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special announcement – new PEP call for proposals

With support from DFID (or UK aid) and IDRC, PEP has recently launched a first call for proposals, in the context of a new multi-country initiative entitled « Policy Analysis on Growth and Employment” (PAGE). In accordance with PEP's core mission, this initiative comprises an important “capacity building” component, and thus the selection of a number of developing country research teams (with **priority given to LICs, fragile and conflict states**), to benefit from the unique and manifold “PEP support program”, in the conduct of high quality research projects.

Find all related information here: [PAGE – NEW PEP CALL FOR PROPOSAL](#)

Deadline: Please note that proposals must be submitted before **November 5** for all projects but CBMS. CBMS proposals can be submitted until **December 7, 2012**.



news and events

policy findings

In recent months, PEP has published the findings and outcomes of several projects that were selected and supported through previous calls for proposals. These projects address a wide range of policy and welfare issues in a variety of countries, e.g. from agricultural policy adjustments in Colombia, to remittances in Nigeria, social protection in China and tax reforms in Pakistan and Sri Lanka.

A few examples are provided below, but **the complete list can be found here: [Recent policy findings of PEP researchers in developing countries](#)**

Nigeria

PMMA-10866

Analyzing the impact of remittances on poverty in Nigeria

Working Paper 2012-09



In this study, a team of Nigerian PEP researchers analyzes the impact of remittances on poverty in their home country, using data from the 2004 Nigerian National Living Standard Survey (NNLSS). The team finds that both internal and international remittances reduce the incidence, depth and severity of poverty. According to their results, the receipt of internal remittances reduces the poverty headcount by 11.14% and poverty gap by 9.7% while the receipt of international remittances makes poverty indices almost nil. [Find out](#) more about the research outcomes and what the analysts recommend in terms of related policies, through their recently published research paper.

Research team: [Nnaemeka Chukwuone](#) | [Ebele Amaechina](#) | [Benjamin Okpukpara](#) | [Evelyn Iyoko](#) | [Sunday E. Enebeli-Uzor](#)

China

MPIA-11351

Setting up the uniform social security system under huge labour migration in China

Working Paper 2012-08



Migrant workers have made substantial contributions to China's urban economic development in recent years, but have not been provided with access to a corresponding social security system. In particular, the issue of the transfer and continuation of their pension insurance between jurisdictions has not been resolved, resulting in a low participation rate of migrant workers in the current pension insurance scheme. In 2009, two new policies were proposed to safeguard their social security. In this particular PEP study, a team of Chinese researchers assessed the effectiveness of these policies, using modeling and simulation techniques. [Find out](#) how limited such effectiveness turned out to be and what complementary policies the researchers recommend to implement to fulfill the said purposes.

Research team: [Yaxiong Zhang](#) | [Kun Zhao](#) | [Jifeng Li](#)

Colombia

MPIA-11410

Poverty impacts of agricultural policy adjustments in an opening economy: the case of Colombia

Working Paper 2012-06 | Policy Brief 97



In 2007, the government of Colombia implemented a policy package based on direct support measures for the agricultural sector, known as Agriculture Secure Income (AIS from its Spanish language acronym), which aims both to protect farmers' income and enhance sectoral competitiveness. The researchers supported by PEP in this particular study set out to assess the short run effects of AIS on agricultural production, resource use, wage levels and poverty in Colombia, using a combination of CGE modelling and microsimulation techniques. The researchers' findings led them to conclude that the AIS policy has very limited potential to achieve the objectives and purposes for which it was implemented. [Find out](#) what these specific findings are and the ensuing recommendations to address the related issues.

Research team: [Ricardo Arguello](#) | [Daniel Valderrama Gonzalez](#) | [Sandra Acero Walteros](#)

research initiatives and collaborations

PAGE (co-funded by DFID and IDRC)

PEP has been commissioned to lead a multi-country initiative, involving the support of (up to) 70 study projects on “**Policy Analysis on Growth and Employment**” (PAGE) issues, led by small teams of researchers in developing countries, especially in low-income countries, fragile and conflict states. The initiative, co-funded by the Department for International Development (DFID) of the United Kingdom (or UK aid) and the International Development Research Centre (IDRC) of Canada, draws on PEP's manifold expertise in terms of methodological approaches and research capacity building. The first (2012) of three rounds' call for proposals was launched in early September. [Find out more...](#)

