



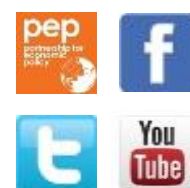
top stories

Ongoing PEP call for proposals – PAGE II (Round 1)

Building on the success of its Policy Analysis on Growth and Employment (PAGE) program (2012-2015), PEP has been granted funding by UK Aid and the IDRC of Canada in 2016 to launch **a new program supporting high quality research, capacity development, and policy engagement for growth and employment in developing countries: PAGE II (2016-2020).**

The deadline to submit a research proposal for support under the first round of the PAGE II program is **September 15**. Find out more and [submit your proposal here!](#) You may also [download the flyer](#) for this call for circulation in your network(s).

Follow us on:



The 2016 PEP Annual Conference was held in Manila, Philippines, from June 4 to 8

The 2016 PEP Annual Conference in the Philippines saw another successful gathering of approximately 120 development researchers and practitioners, eminent scholars, representatives of donor/international organizations, and policy actors from more than 30 different countries. The event featured several activities including intensive training workshops, the PEP general meeting (where PEP-researchers supported under the PAGE initiative presented their final results), a special high-level Policy Forum and the 2016 Best Practice Awards.



Policy Forum

From policy engagement to research uptake: Lessons for and from developing country researchers

The final day of the 2016 PEP Annual Conference was dedicated to discussions around the challenges of linking research to policy action in developing countries, which took place during a high-level Policy Forum involving researchers, policy actors, practitioners, donors and international experts. The main objective of this event was to produce, collectively, a set of specific recommendations to improve research uptake in policy making. These conclusions will soon be compiled, published and distributed by PEP.

Best Practice Awards

Each year during the PEP Conferences the three winners of the annual PEP Best Practice Awards are announced. This competition aims to reward the PEP-granted research teams who have most actively engaged in the implementation of a successful "policy engagement strategy" - i.e. linking their PEP research findings to policy action at the national level - while achieving high-quality research. This year's prizes were awarded to research teams conducting projects in Burkina Faso, Togo and Kenya. [Find out more](#)



Jane Mariara appointed as Interim Executive Director

PEP is pleased to announce the appointment of Professor Jane Mariara as Interim Executive Director of PEP. Prof. Mariara has been involved with PEP for many years and in a variety of roles, from researcher to resource person to deputy director, and most recently as member of the PMMA program committee. Prof. Mariara brings a wealth of research and managerial experience from her involvement in academia and with numerous international organizations. [Find out more](#)



The 2015 PEP Annual Report is available online

The report presents a review of PEP activities and achievements in 2015. [Download it here](#)

CBMS Policy Forum

A policy forum was held on April 29 to present and discuss the results of five CBMS-AKI supported studies on emerging issues related to the provision of social protection for the informal sector and youth unemployment and entrepreneurship. These studies were conducted by research teams from De La Salle University, using CBMS data from selected sites in the Philippines. [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 PAGE initiative are provided below, and several more (including Cameroon, Nigeria, Bolivia, Colombia and Vietnam) can be found here: [Recent policy findings from PEP-supported projects in developing countries](#)

Macedonia

PAGE – Simulation of a voucher policy to improve the social conditions of remittance-recipients in Macedonia



A team of local researchers investigates the impact of cash remittances on health and poverty indicators and the impact a remittances voucher policy for social protection would have. The team uses a conditional mixed-process estimator and an ex-ante simulator to analyze data from the 2008 DotM Remittance Survey. The researchers find that remittances serve as an informal source of social protection in Macedonia and that a voucher system to formalize remittances as social protection would improve the population's health while also reducing poverty, particularly amongst the most vulnerable groups. Find out more about the research methods, findings and policy recommendations in the following PEP publications:

Reports and publications: [Working Paper 2016-15](#) | [Policy brief 129](#)

Research team: [Blagica Petreski](#) | [Darko Tumanoski](#) | [Despina Tumanoska](#) | [Natasa Jagurinoska](#)

Bangladesh

PAGE – Women's entrepreneurship and access to microcredit: Evidence from Bangladesh



A team of local researchers investigates the impact that microcredit currently has on female entrepreneurship in Bangladesh. They also compare the entrepreneurial status of women to that of men to find out how much gender influences entrepreneurship. The team uses an instrumental variables technique to analyze data from a 2010 national household survey. The researchers find that access to microcredit has a significant and positive impact on both male and female entrepreneurship, with men benefitting more, even when women are the recipients of the loans. Find out more about the research methods, findings and policy recommendations in the following PEP publications:

