



Partnership for Economic Policy
Newsletter

PEP-Talk

News Bulletin - February 2012

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News and Events

POLICY FINDINGS & UPTAKE

Recent findings from PEP researchers in developing countries

Thanks to the (financial, scientific & technical) support provided by PEP, hundreds of developing country researchers are provided with the means to conduct independent analyses of poverty/economic policy issues, both for and from their home countries in Asia, Africa and Latin America.

PEP's most recently published policy findings concern government education and cash transfer programs in Latin America (Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, Paraguay...), multidimensional poverty and inequality in Africa (Cameroon, Chad, Kenya, Nigeria...) and [more](#).

For example:

ARGENTINA

[PIERI-11243](#)



PEP publications :

[Working Paper 2011-21](#)

[Policy Brief 88](#)

Researchers:

Educational Reform and Labor Market Outcomes: the Case of Argentina's *Ley Federal de Educacion*.
PEP researchers find no impact on labor perspectives for low-income youth.

In 2008, a team of PEP researchers based in Buenos Aires set out to evaluate the impact of an educational reform policy - *Ley Federal de Educacion* (LFE) implemented at the national level in 1994 - on labor perspectives for the low-income youth in Argentina. The reform sought primarily to increase schooling by extending compulsory education (adding 2 years). The evidence produced by the empirical study shows that (poor) young people who were educated under the LFE derive no benefits in terms of better wages or greater integration into the labor market today. Find out how the researchers explain this failure and their recommendations to improve future policy interventions in the publications listed to the left.

[Leonardo Gasparini](#) | [Carlos Germán Bet](#) | [Carolina Garcia Domench](#) | [Maria Laura Alzua](#) | [Mariana Marchionni](#) | [Mariana Viollaz](#) |

CHAD

[PMMA-11324](#)



PEP publications :

[Working Paper 2011-17](#)

(in French)

Researchers:

Exploring Missing Dimensions of Poverty Data in Chad, from a Sen's Capability Approach

Pauvreté des capacités au Tchad : une exploration des dimensions manquantes des données de la capitale N'Djamena

The Oxford Poverty & Human Development Initiative (OPHI) has developed data collection tools that take into account the "missing dimensions of poverty", according to Sen's capability approach. A team of local researchers in Chad were granted PEP support to conduct such a survey at the household level in the capital of N'Djamena, in order to assess the dimensions that were thus far ignored in the analysis of poverty and well-being in the country. The results show that the contribution of several of these new "qualitative" dimensions – such as job insecurity or lack of physical safety, for example – is considerable in the general level of deprivation for households' well-being in Chad. The researchers thus provide specific recommendations for new policies to implement in the context of the country's National Strategy for Social Protection. See related PEP publication (in French) to the left.

[Nadjjarabeye Christian BEASSOUM](#) | [Kouké Blandine NAN-GUER](#) | [Olivier BEGUY](#) | [Tabo Symphorien Ndang](#) | [TOPEUR Béguerang](#)

URUGUAY

[PIERI-11239](#)

School Attendance, Child Labor and Cash Transfers: an Impact Evaluation of PANES



PEP publications :
[Working Paper 2011-22](#)
[Policy Brief 85](#)

Researchers:

In this PEP-supported study, a team of local researchers set out to assess the impacts of a cash transfer program on school attendance and child labor in Uruguay. The researchers relied on specific methodological approaches, fostered through the PEP Policy Impact Evaluation Research Initiative (PIERI), to compare outcomes for beneficiary and non-beneficiary households. The team also explores the role of some of the potential impact channels highlighted in the literature on cash transfer programs: household income, adult labor supply and conditionality. The results show that the cash transfers had virtually no impact on the desired outcomes, through either channel, and the researchers provide recommendations to guide policymaking for such interventions to be more effective in the future. Find more information through the PEP publications listed to the left.

[Veronica Amarante](#) | [Andrea Vigorito](#) | [Arim Rodrigo](#) | [Mery Ferrando](#)

[Click here](#) to find out ALL about the [most recent findings and recommendations from PEP researchers'](#) analyses to assist in policymaking and/or program design that aim to address development and poverty issues in their respective countries.

PEP findings taken up in policymaking

Indeed, as a majority of PEP researchers work in close collaboration with local and national policy stakeholders (88% of PEP-supported projects, according to a [recent survey](#)), their findings and recommendations are often taken up and directly fed into the policymaking process. As, for example, it is the case for the Argentinian and Uruguayan projects listed above.

