**top stories**

**Women, Children and Climate Change**


During its 2018 Annual Conference, PEP will organize a high-level policy forum on the theme: “Women, children and climate change: Designing an economic policy research agenda”. A series of panel discussions—involving policy actors, development partners and international experts—will aim to identify specific evidence gaps where research can engage with policy to define inclusive solutions for women and children in the face of climate change. [Find out more](#)

**New Research Director for the PEP Macro-Micro Policy Modelling group**

PEP welcomes Professor Margaret Chitiga, former PEP researcher and current PEP resource person, as the new Research Director for Macro-Micro Policy Modelling (MPIA). [Find out more](#).

As she steps down from the role, PEP also thanks Hélène Maisonnave for her exceptional contribution to the PEP mission and celebrates her many great accomplishments since 2012. [Find out more](#).

**PEP supports international study visits and field visits for PAGE II teams**

41 developing country researchers from 23 teams supported under the PAGE II initiative are participating in international study visits, thanks to grants from PEP. These visits provide the selected researchers with valuable personalised support and training from world-leading experts in the specific methodology the team is applying in their PEP-supported research project. [Find out more](#)

**PEP-CBMS Research Director Celia Reyes appointed President of PIDS**

On March 1, 2018, Dr Celia Reyes, PEP Research Director for the Community Based Monitoring System (CBMS), took office as the first female president of the Philippine Institute for Development Studies (PIDS). This appointment recognizes Dr Reyes’ long-term commitment to poverty research and providing evidence for development policymaking. [Find out more](#)

**One in five PEP projects has a paper published in a peer-reviewed journal**

In 2017, papers from 12 PEP-supported projects were published or accepted for publication in international peer-reviewed journals. Five of the accepted papers come from projects conducted in low-income economies, fragile or conflict states. Overall, 1 in 5 projects supported by PEP since 2013 has been published in a scientific journal, and at least a third of these publications were in high-impact journals (that reject up to 95% of submissions). [Find out more](#)

**news and events**

**current initiatives and collaborations**

**PAGE II**

Policy Analysis on Growth & Employment – 2016-2020

PAGE 2016-2020 is currently supporting 29 projects in 22 developing countries, including 15 low-income economies and fragile or conflict states. New features of this second PAGE initiative include distance (online) training for all members of shortlisted applicant teams, mentoring support in policy engagement, and an institutionalization project conceptualized through the Macro-Micro Policy Modelling TRG.

Initial findings from the first institutionalization project supported by PEP under the second phase of the PAGE initiative have recently been published. See “policy findings” below.

**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 PEP’s various research and capacity building initiatives.

**Impact of fiscal consolidation on the Mongolian Economy**

To avoid an economic crisis, the Mongolian government will receive USD 5.5 billion through an Extended Fund Facility agreement with the International Monetary Fund. However, the government must also cut its expenditures and increase taxes, a process known as “fiscal consolidation”. As the country’s economy is highly reliant on the mining sector, a team of local PEP researchers evaluated how fiscal consolidation is likely to impact the Mongolian economy under different international commodity price conditions. Their findings indicate that fiscal consolidation when international commodity prices are low could result in significantly decreased production and GDP. [Download PEP Policy Brief 175](#)

[More PEP findings](#)
conferences

PEP national policy conferences
Through PEP’s Grant Plus support program, local research teams receive support to organize conferences where they communicate and discuss their findings directly with policymakers and other key stakeholders at the national level.

