

## 1<sup>st</sup> Plenary Session

May 9<sup>th</sup>, 2013: 13:30-15:00

Lagoon Beach Hotel, room

## 10th PEP General Meeting Cape Town, South Africa

### Methods of policy assessment: contributions, challenges and complementarities

Organized in collaboration with the IDRC

#### Presenters :

- **Ingrid Woolard**, School of Economics, University of Cape Town (South Africa)  
*"How evidence from the program's impact evaluation was used to influence the expansion of the South African Child Support Grant"*
- **Ramos Mabugu**, Fiscal and Financial Commission (South Africa)  
*"Experiences using macro-micro policy simulations to inform policy in South Africa"*
- **Merlita Lagmay**, City Planning and Development Officer of Pasay City (Philippines)  
*"CBMS: A Tool for Improving Local Governance"*

#### Moderator:

- **Arjan de Haan**, Team leader – Supporting Inclusive Growth, International Development Research Centre (Canada)

#### Description of session:

Policy analysis in PEP is conducted through micro-econometric techniques, macro-micro policy simulations, monitoring and impact evaluations (RCTs and non-experimental) - for more information on PEP "toolbox" visit <http://www.pep-net.org/programs/>.

The breadth of analytical perspectives for policy analysis used and supported by PEP provides a unique opportunity to compare and contrast approaches, to identify their respective forces and weaknesses as well as complementarities in informing and influencing policy.

This panel session will bring together different perspectives on how three of PEP's core methodologies (CBMS, macro-micro policy simulations and Impact Evaluation) have been used concretely to inform and influence policy and what policymakers and program implementations have gained from each of these different types of research.

Three researchers who have been actively using one of the methodologies AND involved in the process of informing subsequent policymaking, will share their perspectives and reflect on the main strengths and weaknesses of their respective approaches for policy research. The objective of the panel is to answer the following question: Considering the different tools and methods for policy assessment, what is most useful from different methods? For whom? What are the main shortcomings and ways to address them?