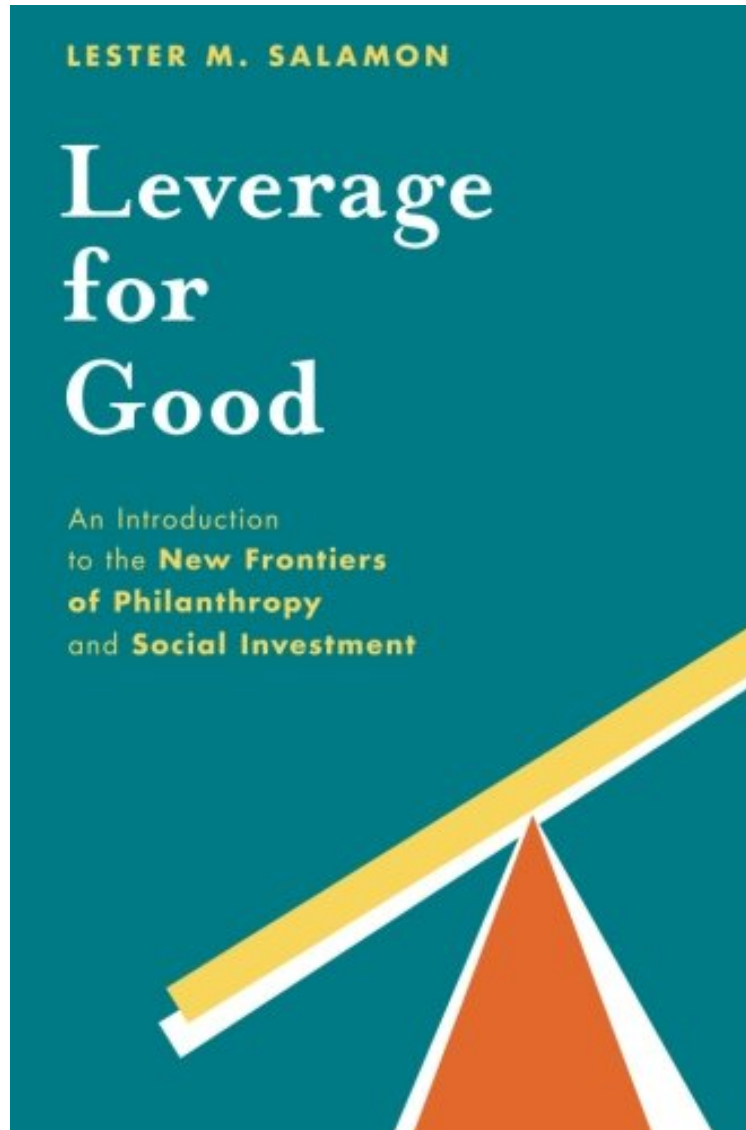


Leverage for Good: An Introduction to the New Frontiers of Philanthropy and Social Investment

Lester M. Salamon

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Lester M. Salamon : Leverage for Good: An Introduction to the New Frontiers of Philanthropy and Social Investment before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Leverage for Good: An Introduction to the New Frontiers of Philanthropy and Social Investment:

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...By RWThis is a great resource for those with no or moderate knowledge of 'impact investing' or social investing, more broadly. While it is written in an academic style, this means it is well laid out and has extensive footnoting and bibliography. While I read it cover-to-cover, I recommend this one as a volume to keep on the shelf for reference. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. My favorite part of the book is Chapter 5By NealThis book gives a clear, concise, well-written account of the innovative tools and expanding roster of players in the world of philanthropy. The objective of these developments is to open up new avenues for funding while at the same time producing a greater impact for each dollar through non-traditional financial instruments adopted from the business world.My favorite part of the book is Chapter 5, which is a frank discussion of the obstacles and criticisms that must be confronted in order for social-impact investing to continue its rapid growth. For example, more useful and reliable evaluation methods are needed for deciding what projects and enterprises deserve to be supported.Chapter 2 describes the "new actors", who represent a diverse assortment of institutions and professional groups. However, what bothers me (and unfortunately is not commented upon in the book) is that they do not represent diverse philosophical perspectives on such issues as poverty alleviation, environmental protection, and social equality. If social-impact investors embark on far more ambitious projects and wish to avoid the mistakes of earlier generations of financial experts -- the tragic unintended consequences of the Green Revolution, the backlash and mistrust engendered by early family planning programs, the string of ill-conceived World Bank-supported projects and policies that did deep and lasting damage in the Third World -- they have to include broader perspectives in the discussions and in the evaluation procedures. They need to reach out to the "other side of the aisle" -- to advocates for the dispossessed, to opponents of local development projects, to critics of globalization, to people like Vandana Shiva and Walden Bello.

With the resources of both governments and traditional philanthropy barely growing or in decline, yet the problems of poverty, ill-health, and environmental degradation ballooning daily, new models for financing social and environmental objectives are urgently needed. Fortunately, a revolution is underway in the instruments and institutions available to meet this need. Loans, loan guarantees, private equity, barter arrangements, social stock exchanges, bonds, social secondary markets, and investment funds are just some of the actors and tools occupying the new frontiers of philanthropy and social investment. Together they hold the promise of leveraging for social and environmental purposes not just the billions of dollars of charitable grants but the hundreds of billions, indeed trillions, of dollars of private investment capital.While the changes under way are inspiring, they remain largely uncharted. This concise introduction to the topic, and its companion volume, provide the first comprehensive and accessible roadmap to these important advances. In the process, these works will better equip investors, philanthropists, social entrepreneurs, nonprofit leaders, business executives, government officials, and students the world over to capture the opportunities that these developments hold out to them and to our world.

"Lester Salamon is a first-order scholar of global civil society. In an earlier work he put the importance of nonprofits worldwide on the map. In this work he provides a roadmap to the many new actors and tools that are enlarging the philanthropic space. Policy makers and practitioners owe him a great debt." --Barry Gaberman, Senior Vice President (retired), the Ford Foundation"All too many financial advisors cannot figure out how to address their best clients' concerns about charitable giving or impact investing -- for them it is an entirely new language they cannot speak. Salamon's book translates it for those advisors and better yet, for their home offices that must develop a plan for this new world of philanthropy and social investment, and do it soon." --Christopher L. Davis, President, The Money Management Institute"Here in one place are the varied contributions to the brave new world of social investing -- essential reading and clearly explained." --Richard Holloway, author of Towards Financial Self-Reliance "The book is well structured, the graphs and boxes illustrate and explain the content of the book. Moreover, the outline helps us to understand the topic by highlighting the most important points, and the wide margins allow the possibility of adding notes or comments. The glossary is a well-structured helpful part of the book, as Salamon mentioned in the book, the 'terminology is a wasteland' generally in the midst of a paradigm shift. The topic could be useful for professionals of the third sector as well as for researchers, students, or business people if they are or want to be involved with the third sector." --International Society For Third-Sector ResearchAbout the AuthorLester M. Salamon served as deputy associate director of the US Office of Management and Budget and is now Professor at the Johns Hopkins University and Director of the Johns Hopkins Center for Civil Society Studies.