October 18, 2017 - Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia
PEP researchers present institutionalization project to policy stakeholders
PEP researchers in Mongolia organized a workshop in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia, to introduce the PEP-institutionalization project and the policy issues being analyzed. During the workshop, the team presented the computable general equilibrium (CGE) modelling techniques they are using as well as the application, possibilities and advantages of using CGE models for policy analysis in other areas. The Head of Development Policy and Planning Division of the National Development Agency (NDA) expressed particular interest in the model. Find out more

upcoming conferences
March 5-7, 2018 – Manila, Philippines
14th CBMS Philippines National Conference
The annual CBMS-Philippines national conference gathers partners and stakeholders from the national and local government units across the country to discuss current developments, findings, and best practices on the implementation and uses of the community-based monitoring system (CBMS). Find out more

June 7-13, 2018 – Bangalore, India
2018 PEP Annual Conference
This year’s PEP conference will gather hundreds of participants, including development researchers and leading experts from around the world, to receive or provide training, and to discuss issues, challenges, methodologies and opportunities related to development research, policy analysis and advisory work. Find out more

other pep news
New Applied Development Economics online microprogram begins. Read more
PEP’s capacity building success highlighted in IDRC article. Read more
PEP researchers discuss “Economic growth for all” at a Finance Think forum in Macedonia. Read more
PEP researcher returns to Université Laval, Canada, for study visit thanks to SRA award. Read more

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 papers, international conferences, etc.
CLICK HERE to find all related recent news

published sinc e the November 2017 issue of PEP-talk

working papers
A top-down behaviour (TDB) microsimulation toolkit for distributive analysis
By Luca Tiberti (WP 2017-24)
Diversity more or less? Household resilience and food security in rural Nigeria
By Sënakpon F. A. Dadehouanou, John McPeak (WP 2018-01)
Food insecurity and family structure in Nigeria
By Nkechi S. Owoo, Elizabeth Bageant, Joanna Upton (WP 2018-02)
Do safety net transfers improve household diets and reduce undernutrition? Evidence from rural Ethiopia
By Tagel Gebrehiwot, Carolina Castilla (WP 2018-03)
Locus of Control and Technology Adoption in Africa: Evidence from Ethiopia
By Kibrom A. Abay, Guush Berhane, Garrick Blalock (WP 2018-04)
Does gender matter in the adoption of sustainable agricultural technologies? A case of push-pull technology in Kenya
By Beatrice W. Murithi, Gracious M. Diro, Menale Kassie, Geoffrey Muricho (WP 2018-05)

All PEP working papers

policy briefs
Policy brief 175
Impact of fiscal consolidation on the Mongolian economy

All PEP policy briefs

external publications
Recent journal publications by PEP grantees – i.e. based on research conducted with PEP support in developing countries
Addressing Poverty and Gender Inequality through Access to Formal Credit and Enhanced Enterprise Performance in Nigeria: An Empirical Investigation

Nonfarm employment, agricultural intensification, and productivity change: empirical findings from Uganda

Patterns of labor productivity and income diversification – Empirical evidence from Uganda and Nigeria

Spillovers from Off-farm Self-Employment Opportunities in Rural Niger

New light on the remittances-poverty-health nexus in Macedonia

Land Tenure Policy and Off-farm Employment in Rural China

Does gender matter in the adoption of sustainable agricultural technologies? A case of push-pull technology in Kenya

US Free Trade Agreements and Enforcement of Labor Law in Latin America

A comparative analysis of economies of the French overseas department through the social accounting matrices

Low world oil prices: A chance to reform fuel subsidies and promote public transport? A case study for South Africa

Intra-household Behavioral Responses to Cash Transfer Programs. Evidence from a Regression Discontinuity Design

Child monetary poverty and multidimensional deprivations: Why they differ?

Enforcement Matters: The Effective Regulation of Labor

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Child monetary poverty and multidimensional deprivations: Why they differ?

Enforcement Matters: The Effective Regulation of Labor

Recent journal publications by PEP resource persons, staff, and research fellows

Title of article
US Free Trade Agreements and Enforcement of Labor Law in Latin America
A comparative analysis of economies of the French overseas department through the social accounting matrices
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Intra-household Behavioral Responses to Cash Transfer Programs. Evidence from a Regression Discontinuity Design
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Enforcement Matters: The Effective Regulation of Labor

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Find previous issues of the PEP-talk here: PEP newsletters

To contact PEP secretariat, please email us at info@pep-net.org. If you wish to unsubscribe from this newsletter’s mailing list, send us an email with the subject “Unsubscribe – PEP-talk”

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