Reports and publications: [Working paper 2016-13](#) | [Policy brief 139](#)

Research team: [M. Jahangir Alam Chowdhury](#) | [Shabnaz Amin](#) | [Tazrina Farah](#)

Mongolia

PAGE – A static CGE model of the Mongolian economy



A boom in the Mongolian mining sector has meant significant growth for the country, but this concentrated success has also led to increased economic dependence on mining. A team of local researchers builds and uses a static CGE model of the Mongolian Economy, with data from various national surveys, to assess the economy's vulnerability. The researchers find that rapid expansion in the coal sector may have many positive effects including increased GDP, exports and employment. On the other hand, they also find that a drop in the world price of metal ore may have various negative effects in the short run, including reduced employment and a decrease in GDP. Based on these results, the team makes several recommendations for policy to protect against vulnerabilities. Find out more about the research methods, findings and policy recommendations in the following PEP publications:

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](#)

"Policy Analysis on Growth and Employment II (2016-2020)" – co-funded by [DFID](#) (or UK Aid) and the [IDRC](#)

"STAARS - Structural Transformation of African Agriculture and Rural Spaces" – funded by the [IDRC](#) and in collaboration with the World Bank, Cornell University, the African Development Bank and the African Economic Research Consortium.

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

"Productive employment in the segmented market of fresh produce" – PEP-led consortium, funded by [NWO/WOTRO](#)

conferences

PEP National Policy Conferences

Through the PEP Grant Plus mechanism, local research teams are given support to organize conferences where they communicate and discuss their findings directly with policy makers and other key stakeholders at the national level.

February 24, 2016 – Skopje, Macedonia

"Recipients of remittances under the social umbrella? Ideas and opportunities for Macedonia"

A team of Macedonian researchers presented their PEP findings on the potential use of remittances as a source of social protection (through the implementation of a new policy instrument) to an audience of high-profile participants from the Ministry of Labor and Social Policy, the Ministry of Health, the Health Insurance Fund of Macedonia, several embassies, the UNDP, and the academia, as well as members of both the public and private sectors during their national policy conference. The discussions led to the invitation of the team members to participate in further, high-level consultation meetings with, among others, the Macedonian EU delegation and the Minister of Labor himself. [Find out more](#)



May 21, 2016 – Goma, Democratic Republic of Congo

"Internal mobility and youth entrepreneurship in the DRC"

PEP researchers in the DRC organized a policy seminar to present their PEP findings on the relationship between the internal mobility of young people and their involvement in entrepreneurship. Attending government representatives included officers from the Employment and Work Department, the Provincial Department for Youth, the Provincial Planning Department, the Provincial Department for Small and Medium-sized Enterprises, and an advisor to the Office of the Prime Minister. The event also attracted a strong academic and media presence, and provided great visibility for both the researchers' findings and expertise. [Find out more](#)



June 14, 2016 – Hanoi, Vietnam

"Impact of trade liberalization on the agricultural sector in Vietnam"

A team of local researchers in Vietnam shared their PEP findings regarding the impact of the Trans-Pacific Strategic Economic Partnership Agreement (TPP) on the Vietnamese agricultural sector with selected government representatives from the Vietnam Chamber of Commerce and Industry, and the Central Economic Committee (CEC), as well as a number of academics and journalists during their policy conference. The CEC representative stated that the team's findings would be used to advise the national government. [Find out more](#)

June 16, 2016 – Yaoundé, Cameroon

"Analysis of labor and tax policies on informal employment in Cameroon"

PEP researchers in Cameroon organized a policy conference where they presented their findings on the impact of co-dependent government poverty and informality reduction policies. Participants included representatives of the Ministries of Employment and Professional Training, of the Economy, of Finance, of Work and Social Security, and of Scientific Research and Innovation, as well as of government programs supporting youth and informal workers, of the academia and civil society. The event also benefited from extensive media coverage in national newspapers, and on radio and television stations. [Find out more](#)



International conference presentations

In acknowledgment of their expertise, many PEP researchers are also invited to present their work in international academic and policy conferences around the world. When needed, PEP awards special grants to support their travel and participation.

Since the last issue of the PEP-talk, findings from PEP-supported research were also presented at the following international events:

- [50th Annual Conference of the CEA](#) in Canada, on June 2-5
- [17th Annual World Bank Conference on Land and Poverty](#) in the USA, on March 14-18
- [CSAE 2016 Annual Meeting](#) in the United Kingdom, on March 20-22
- [ILO/IZA Conference](#) in Switzerland, March 23-24

other pep news

Special PEP issue of the International Journal of Microsimulation (IJM) on the subject of "CGE Microsimulation in Developing Countries". [Read more](#) or see "external publications" below for article details.

