Sectoral Changes

Cumulatively, since 1990 Bank loans have gone to the sectors shown in Table 1.

Table 1: World Bank funding since 1990 (by sector)⁴

IBRD			IDA		
	US\$ (millions)	%	US\$ (millions)	%	
Transportation	\$21,397	13.1%	\$11,303	18.2%	Agriculture
Economic policy	\$20,026	12.3%	\$6,916	11.2%	Economic Policy
Finance	\$19,058	11.7%	\$6,900	11.1%	Education
Electric power and energy	\$17,154	10.5%	\$6,749	10.9%	Health, nutrition and population
Agriculture	\$15,700	9.6%	\$6,626	10.7%	Transportation
Education	\$10,752	6.6%	\$3,479	5.6%	Social Protection
Social protection	\$7,713	4.7%	\$3,349	5.4%	Electric power and energy
Public sector management	\$7,592	4.7%	\$2,473	4.0%	Private sector development
Urban development	\$7,587	4.7%	\$2,399	3.9%	Public sector management
Water supply and sanitation	\$6,740	4.1%	\$2,375	3.8%	Water supply and sanitation
Health, nutrition and population	\$6,043	3.7%	\$2,285	3.7%	Finance
Environment	\$4,774	2.9%	\$2,257	3.6%	Urban development
Oil and gas	\$4,626	2.8%	\$1,936	3.1%	Multisector
Private sector development	\$4,581	2.8%	\$1,858	3.0%	Environment
Multisector	\$3,407	2.1%	\$617	1.0%	Oil and gas
Mining	\$3,059	1.9%	\$271	0.4%	Telecommunications
Telecommunications	\$1,925	1.2%	\$228	0.4%	Mining
Industry	\$656	0.4%		0.0%	Industry
Total	\$162,789	100.0%	\$62,020	100.0%	Total

Notice the higher emphasis in IDA lending for Agriculture, Education, and Health, Nutrition and population, again reflecting the 'poverty reduction' mandate. Whereas, IBRD has higher sector content in Electric Power and Energy and Finance, reflecting its concentration on improving the infrastructure for business. Both have strong commitments in the expensive transportation sector, and in Economic Policy, which is largely policy-based lending.

Two dominant themes emerge from sectoral analysis of such disbursement numbers. Firstly, the increased (and increasing) prominence of social and environmental concerns in IFI funding. And secondly, the new ideological focus on creating a business 'enabling environment'. That is, creating a public space where private enterprise can flourish. Such projects include adequate and reliable infrastructure, economically viable governmental policies, and a financially sound banking sector (this last area has gained further momentum with the Asian financial crisis).

⁴World Bank (2000a), p 143.