

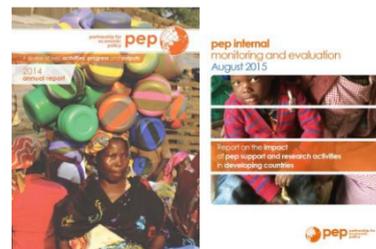


Top news in 2015

21 new research project teams selected for support under the PAGE initiative in 2015

Involving a total of 102 local researchers (56 women) in 17 different countries in Africa, Asia, Latin America and Eastern Europe, these teams were selected to receive PEP support under the 3rd round of the PAGE initiative. The selected studies will produce rigorous evidence to inform policy in favour of inclusive growth and employment in their respective countries. 8 of these projects are in low-income countries, conflict and/or fragile states. [Find out more about these projects and the PAGE initiative here](#)

Follow us on:



The 2014 PEP Annual Report is available online

A review of PEP activities and achievements in 2014. [Download it here](#)

PEP has also published the 2015 edition of its internal Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) reports

The PEP Monitoring & Evaluation (M&E) reports provide an overall review of the progress and outputs of PEP activities in terms of research and policy analysis, capacity building and policy engagement. [Download the 2015 edition here](#)

The 2015 PEP Annual Conference was held in Nairobi, Kenya, from April 29 to May 8

Again, in 2015, the PEP Annual Conference has successfully gathered nearly 200 development researchers, practitioners and policymakers, from 43 different countries, to discuss issues of inclusive growth and employment in the developing world. [Find out more about the event here](#)



From the outcomes of the 2015 Conference, PEP also presents:

- **a set of recommendations from the PEP Policy Forum**, on the theme “Unlocking Africa’s for productive employment and poverty reduction”
- **the winners of the 2015 PEP Best Practice Awards**, rewarded for their outstanding efforts in linking research results to policy action

Congratulations to PEP co-founder and lead researcher Jean-Yves Duclos!

Soon after being elected as Canadian MP, Dr. Duclos was recently named Minister of Families, Children and Social Development in the new Liberal majority government of Canada. [Find out more](#)



news and events

policy findings

PEP continually publishes the findings and outcomes of projects led by local research teams in developing countries, who have been selected and supported through its various research and capacity building initiatives. These projects address a wide range of policy and welfare issues. A few examples from projects supported under the first round of the [PAGE initiative](#) are provided below, and several more (Burkina Faso, Chad, Congo DR, Palestine, Senegal, etc.) [can be found here: Recent policy findings from PEP-supported projects in developing countries](#)

Cambodia

PAGE – Estimating the effects of migration and remittances on the left-behind in Cambodia



The objective of this study is to examine the effects of emigration and remittances on welfare and productivity of left-behind households in Cambodia, through a rigorous analysis of micro data from the 2009 Cambodia Socio-Economic Survey (CSES). While their results show that emigration and remittances have positive impact on poverty headcount (reduction of 2 to 5%) in the country, the researchers also find that they can, in turn, generate a “dependency effect” among left-behind members, due to a decrease of 5 to 9% in hours worked by (employed) adults – and thus a decrease in total salary earnings – in the migrant-sending household. Find out more through the following PEP publications and web links:

Reports and publications: [Project webpage and video](#) | [Working paper 2015-06](#) | [Policy brief 119](#)

Research team: [Vutha Hing](#) | [Dalis Phann](#) | [Roth Vathana](#) | [Sreymom Sum](#)

Niger

PAGE – Assessing the impact of oil/mining sector’s boom on labor market and economic development in Niger



This study analyzes the impact of public spending derived from oil and mining sector’s revenues, in Niger, on the country’s economic development, using CGE modeling and policy simulation techniques. The results show, on the one hand, that the increase in mining and oil revenue does not systematically lead to Dutch disease if the government implements appropriate policies. On the other hand, the best policy option identified (through the researchers’ simulations) as yielding the most benefits in terms of economic growth, employment and household welfare, is to use these revenues to subsidize electricity consumption for the industrial sector. Find out more through the following PEP publications and web links:

Reports and publications: [Project webpage and video](#) | [Working paper 2015-04 \(in FRENCH\)](#) | [Policy brief 121 \(in FRENCH\)](#)

Research team: [Saadatou Sangare Alkassoum](#) | [Youssoufou Hamadou Daouda](#) | [Mamane Boukari](#) | [Fatima Ousseini Falalou](#)