Another example of the influence of PEP research on policymaking in developing countries is the recent adoption of PEP [Community-Based Monitoring Systems](#) by the National Secretariat of PEKKA (Women Household Empowerment) of Indonesia, to be implemented in 18 provinces of the country.

Find more information on this new collaboration [here](#).



This follows successful completion of the [PEP-CBMS Indonesia project](#), implemented in 2005 in collaboration with the SMERU Research Institute. The project has demonstrated the reliability of CBMS survey results and provided evidence on how CBMS can help improve welfare through better design and targeting of intervention programs for communities. In 2008, the City Government of Pekalongan adopted and implemented CBMS as a tool for local planning and for monitoring the achievement of the millennium development goals (MDGs). Furthermore, CBMS was also used in 2010 by SMERU for the conduct of the PEP-supported study project "[Monitoring the Impacts of the Global Financial Crisis on Poverty](#)".

RESEARCH INITIATIVES

PEP special research initiatives and collaborations

In recent years, PEP has been expanding its collaborations with a growing number of international partners including AusAID, CIDA, IDRC, IFPRI, UNDP, UNICEF and UNIFEM. Follow the links below to find out more about the most recently implemented initiatives.

- [New: Situational Analysis of Child Poverty in Uganda](#)
 Collaboration: PEP, UNICEF-Uganda
 Researchers: Yélé Batana, John Cockburn, Jane Kabubo-Mariara, Ibrahim Kasirye, Sarah Ssewanyana,
- [Impacts of Fiscal Policies and Social Spending on Child Welfare in Burkina Faso](#)
 Collaboration: PEP, UNICEF-Burkina Faso
 Researchers: John Cockburn, Helene Maisonnave, Véronique Robichaud, Luca Tiberti
- [Impact Evaluation of an Innovative Program to Improve Sanitation Practices in Rural Mali](#)
 Collaboration: PEP, CEDLAS, UNICEF-Mali - funded by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation
 Leaders: Maria Laura Alzua, Massa Coulibaly, Habiba Djebbari

Follow the link "[PEP Special Initiatives](#)", to find out all about past and current PEP collaborations with partner organizations to further the international development research and policy agenda. Several new collaboration projects are expected to be launched in 2012.

TRAINING AND WORKSHOPS



Building and promoting local capacities for economic policy analysis is the core mission of PEP. Over the past few years, the PEP team has developed a series of special intensive training programs, called "[PEP Schools](#)". A variety of courses and workshops are offered in a range of development research methodologies, and in collaboration with partner institutions at the local/national level in beneficiary countries.

PEP School training programs are currently available, in French and English, in "impact evaluations", "poverty monitoring", "poverty measurement and analysis", "economic modelling and policy impact analysis". See our new [PEP School brochure](#)

Forthcoming PEP training workshops	Location	Dates
Second edition of the PEP-Laval Intensive Graduate School in Development Economics* - three courses available in "Impact Evaluation", "Measuring and Alleviating Poverty" and "Development Policy Modelling (CGE models)"	Quebec, Canada	June 3-23, 2012 <i>*Registrations are ongoing</i> <i>*Preliminary distance training provided in May</i>

New English edition of the PEP School on « Modelling the Impact of Macro Shocks and Policies» in Uruguay* .	Montevideo, Uruguay	Feb.13 - May 4, 2012 <i>*Registrations are ongoing</i>
PEP-CEPA training workshop on Poverty Measurement and Analysis	Colombo, Sri Lanka	February 20-24, 2012
CBMS Module III - "Training of Trainers"	Manila, Philippines	February 14-17, 2012

Recent events	Location	Dates
PEP-CBMS School on " Poverty Mapping " (Advance Module) provided to participants of the 9 th PEP general meeting in Cambodia	Siem Reap, Cambodia	December 3-4, 2011
Training workshop in "Impact Evaluation" methodologies provided for local researchers in Mali, in collaboration with the GREAT institute	Bamako, Mali	October 15-18, 2011
French edition of the PEP School on "Modelling the Impacts of Macro Policies and Shocks on Poverty" in Cameroon* .	Yaoundé, Cameroon	Aug. 22- Nov. 4, 2011

CONFERENCES

Beyond research and capacity building, PEP is an organization that strives to promote greater participation of developing country researchers in debates related to poverty and development policy issues, both at the national and international levels.