PEP-UNICEF collaborations

- PEP researchers have recently published and presented the findings and recommendations from a UNICEF-commissioned study on “**Fiscal Space and Public Spending on Children in Burkina Faso**”. [Find out more...](#)
- In recent years, collaborations between PEP and UNICEF have multiplied, especially throughout Africa. PEP has recently published a special report describing the various projects in which PEP has been called on to produce scientifically-sound evidence on child welfare issues, in support of UNICEF's advocacy work in these countries. See special report: [Producing Evidence to Help Improve Child Well-being in Developing Countries](#)

PEP-AusAID collaborations

PEP published the main findings and policy recommendations from two special multi-country project initiatives that were commissioned by the Australian Agency for International Development (AusAID):

- [Assessing the Impacts of the Global Financial Crisis and Appropriate Policy Responses in Asia](#); Case Studies of Bangladesh, Pakistan and the Philippines. [Download the report here...](#)
- [Investing in Public Infrastructure: An Effective Inclusive Growth Strategy?](#) [Download the report here...](#)

training and workshops

As the initial and core component of PEP's mission has always been to build/strengthen local research capacities in the South, the organization of intensive training workshops in developing countries has been part of its regular set of activities since its creation in 2002. "PEP Schools" offer "on-site" and personalized training, provided by world leading experts, in a variety of cutting-edge research methodologies, tools and concepts of development economics, to help local researchers in developing countries contribute to the design of effective national growth and poverty reduction strategies.



| Forthcoming PEP training workshops | Location | Dates |
|---|------------------------|--------------------|
| A new English-language PEP School in South Africa on "advanced training in CGE and GAMS". More... | Pretoria, South Africa | November 5-9, 2012 |

| Recent events | Location | Dates |
|---|-----------------|-----------------|
| First edition of a PEP-CPEEL School on "modelling the impact of macroeconomic shock and policies" in Nigeria. More... | Ibadan, Nigeria | July 9-20, 2012 |
| Second edition of the "PEP-Laval intensive graduate school in development economics". More... | Quebec, Canada | June 3-23, 2012 |

conferences

The PEP program for capacity building in developing countries also comprises a "policy outreach" component, through which PEP encourages and supports researchers in implementing an effective communication and dissemination strategy, in order to inform the largest possible audience (policy makers, donors, researchers and other stakeholders) of their findings and recommendations. Among other activities, PEP provides funding and guidance for researchers to organize a national policy conference in their home country, or to present their work at a relevant international conferences. For example:



Islamabad, Pakistan – September 11-13, 2012 and Guayaquil, Ecuador – April 19-20, 2012
[Spotlight on PEP researchers in Asia and Latin America!](#) Several PEP researchers were invited to present their PEP-supported research work and findings regarding the [impact of the global financial crisis in their respective countries](#), during important regional meetings hosting high-level policy audiences.

Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso – September 10, 2012 and UNICEF HQ, NY (USA) – September 17, 2012
PEP researchers present the main findings and recommendations from a [UNICEF-commissioned study on child welfare issues in Burkina Faso](#) to national and international stakeholders.

Dakar, Senegal – September 6-7, 2012

PEP Africa hosted the [2012 PEGNet Conference](#) on "How to Make African Economic Lions: Tapping Africa's Growth and Poverty Reduction Potentials", which provided a platform for high-level dialogue between development researchers, practitioners and policymakers. One particular panel of the conference was dedicated to the presentation of three PEP impact evaluation projects led by local research teams in Kenya, Senegal and Uganda.



Beijing, China – August 18-19, 2012

PEP researchers Yumei Zhang and Kevin Chen were invited to present their work regarding the impact of public infrastructure investments on growth and poverty in China at the [2012 International Conference on CGE Modeling](#) entitled "Urbanization and Sustainable Development"

Dakar, Senegal – July 10, 2012

PEP African representative, Pr. Abdoulaye Diagne, in collaboration with the Ministry of Education, organized a national policy conference to present the main outcomes and policy recommendations from a PEP impact evaluation research project entitled "[Assessing the Impact of Deworming and School Canteen Programs in Primary Schools of Rural Senegal](#)" to Senegalese government officials and the general public.

Dakar, Senegal – June 15, 2012

Pr. Diagne was also invited to present his PEP-supported research findings at a special UNICEF conference entitled "[Persistent Poverty and Rising Inequity](#)", held in Senegal.

