29 new PEP project teams selected for support under the PAGE II initiative

PEP is pleased to announce that 29 projects in 22 countries have been selected for support under the first round of PEP’s PAGE II (2016-2020) initiative, supported by UK Aid (DFID) and Canada’s IDRC.

From gender pay gaps and gender disparities to food security and the MSME sector, the selected projects investigate various aspects of the PAGE I priority themes, aiming to address country-relevant knowledge gaps for inclusive growth and employment policies. Find out more

PEP Online Development Program: Applied Development Economics

PEP is offering three online distance-learning courses in Applied Development Economics, in collaboration with Université Laval in Canada, from January to March, 2018. Register by November 30, 2017 to participate in the courses on Policy Impact Analysis, Computable General Equilibrium Modelling, and Measuring and Alleviating Poverty and Inequality. Find out more

New PEP impact story from Mongolia

A new PEP impact brief tells the story of how the findings and new expertise of PEP-supported local researchers in Mongolia have informed national policy debates and decisions, and raised the research team to the role of national experts in experimental research methods. Find out more

14th CBMS Philippines National Conference announced

The 14th CBMS Philippines National Conference with gather partners and stakeholders to discuss current development, findings, and best practices on the implementation and uses of the community-based monitoring system (CBMS). The conference will be held in March 2018 in Manila, the Philippines. Find out more about the call for papers (deadline November 15) and registration.

Policy findings

PEP continuously 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. These projects address a wide range of policy and welfare issues, and their findings are summarized here. Recent policy findings from PEP-supported projects in developing countries

Policy Analysis on Growth & Employment – 2012-2016

Overview of findings from projects supported by PEP in developing countries around the world under the first phase of the PAGE initiative from 2012 to 2016.

Introducing a minimum wage can improve well-being

Advocates of a national minimum wage say it can help create a more equitable society by shrinking the wage gap of low-paid workers, while opponents argue that the companies will hire fewer low-skilled workers resulting in increased unemployment. Findings from PAGE projects in Argentina, Ecuador, Cameroon, Bolivia, and Kenya indicate that setting or raising the minimum wage can have positive income and well-being effects, provided it is managed appropriately.

Why youth become entrepreneurs

A common strategy for reducing youth unemployment is promoting youth entrepreneurship. However, this requires a clear understanding of the many reasons why young people decide to start their own business. PEP-PAGE projects in Bangladesh, Chile, Ethiopia, Kenya, Pakistan, Argentina, the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), and Macao indicate the factors that encourage youth entrepreneurship.

Supporting female entrepreneurship to reduce poverty

A number of PAGE projects found that microfinance for small and medium enterprises (SMEs) reduces poverty. In the cases of Bolivia, Ethiopia, and Nigeria, there were also significant positive implications for women’s empowerment. However, this was not found to be the case in Bangladesh.

How migration and remittances affect welfare and employment at home

Many households in developing countries rely on remittances from family members who have migrated to find work. A number of PEP projects under the PAGE initiative focus on the impact of migration and remittances on wages and employment. Projects from Cambodia, Kyrgyzstan, and Madagascar, and Senegal show that the effects of remittances are not necessarily predictable.

Managing the mining industry to help reduce poverty

With many developing countries economically dependent on mining, revenue distribution and international market fluctuations can have widespread and varied effects. PAGE projects in Niger, Mongolia, Colombia, and Burkina Faso investigated the impact of extractive industries on their respective economies.

Social protection for the informal sector

PAGE projects in Togo, Burkina Faso and Bolivia investigated different aspects of how the informal sector populations in each country protect themselves against shocks such as accidents and illness, as well as planning for old age. In each of these countries, the majority of the labor force works in the informal sector and receives no social protection from their employer or the state.

Cash transfers reduce poverty and improve well-being

Multiple developing country governments have developed cash transfer schemes, both conditional and unconditional, as a means of offering social protection. PAGE projects in Nigeria, Argentina, and Serbia investigated how cash transfer schemes can be adapted to provide social protection to vulnerable populations in their respective countries and contexts. The findings from all the studies indicate that cash transfers can successfully reduce poverty and increase well-being.
Identifying poor children: Evidence from Kyrgyzstan

Behind youth: Evidence from Kyrgyzstan

Policy brief 174
Policy briefs

Recent journal publications by PEP grantees

By Maria Adelaida

The effects of minimum wages on the labor market and income distribution in Kenya: A CGE analysis