In particular, with PEP support, local Southern researchers are enabled to communicate their findings and promote their expertise to relevant audiences, either through the organization of [national policy conferences](#) or participation in special [international events](#).

Find more information of [PEP national policy conferences here](#), and PEP researchers' [international conference presentations here](#).



9th PEP General Meeting in Cambodia

The 9th PEP general meeting was held in Siem Reap, Cambodia, from December 3 to 9, 2011. The event gathered over 130 participants from all regions of the world – development researchers, practitioners, international experts and policy stakeholders – and presented, once more, a unique opportunity to discuss a variety of development policy and research issues.

The event featured a full-day policy conference on: "Policy Lessons from Impact Evaluation Initiatives" and "Public Infrastructure and Inclusive Growth". It was attended by several representatives from international institutions, development partners and policy stakeholders, including a number of Cambodia national officials and leaders from local government units.

For more information and a detailed program of activities, click here: [9th PEP General Meeting](#).

FORTHCOMING :

8th CBMS-Philippines National Policy Conference



The CBMS National Conference in the Philippines is an annual event gathering policymakers, program implementers and development stakeholders, who seek to share best practices and recent developments in line with the implementation and use of the community-based monitoring system (CBMS) in the country. This year's event will be held from March 19 to 21, 2012, in Manila.

The PEP-CBMS has also launched a "call for papers" to be submitted by local partners for presentation at the conference. For more information, see [8th CBMS-Philippines National Conference](#).

As the first country to have piloted the system in the early 1990s, national and local government units in the Philippines have long had recourse to CBMS to help them both monitor and tackle multidimensional poverty and development issues. CBMS is now implemented in 19 countries of Asia, Africa and Latin America. Find more information on the CBMS-Philippines project [here](#), and all CBMS country projects [here](#).

PEP Africa will host the PEGNet Annual Conference in 2012

The [PEP African Office](#), based in Dakar, Senegal, has been selected to host the next Annual Conference of the [Poverty Reduction, Equity and Growth Network](#) (PEGNet), entitled "How to Make African Economic Lions: Tapping Africa's Growth and Poverty Reduction Potentials", to be held on September 6-7, 2012. The event will provide a platform for high-level dialogue between local and international development researchers, practitioners and policy makers. PEGNet has recently launched a [call for proposals](#) of papers and contributions to be submitted for presentation during the event, as well as for research projects to be submitted as contestants for the PEGNet's Best Practice Award.

PEP NEWS

HOT PEPpers:

- PEP researcher [Aboubacar Kaba](#) has been nominated as the National Director of the Bureau of Development Strategy for the Ministry of Public Health and Sanitation in Guinea. Mr Kaba will be in charge of the formulation, monitoring and evaluation of the Ministry's strategies in terms of health interventions. More information [here](#).
- PEP researcher [Lacina Balma](#) has been recruited by [IFPRI](#) (the International Food Policy Research Institute) as a Senior Research Assistant in Dakar, Senegal, to help implement the modeling and data activities of the African Growth Development Policy ([AGRODEP](#)) Modeling Consortium – for which PEP has also been called on to provide scientific support (see [here](#)). Mr Balma has also authored a scientific article based on its [PEP project](#) “Public education spending and poverty in Burkina Faso: A CGE Approach” which has been accepted for publication by the European Journal of Economics, Finance and Administrative Sciences (EJEFAS, Issue 44 - forthcoming).
- PEP researcher [Joseph Cabral](#) has been admitted as “Associate Lecturer” following his participation to the 15th session of the competition for aggregation in Social Sciences (Law, Economics, Management and Political Sciences), organized by the African and Malagasy Council for Higher Education (CAMES), which was held in November 2011 in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire.
- This February, PEP researcher [Verónica Amarante](#) will be joining the Social Development Division of [ECLAC](#) (Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, in Santiago de Chile) as a Social Affairs Officer.

Varia

- PEP has published an update of its [Internal Monitoring and Evaluation Report \(November 2011\)](#). Find out how the PEP Network initiatives contribute to the capacity building and career advancement of Southern development experts, as well as to bridging the gap between research and policy for a better account of poverty issues in developing countries.
- Follow the PEP daily newscast on [Facebook](#).