Rabat, Morocco – May 22-23, 2012

PEP-affiliated international experts, Rahmen El Lahga and AbdelKhalek Touhami, were invited to participate in a UNICEF conference on "[Measurement and Policy Approaches to Enhance Equity for New Generations in the MENA Region](#)"

upcoming

Manila, Philippines – January 23-25, 2013 : 9th CBMS-Philippines National Policy Conference

Every year, the Asian PEP team - which is also the coordinating office of the PEP research program based on the use of community-based monitoring system (CBMS) – holds a high-level national policy conference featuring presentations from and discussions among local government units, policymakers, and development partners in the country, regarding implementation and uses of CBMS to assist in local planning/budgeting, monitoring of poverty, of program impacts, MDGs, climate change adaptation, etc.

pep news

PEP's 10 YEAR ANNIVERSARY!!

On October 1st, 2012, PEP celebrated the 10th anniversary of its creation. To mark the event, PEP has not only revitalized its image with a new logo, but also published a [brief overview of the organization's history, achievements, expansion and evolution over the past decade](#).

Follow PEP's daily newscasts on the [PEP website](#), [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#). See also [CBMS news](#) on the [PEP website](#) and [Facebook](#).

hot peppers

PEP Program Coordinator [Jean-Yves Duclos](#) has been appointed as the Director of Université Laval's Department of Economics.

Thanks in part to the experience gained through his PEP-supported research projects, PEP researcher [Jean Claude Nsabimana](#) has been hired as Assistant Professor for the Department of Economic and Administrative Sciences, at the University of Burundi.

Former PEP-affiliated student at Université Laval, Agnes Zabsonre, was awarded with the 2011-2012 Governor's General Gold Medal for the excellence of her doctoral grades, and especially her thesis "Welfare Comparisons When Populations Differ in Size", co-directed by PEP Director John Cockburn and Program Coordinator Jean-Yves Duclos.

policy briefs

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|----------------|--|------------------|
| October 2012 | Impact of 2011 Tax Reforms on Tax Revenues and Income Distribution in Sri Lanka | Policy Brief 101 |
| October 2012 | Privatization and Poverty Reduction in Vietnam : Optimal Choices and Potential Impacts | Policy Brief 100 |
| September 2012 | Exploring Missing Dimensions of Poverty Data in Chad , from a Capability Approach: Case Study of N'Djamena Population | Policy Brief 99 |
| August 2012 | Community Involvement Improves Performance in Ugandan Primary Schools | Policy Brief 98 |
| August 2012 | Assessing the Poverty Impacts of Agricultural Policy Adjustments in the Context of an Opening Economy: the Case of Colombia | Policy Brief 97 |
| August 2012 | Growth and Distributive Effects of Public Infrastructure Investments in China | Policy Brief 96 |
| August 2012 | La pauvreté au Burundi : une analyse multidimensionnelle, pour des interventions mieux ciblées | Policy Brief 95 |
| July 2012 | Simulating the Impact of Indirect Tax Reforms in Pakistan | Policy Brief 94 |
| July 2012 | Are There Ethnic Inequality Traps in Education in Latin America? Empirical Evidence for Brazil and Chile | Policy Brief 93 |

Find all PEP policy briefs [here](#)

working papers

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|--|---|
| Analyzing the Impact of Remittance on Poverty in Nigeria | - By Nnaemeka Chukwuone & al. (2012-09) |
| Setting Up the Uniform Social Security System under Huge Rural Labour Migration in China : A Quantitative Analysis Using a SICGE mode | - By Yaxiong Zhang & al. (2012-08) |
| Growth and distributive effects of public infrastructure investments in China | - By Kevin Chen & al. (2012-07) |
| Poverty Impacts of Agricultural Policy Adjustments in an Opening Economy: the Case of Colombia | - By Ricardo Arguello & al. (2012-06) |
| Are there ethnic inequality traps in education? Empirical evidence for Brazil and Chile | - By Guillermo Cruces & al. (2012-05) |
| Trade liberalization and poverty: a macro-micro analysis in Ethiopia | - By Dejene Aredo & al. (2012-04) |

Find all PEP working papers [here](#)

Books

PEP has published a total of 28 books to date, all available for download, free of charge, on the PEP website. [Find them all here...](#)



To contact PEP secretariat, please email us at info@pep-net.org

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