TAD Project

Hi guys, the research paper with the text analysis of World Bank Annual Report from 1946 to 2012 can be found here: [https://litlab.stanford.edu/LiteraryLabPamphlet9.pdf](https://slack-redir.net/link?url=https%3A%2F%2Flitlab.stanford.edu%2FLiteraryLabPamphlet9.pdf" \t "_blank)

[10:24 AM](https://textasdatateam.slack.com/archives/CNP0QV3FH/p1569313486001300)

We can use that as our base research, and then expand it further from 2013 to 2018.

[10:25 AM](https://textasdatateam.slack.com/archives/CNP0QV3FH/p1569313507001800)

There should be some interesting things/trends that we can untangle from that.

[10:29 AM](https://textasdatateam.slack.com/archives/CNP0QV3FH/p1569313799002000)

Every year, the World Bank published an Annual Report that explores the challenges encountered by developing nations and what it is doing to help people help themselves. From its inception in 1946 until present day, its mission statement has shifted from the rebuilding of Europe towards fostering international development. In a way, these annual report are mirrors that reflect the reality of their time and shines a light on international development and the progress of developing countries. Fortunately, all annual reports from 1946 to present days are preserved in the World Bank data portal. Analyzing the text corpus of these reports could provide valuable insights into the topics, trends, and sentiments that permeate the world of development specifically and the world at large.

[10:30 AM](https://textasdatateam.slack.com/archives/CNP0QV3FH/p1569313840002900)

some general motivation that i wrote. we can make a draft proposal tomorrow together.

[10:32 AM](https://textasdatateam.slack.com/archives/CNP0QV3FH/p1569313954004800)

So for tomorrow's meeting, I think we can focus on: 1/ Make a draft proposal 2/ Go through the process of data extraction and cleaning together to get clean text for analysis . 3/ If there's time, perhaps we can use what we learnt so far on one of the annual report and see wordclouds, word distribution, etc.

**Bankspeak:The Languageof World Bank Reports, 1946–2012**

* Words: impression of extreme stability
  + Seven are near the top at any given time:
  + three of them are nouns—bank, loan/s, and development—
  + and four are adjectives: fiscal (especially fre­quent after 1975), economic, financial (alternating with fiscal in first or second place from the mid-1980s on), and private
  + This septet is joined by a handful of other nouns: IBRD3, coun­tries, investment/s, interest, program/s, project/s, assistance, and—
  + though initially less fre­quent—lending, growth, cost, debt, trade and prices
  + There is also a second, more colorless set of adjectives (other, new, such, net, first, more, general)
  + plus agricultural (among the top ten up to 1988, but dropping to 75th place after 1996), and rural, that has partly replaced agricultural.

**Take away**

* The World Bank lends money
* for the purpose of stimulating devel­opment
* notably in the rural South,
* involved with loans, investments, and debts
* It works through programs and projects,
* considers trade a key resource for eco­nomic growth
* Being concerned with development, the Bank deals with all sorts of econom­ic, financial and fiscal matters, and is in touch with private business
* The key discontinuity, as we will see,
  + falls mostly between the first two decades and the last two
  + when the style of the Re­ports becomes much more
    - codified, self-referential, and detached from everyday language

**The first twenty years and the creation of material infrastructures**

* Nouns are at the center of World Bank Reports
* During the first two decades
  + the most fre­quent among them can be grouped in two main clusters
    - the first, obviously enough, encom­passes the economic activities of the Bank:
      * loan/s, development, power (in the sense of electric power), program, project/s, investment, equipment, production, construc­tion, plant;
      * further down the list are companies, facilities, industry, and machineries, followed by a string of concrete terms like port, road, steel, irrigation, kwh, river, highway, railway—and then timber, pulp, coal, iron, steam, steel, locomotives, diesel, freight, dams, bridges, cement, chemical, acres, hectares, drainage, crop, cattle, livestock.
      * All quite appropriate to a Bank which deals with loans and investments (the only explicitly financial terms of this long list) to promote a variety of infrastructural development projects.4
    - The second cluster is much smaller (just a dozen words)
      * describes how the Bank actu­ally operates
      * Confronted with existing demands, its experts analyze numbers, but they also
    - advise countries, suggest solutions, assist local governments and allocate its loans
* At the end of every cycle, the Bank specifies what has been lent, spent, paid and sold, and describes the equipment
* clear link is established between empirical knowledge, money flows, and industrial constructions
* Apart from the Bank, three types of social actors appear in the texts:
  + states and govern­ments;
  + companies, banks and industry;
  + engineers, technicians and experts
    - confirms the standard account of post–WWII reconstruction as industrial, Fordist, and Keynesian