the world.



Surviving banks freeze; credit dries up.

No access to capital: no mortgages, no car loans, no equipment purchases....

And it's not just a poor country problem...

What happened in 2008?



Main Takeaways...

- Access to capital enables business owners to take out loans to grow their business, and entrepreneurs to start their businesses.
- This is possible due to the highly efficient network of banks and stock exchanges that provide the ability to shift money (capital) to where it is needed most.
- However, a lack of access to capital often leads to poverty: businesses can't grow and new businesses can't get started.
- Microfinance and microcredit banks provide microloans with little or no collateral, enabling people that are ambitious and capable, yet poor, to provide for themselves and their families.

Access to credit drives growth and prosperity. And when this is interrupted, as it did in 2008, even modern economies suffer greatly.

Next Time...

Costs & Cost Estimation Techniques



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