Argentina

PAGE – Social protection to the informal sector in Argentina: the role of minimum wage and income transfer policies



The objective of this study is to analyse the characteristics of minimum wage and income transfer policies implemented in Argentina from 2001 to 2012, as well as to produce evidence regarding the consequences that modifications of these policies have had on the functioning of the labour market, with special emphasis on the informal sector. Among other things, the researchers have found that in Argentina, increasing the minimum wage level does not reduce employment, nor increase informality, and that conditional cash transfers do not reduce the economic participation of beneficiaries. Find out more through the following publications and web links:

Reports and publications: [Project webpage and video](#) | [Working paper 2015-05](#) | [Policy brief 120](#) | [Slide presentation](#)

Research team: [Fernando Groisman](#) | [Maria Sconfienza](#) | [Albano Vergara](#) | [Santiago Boffi](#) | [Analia Calero](#) | [Maria S. Cubas](#)

current initiatives and collaborations

Through its manifold “Grant plus” support program, PEP promotes the mobilization and expertise of local researchers in key **national and international research initiatives**. These special, often large-scale projects – usually focused on emerging development policy issues – are conducted either through joint research initiatives, in collaboration with specific donors and/or as commissioned studies deputed by international institutions calling on PEP’s extensive experience to provide scientific support and coordinate activities.

These are some of the ongoing PEP research, capacity building and/or special collaboration initiatives.

“**Policy Analysis on Growth and Employment (PAGE)**” – co-funded by [DFID](#) (or UK Aid) and the [IDRC](#)

“**Productive employment in the segmented market of fresh produce**” – PEP-led consortium, and funded by [NWO/Wotro](#)

“Strengthening local capacity in the construction and simulation of a CGE model for the economy of Chad” – PEP-Chad-UNDP

PEP was also awarded support by IDRC to participate in the major international initiative for high quality research and capacity building on **“Structural Transformation on African Agriculture and Rural Spaces”** (STAARS)

PEP has also been commissioned to lead the following projects:

“Water resources development, poverty, shared prosperity, and climate resilience in coastal region of Kenya: exploring the linkages and pathways” – supported by the World Bank

“Foresight for food and nutritional security – modeling the long-term economy-wide effects of policy and technological change for maize and wheat” (countries under study include India, Pakistan, Ethiopia and Kenya) – supported by CGIAR/CIMMYT

conferences



February 2-4, 2015 – Manila, Philippines

11th CBMS Philippines National Conference: “Transforming communities through more responsive national and local budgets”

The 2015 edition of this annual event was attended by 750 participants – including local chief executives, local development planners, officials and representatives of national government agencies, NGOs and the academia – gathered to discuss recent developments on the implementation and uses of the **community-based monitoring systems (CBMS)** in the Philippines. This year’s event featured, in particular, presentations and discussions on the uses of CBMS for grassroots participatory budgeting process, disaster risk reduction management, climate change adaptation, local poverty reduction action planning, local programming and project prioritization, impact-monitoring and improving local governance. [Find out more about the event](#)

March 11, 2015 – Abuja, Nigeria

PEP-PAGE national policy conference: “How formal credit markets discriminate small and female entrepreneurs”

A team of local researchers in Nigeria presents and discuss the results of their PEP-PAGE-supported study, and ensuing policy recommendations, with high-level policy makers, advisors and other stakeholders at the national level. [Find out more](#)



PEP findings were also presented at the following international events:

- Annual Meeting of the Asociacion Argentina de Economia Politica in Argentina, on November 11-13
- 2015 Latin America and the Caribbean Economic Association (LACEA) Meeting in Bolivia (special PEP session), on October 15-17
- Poverty Reduction, Equity and Growth Network (PEGNet) Conference 2015 in Germany, on October 8-9
- “VI Simposio Internacional de Administración” in Mexico, on October 6-8
- 11th DYNARE Conference in Belgium, on September 28-29
- International Conference on Eurasian Economies in Russia, on September 9-11
- 5th World Congress of the International Microsimulation Association (IMA) in Luxembourg, on September 2-4
- 6th Meeting of the Society for the Study of Economic Equality (ECINEQ) in Luxembourg, on July 13-15
- DIAL Development Conference in France, on July 3-4
- Canadian Economic Association (CEA) meeting (special PEP session) in Toronto, on May 30
- World Demographic and Ageing Forum (WDA) in Boston, on April 13-14

Upcoming events

December 11, 2015 – N’Djamena, Chad

PEP-PAGE national policy conference: “Education language choice and youth entrepreneurship in Chad”