Publications

PEP POLICY BRIEFS

The PEP Policy Brief is a short (one or two page), non-technical summary of the main conclusions and policy recommendations produced by each of PEP-supported research project teams. These briefs are systematically distributed to all policy-relevant stakeholders who should be informed of research findings related the specific issues at hand.

Latest publications:

-  Education Reform and Labor Market Outcomes: the Case of Argentina's Ley Federal de Educacion – [Policy Brief 88](#)
-  Effects of the Global Financial Crisis on Poverty: Evidence from Rural Nigeria – [Policy Brief 87](#)
-  The Impact of the Global Financial and Economic Crisis on Poverty in Tana River, Muranga'a, Kilifi and Kisumu (Kenya) – [Policy Brief 86](#)
-  School Attendance, Child Labor and Cash Transfers: An Impact Evaluation of PANES – [Policy Brief 85](#)
-  Sources of Poverty, Inequality and Gender Disparities in Cameroon – [Policy Brief 84](#)
-  Derived Impacts of Education Conditional Cash Transfer Programs: the Case of Teenage Pregnancy in Colombia – [Policy Brief 83](#)

Find all [PEP Policy Briefs here](#).

PEP WORKING PAPERS

-  [School Attendance, Child Labor and Cash Transfers. An Impact Evaluation of PANES \(Uruguay\)](#) - by Veronica Amarante & al. (WP 2011-22)
-  [Educational Reform and Labor Market Outcomes: the Case of Argentina's Ley Federal de Educación](#) - by Leonardo Gasparini & al.(WP 2011-21)
-  [A Robust Multi-Dimensional Poverty Profile for Uganda](#) - by Yele Batana & al. (WP 2011-20)
-  [Externality and Behavioural Change Effects of a Conditional Cash Transfer Program: Impact on the Demand for Health and Education](#) - by Fabio Soares & al. (WP 2011-19)
-  [Beyond Cash: Assessing Externality and Behavior Effects of Non-Experimental Cash Transfers](#) - by Fabio Soares & al. (WP 2011-18)
-  [Pauvreté des Capacités au Tchad : une Exploration des Dimensions Manquantes des Données dans la Capitale N'Djamena](#) – by Christian Beassoum & al. (WP 2011-17)
-  [Assessing the Impact of the Global Financial and Economic Crisis in Developing Countries: The Case of Uruguay](#) – by Cecilia Llambi & al. (WP 2011-16)
-  [Spatial and Inter-temporal Sources of Poverty, Inequality and Gender Disparities in Cameroon: A Regression-based](#)

[Decomposition Analysis](#) – by Epo Boniface Ngah & al. (WP 2011-15)

 [Assessing the Impact of the 2007 Tax Reform on Poverty and Inequality in Uruguay](#) – by Cecilia Llambi & al. (WP 2011-14)

 [The determinants of multidimensional poverty in Nsukka, Nigeria](#) – by John Ataguba & al. (WP 2011-13)

 [Multidimensional Poverty in Kenya: Analysis of Maternal and Child Wellbeing](#) – by Jane Mariara & al. (WP 2011-12)

Find all [PEP Working Papers](#) here.

PEP-CBMS reports

The following reports are based on projects related to the implementation and use of PEP **Community-Based Monitoring Systems**

 [Implementing Community Based Multidimensional Poverty Monitoring System in Limpopo Province, South Africa](#) – by Grace Oloo & al. (WP-CBMS 2011-13)

 [Mapping Climate Change Vulnerability Using CBMS Data: A Pilot in Vietnam](#) – by Tuan Anh Vu & al. (WP-CBMS 2011-10)

 [Implementing a Community-Based Poverty Monitoring System in Argentina](#) – by Sebastian Auguste & al. (WP-CBMS 2011-09)

 [Assessing the Impact of the Global Financial Crisis in Indonesia: What is the Impact on Households in the CBMS Areas in Kota Pekalongan?](#) – by Akhmadi* & al. (WP-CBMS 2011-01)

Find all [CBMS reports](#) here.

BOOKS

[Monitoring the Impacts of the Global Crisis at the Community Level \(CBMS\)](#)

[Reducing Poverty and Vulnerabilities Amidst Global Shocks \(CBMS\)](#)

[The Many Faces of Poverty, Volume 3 \(CBMS\)](#)

27 PEP books are made available for download, free of charge, via the PEP Website; find them all [here](#).

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