Special SCSE session in honor of Bernard Decaluwé, [Read more](#)

Congratulations to Hélène Maisonnave on 5 years with PEP! [Read more](#)

PEP researcher Blagica Petreski selected for the Young Transatlantic Leader Initiative and to take part in the 2016 Global Entrepreneurship Summit in the USA. [Read more](#)

CEDLAS wins three Konex prizes – PEP collaborator in Latin America, CEDLAS, wins prestigious awards at the 2016 Premios Konex. [Read more](#)



The March 2016 issue of the CBMS Network Update is now available online, featuring the following articles:

- Access to social protection of Tongolese Informal Sector Workers
- Strengthening collaboration among the DLSP, the City Government of Bago, and the CBMS Network
- Kenya CBMS team starts data collection in Muthithi location, Murang'a County, in central Kenya
- CBMS Philippines Network holds its 12th National Conference
- 2016 PEP Annual Conference held in the Philippines

[Download the newsletter here](#)

Follow PEP's daily newscast:



related events

PEP also publicizes news and events from the development research community that may be of interest to its members

Job openings, training or research funding opportunities, calls for contributions, international conferences, etc.

[CLICK HERE](#) to find all related recent news

Including current opportunities for the **Jobs and Development Conference** and the **BCDE2016**

The following section lists all new papers and briefs published by PEP since the last issue of PEP-talk in March 2016

working papers

Simulation of a voucher policy for improving the social condition of individual remittance receivers in Macedonia

By Blagica Petreski, Jorge Davalos and Despina Tumanoska (WP 2016-15)

Access to microcredit and women's entrepreneurship: evidence from Bangladesh

By M. Jahangir Alam Chowdhury, Shabnaz Amin, Tazrina Farah (WP 2016-13)

Les investissements chinois, une aubaine pour l'économie centrafricaine?

Are Chinese investments an opportunity for the economy of the Central African Republic? (in French)

By Roger YELE, Jean-Bertrand Kolondo Penguilet, Raïssa - Théodile Mbouzeliko, Caprice Olivia Wili-Koe (WP 2016-12)

The effect of input-trade liberalization on nonfarm and farm labour participation in rural Vietnam

By Hoang Xuan Trung, Luca Tiberti (WP 2016-11)

Migration, remittances, labour market and human capital in Senegal

By Ameth Saloum Ndiaye, Oumoul Khayri Niang, Sessinou Dedehounaou, Ya Cor Ndione (WP 2016-10)

PEP has also recently published papers from three country studies led in the context of a special initiative supported by CGIAR/CIMMYT, entitled "Foresight for food security; economy-wide impacts of promising technologies"

Economy-wide impacts of technological change in food staples in Ethiopia: A macro-micro approach

Lulit Mitik Beyene, Bekele Shiferaw, Amarendra Sahoo and Sika Gbegbelegbe (WP 2016-17)

A CGE analysis of the implications of technological change in Indian agriculture

By Joydeep Ghosh, Amarendra Sahoo, Bekele Shiferaw and Sika Gbegbelegbe (WP 2016-16)

Economy-wide impacts of promising maize and wheat technologies on food security and welfare in Kenya

By Amarendra Sahoo, Bekele Shiferaw and Sika Gbegbelegbe (WP 2016-14)

Find all PEP working papers [here](#)