February 29 - March 2016 – Manila, Philippines

12th CBMS-Philippines National Conference: “Pursuing meaningful devolution through CBMS” – [find out more](#)

June 6-10, 2016 - Manila, Philippines

2016 PEP Annual Conference and 13th general meeting – [see previous editions](#)

PEP findings will also be presented at the following international events:

- International Association for Research in Income and Wealth - Central Agency for Public Mobilization and Statistics (IARIW-CAPMAS) Conference in Egypt, on November 23-25
- Evaluation Conclave 2015 in Nepal, on November 23-27
- Structural Transformation on African Agriculture and Rural Spaces (STAARS) Conference in Ethiopia, on December 4-5

other pep news

PEP is seeking a Senior Programme Officer, to be based at the PEP Secretariat in Nairobi – Calling for applications now! [Find out more if you wish to apply](#)

Article on the outcomes of a special PEP collaborative project published in The Lancet Global Health: “Effect of a community-led sanitation intervention on child diarrhoea and child growth in rural Mali: a cluster-randomised controlled trial”. [Read more...](#)

PEP researcher Dr. Nikica Mojsoska Blazevski wins a Fulbright post-doctoral research award at the Arizona State University. [Read more...](#)

Congratulations to Aissatou Diop on 10 years with PEP! [Read more...](#)

PEP contributes to collaborative publication on “Indicators to measure child poverty in the SDGs. [Read more...](#)

New training material on CGE model closures now available for researchers. [Read more...](#)



New issues of the CBMS network news update, featuring articles about:

- **March 2015:** the 11th CBMS Philippines National Conference, PEP-CBMS School on Accelerated Poverty Profiling (APP), outcomes from CBMS research work in Argentina and the Philippines. [Download it here](#)
- **June 2015:** outcomes of CBMS research work in Bolivia, uses of CBMS data in the Philippines, conference presentations and award nominations of CBMS researchers, etc. [Download it here](#)

Inside news: The global staff team of the PEP Secretariat, with members based in Africa, Asia, Latin and North America, held a teleconference meeting on November 5 to share ideas and discuss strategic developments in PEP, as well as the program of activities for 2016. The staff meeting will become a regular feature to enhance efficiency in coordinating global activities.

publications

The following section lists all new papers and briefs published by PEP since the last issue of the PEP-talk in January 2015

working papers

Female entrepreneurship, access to credit and firms’ performance in Senegal

By Abdoulaye Seck, Fatoumata L. Diallo, Fouty A. Fall, Karamoko Camara and Ndeye K. Mouhamed Diop (WP 2015-14)

Macro-micro models

By John Cockburn, Luc Savard and Luca Tiberti (WP 2015-12)

Risk tolerance, gender and entrepreneurship: the case of the occupied Palestinian territory

By Yousef Daoud, Ruba Shanti, Sana Kamal and Shaker Sarsour (WP 2015-11)

CGE model closures in a skeleton world model

By André Lemelin (WP 2015-09)

Impacts of Cambodia's tariff elimination on household welfare and labor market: a CGE approach

By Dyna Heng, Kagna Em, Senh Senghor and Sothy Ear (WP 2015-08)

Mobilité interne et entrepreneuriat des jeunes en République démocratique du Congo

Internal mobility and youth entrepreneurship in Democratic Republic of Congo (in French)

By Kikandi Kiuma, Allegra K. Mbuyi, Christian K. Kaghoma and Joelle Mukenzi (WP 2015-07)

Estimating the economic effects of remittances on the left-behind in Cambodia

By Vutha Hing, Phann Dalis, Roth T.M.S Vathana and Sreymom Sum (WP 2015-06)

Social protection to the informal sector: the role of minimum wage and income transfer policies – Also available in Spanish

By Fernando Groisman, Albano B. Vergara, Analía Calero, Julia Liniado, María E. Sconfienza, María S. Cubas and Santiago Boffi (WP 2015-05)

Impact de l'essor minier et pétrolier sur le marché du travail et développement économique au Niger

Impact of the oil and mining sector's boom on the labor market and economic development in Niger (in French)

By Saadatou Sangare Alkassoum, Mamane Boukari, Hamadou Daouda Youssoufou and Fatimata Ousseini Falalou (WP 2015-04)

Impact de l'expansion économique et commerciale de la Chine sur la croissance et l'emploi au Burkina Faso

Impact of China's economic and trade expansion on growth and employment in Burkina Faso : a CGE analysis (in French)

By Boureima Sawadogo, Fidèle Bama, Tegawende Juliette Nana, Hama M. Natama, Emma Tapsoba and Zerbo Kassoum (WP 2015-03)

Education language choice and youth entrepreneurship in Chad

By Mallaye Douzounef, Benjamin F. Kamga, Eurydice T. Gosngar, Kouké Blandine Nan-Guer and Urbain Thierry Yogo (WP 2015-02)

Find all PEP working papers [here](#)

policy briefs

Policy brief 123

Assessing the impacts of trade liberalization on growth, employment and poverty in **Cambodia**

By Dyna Heng, Kagna Em, Senh Senghor, Sokrachany Ngim, Sothy Ear and Theary Chan

Policy brief 122

Impact de l'expansion économique et commerciale de la Chine sur la croissance et l'emploi au **Burkina Faso**

By Boureima Sawadogo, Fidèle Bama, T. Juliette Nana, Hama M. Natama, Emma Tapsoba and Zerbo Kassoum

Policy brief 121

Impact de l'essor minier et pétrolier sur le marché du travail et le développement économique au **Niger**

By Saadatou Sangare Alakassoum, Hamadou Daouda Youssoufou, Mamane Boukari and Fatimata Ousseini Falalou

Policy brief 120

Social protection to the informal sector in **Argentina** : the role of minimum wage and income transfer policies

By Fernando Groisman

Find all PEP policy briefs [here](#)

external publications

Recent journal publications by PEP grantees – i.e. based on research conducted with PEP support in developing countries

Title of article	Journal and references (links)	Authors
Sectoral and poverty impacts of agricultural policy adjustments in Colombia	Agricultural Economics Volume 46, Issue 2 (March 2015) pp. 259-280 Online	Ricardo Arguello and Daniel Valderrama Gonzalez
Did the Key Priority Forestry Programs affect income inequality in rural China?	Land Use Policy Volume 38 (May 2014), pp. 264-275 Online	Can Liu, Hao Liu, Wenqing Zhu and Qingjiao Rong

Recent journal publications by PEP resource persons and staff

Title of article	Journal and references (links)	Authors
Effect of a community-led sanitation intervention on child diarrhoea and child growth in rural Mali: a cluster-randomised controlled trial	The Lancet Global Health Volume 3, No. 11 (November 2015) pp. 701-711 Online	Habiba Djebbari and Maria Laura Alzua , with Amy Janel Pickering, Carolina Lopez and Massa Coulibaly
Estimating the Impact on Poverty of Ghana's Fuel Subsidy Reform and a Mitigating Response	Journal of Development Effectiveness Volume 7 (2015), Issue 4 – forthcoming Online	John Cockburn with Edgard Cooke, Sarah Hague, Luca Tiberti and Abdel Rahmen El-Lahga
Market imperfections, access to information and technology adoption in Uganda: challenges of overcoming multiple constraints	Agricultural Economics Volume 46, pp. 1-13 Online	Bekele Shiferaw with Tewodros Kebede, Menale Kassie and Monica Fisher
Ex-post impacts of improved maize varieties on poverty in rural Ethiopia	Agricultural Economics Volume 46, pp. 1-12 Online	Bekele Shiferaw with Di Zeng, Jeffrey Alwang, George W. Norton, Moti Jaleta and Chilot Yirga
Africa's rising demand for wheat: Trends, drivers, and policy implications	Development Policy Review Volume 33, No.5, pp. 581-613 Online	Bekele Shiferaw with T.S. Jayne and Nicole M. Mason
Climate change in sub-Saharan Africa: potential impacts on production and food security	International Journal of Climate Change Strategies and Management Volume 7, Issue 3, pp. 247-271 Online	Bekele Shiferaw with Kindie Tesfaye, Sika Gbegbelegbe, Jill E. Cairns, Boddupalli M. Prasanna and al.
Rural policies, price change and poverty in Tanzania: an agricultural household model-based assessment	Journal of African Economies Volume 24, No.2, pp. 193-229 Online	Luca Tiberti and Marco Tiberti
Business training plus for female entrepreneurship? Short and medium term evidence from a field experiment in Peru	Journal of Development Economics Volume 113 (March 2015), pp. 33-51 Online	Martin Valdivia
Inequality in school resources and academic achievement: Evidence from Peru	International Journal of Educational Development Volume 40 (Jan 2015), pp. 71-84 Online	Martin Valdivia and Gianmarco León