policy briefs

Policy brief 143	Patterns of labor productivity and income diversification in the rural farm and non-farm sectors in Sub-Saharan Africa	By Abdoulaye Ibrahim Djido and Bekele Shiferaw
Policy brief 142	Non-farm employment, agricultural intensification and productivity change: Empirical findings from Uganda	By Mulubrhan Amare and Bekele Shiferaw
Policy brief 141	Trade liberalization and employment effects in Indian manufacturing	By Sunitha Raju, Bibek Ray Chaudhuri and Mridula Savitri Mishra
Policy brief 140	Skills mismatches and unemployment spells: The case of Macedonia's youth	By Branka Hadzi-Misheva, Tijana Angjelkowska and Viktorija Atanasovska
Policy brief 139	Women's entrepreneurship and access to microcredit: Evidence from Bangladesh	By M. Jahangir Alam Chowdhury, Shabnaz Amin and Tazrina Farah
Policy brief 138	A static CGE model of the Mongolian economy	By Ragchaasuren Galindev, Tsolmon Baatarzorig, Telmen Tur, Tuvshintugs Batdelger, Nasantogtokh Nyamdorj and Munkh-treedui Bayarjargal
Policy brief 137	Impact des politiques fiscale et d'emploi sur le secteur informel et la pauvreté au Cameroun	By Nana Djomo Jules Medard, Carine Flore Nzeuyang Nzoukio, Serges Rodrigue Ngouana Koudjou and Claudiane Yanick Moukam
Policy brief 136	Is it true that microfinance is useless in the pursuit of poverty reduction and female empowerment? The case of Bolivia	By Rolando Gonzales, Joel Mendizabal and Patricia Aranda
Policy brief 135	The impact of a rural microcredit scheme on women's household vulnerability and empowerment: evidence from South West Nigeria	By Olufemi Obembe, Damilola Olajide, Kehinde Omotosho, Ngozi Ibeji
Policy brief 134	Dutch Disease, informality and employment intensity in Colombia	By Ricardo Arguello, Dora Elena Jiménez Giraldo, Edwin Esteban Torres and Monica Gasca
Policy brief 133	The effect of input-trade liberalization on farm and non-farm labor participation in rural Vietnam	By Hoang Xuan Trung
Policy brief 132	Migration, remittances, labour market and human development in Senegal	By Ameth Saloum Ndiaye, Ya Cor Ndione, Sessinou Dedehouanou and Oumoul Khayri Niang
Policy brief 131	La croissance chinoise : une aubaine pour l'économie centrafricaine?	By Roger Yele, Caprice Olivia Wili-Koe, Jean-Bertrand Kolondo Penguilet and Raïssa - Théodile Mbouzeliko

Find all PEP policy briefs [here](#)

books



The Many Faces of Poverty – Volume 7 is available online

Featuring information about the many faces of poverty in Escalante, General Trias, Tabuk, Tacurong, Tanauan and Tandag

[Download Volume 7 here](#)

Find all PEP books [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
Economic Effects of Migration on the Left-behind in Cambodia	Journal of Development Studies <i>Forthcoming</i>	Roth Vathana and Luca Tiberti
Education Language and Youth Entrepreneurship in Chad	Journal of Development Studies <i>Forthcoming</i>	Mallaye Douzounet , Urbain Thierry Yogo and Abdelkrim Araa'r
Access to Formal Credit And Enterprise Performance In Nigeria: A Gender Perspective	Argumenta Oeconomica 2016, No 1 (36), pp.191-224 Online	Emmanuel Nwosu and Anthony Orji
Cash Transfer Policies, Taxation and the Fall in Inequality in Brazil An Integrated Microsimulation-CGE Analysis	International Journal of Microsimulation Volume 9(1) Spring 2016 Online	Samir Cury , Euclides Pedrozo and Allexandro Mori Coelho
Impact of Trade Liberalization on Poverty in Ethiopia: A Computable General Equilibrium Microsimulation	International Journal of Microsimulation Volume 9(1) Spring 2016 Online	Sindu W. Kebede , Belay Fekadu and Dejene Aredo
Assessing the Impacts of a Major Tax Reform: a CGE-microsimulation Analysis for Uruguay	International Journal of Microsimulation Volume 9(1) Spring 2016 Online	Cecilia Llamib , Silvia Laens and Marcelo Perera

Recent journal publications by PEP resource persons and staff

Title of article	Journal and references (links)	Authors
Macro-Micro Analytics: A Guide to Combining Computable General Equilibrium and Microsimulation modeling frameworks	International Journal of Microsimulation Volume 9(1) Spring 2016 Online	Matteo Richiardi, John Cockburn, H�el�ene Maisonnave and Luca Tiberti
Fiscal Space and Public Spending on Children in Burkina Faso	International Journal of Microsimulation Volume 9(1) Spring 2016 Online	John Cockburn, H�el�ene Maisonnave, V�eronique Robichaud and Luca Tiberti
Export Taxes, World Prices, and Poverty in Argentina: A Dynamic CGE-Microsimulation Analysis	International Journal of Microsimulation Volume 9(1) Spring 2016 Online	Mart�n Cicowiez, Javier Alejo, Luciano Di Gresia, Sergio Olivieri and Ana Pacheco
Public Investment In Irrigation And Training, Growth And Poverty Reduction In Ethiopia	International Journal of Microsimulation Volume 9(1) Spring 2016 Online	Lulit M. Beyene and Ermias Engida
Why aren't Sri Lankan women translating their educational gains into workforce advantages?	Brookings Institution Report December 4, 2015 Online	Dilani Gunewardena



Find previous issues of the PEP-Talk here: [PEP newsletters](#)

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