By Maria Adelaida

Online

The effects of minimum wages on the labor market and income distribution in Kenya: A CGE analysis

By Maria Adelaida

The Impact of Trade Reforms on Employment and Welfare in ECOWAS Countries: The Case of Senegal

By Sokhna Diouf

The Impact of Trade Reforms on Employment and Welfare in ECOWAS Countries: The Case of Senegal

By Sokhna Diouf

Happy 15th Anniversary PEP – Celebrating 15 years of building local capacity in developing countries, we review PEP’s achievements. Read more

The September 2017 issue of the CBMS Network Update is now available online, featuring the following articles:

- Link between Youth Unemployment and Vulnerability in Tanzania
- 14th CBMS Philippines National Conference in March 2018
- PAGE II CBMS Country Project Teams Set for a Study Visit to the Philippines in November
- CBMS Network Conducts Training to Help Fight Child Labor in the Philippines (see related PEP news article)
- CBMS Uganda facilitates validation meetings in Katakwi District

Download the newsletter here

The following section lists papers and briefs published by PEP since the last issue of PEP-talk (July 2017)

Peer effects and risk-taking among entrepreneurs: Lab-in-the-field evidence

By Maria Adelaida Lopera Baena, Christian Arnault Emini (WP 2017-22)

The effects of minimum wages on the labor market and income distribution in Kenya: A CGE analysis

By Tabitha Mwangi, Florence Nelima Simiyu, Luif Milik Beyene, Abart Onderl (WP 2017-22)

Now available in English:

Impact of mining and oil boom on the labor market and economic development in Niger

By Amina Adebayo, Diva Suryanti, Veronique Basset, Ousmane Sowe, Jean-Marie Démée, Jorge Dávalos, Luca Tiberti, Luca Tiberi, and mennur Emira (WP 2016-21)

other pep news

New microsimulation toolkit for distributive analysis developed by PEP resource persons and now available to download for free from the PEP website. Read more

PEP board member, Nora Lustig, appointed LAACEA President Emeritus. Read more

PEP Research Director, Maria Laura Atlua, appointed Deputy Director of CEDLAS. Read more

Happy 15th Anniversary PEP – Celebrating 15 years of building local capacity in developing countries, we review PEP’s achievements. Read more

The September 2017 issue of the CBMS Network Update is now available online, featuring the following articles:

- Link between Youth Unemployment and Vulnerability in Tanzania
- 14th CBMS Philippines National Conference in March 2018
- PAGE II CBMS Country Project Teams Set for a Study Visit to the Philippines in November
- CBMS Network Conducts Training to Help Fight Child Labor in the Philippines (see related PEP news article)
- CBMS Uganda facilitates validation meetings in Katakwi District

Download the newsletter here

The following section lists papers and briefs published by PEP since the last issue of PEP-talk (July 2017)

Peer effects and risk-taking among entrepreneurs: Lab-in-the-field evidence

By Maria Adelaida Lopera Baena, Christian Arnault Emini (WP 2017-22)

The effects of minimum wages on the labor market and income distribution in Kenya: A CGE analysis

By Tabitha Mwangi, Florence Nelima Simiyu, Luif Milik Beyene, Abart Onderl (WP 2017-22)

Now available in English:

Impact of mining and oil boom on the labor market and economic development in Niger

By Amina Adebayo, Diva Suryanti, Veronique Basset, Ousmane Sowe, Jean-Marie Démée, Jorge Dávalos, Luca Tiberti, Luca Tiberi, and mennur Emira (WP 2016-21)

other pep news

New microsimulation toolkit for distributive analysis developed by PEP resource persons and now available to download for free from the PEP website. Read more

PEP board member, Nora Lustig, appointed LAACEA President Emeritus. Read more

PEP Research Director, Maria Laura Atlua, appointed Deputy Director of CEDLAS. Read more

Happy 15th Anniversary PEP – Celebrating 15 years of building local capacity in developing countries, we review PEP’s achievements. Read more

The September 2017 issue of the CBMS Network Update is now available online, featuring the following articles:

- Link between Youth Unemployment and Vulnerability in Tanzania
- 14th CBMS Philippines National Conference in March 2018
- PAGE II CBMS Country Project Teams Set for a Study Visit to the Philippines in November
- CBMS Network Conducts Training to Help Fight Child Labor in the Philippines (see related PEP news article)
- CBMS Uganda facilitates validation meetings in Katakwi District

Download the newsletter here

The following section lists papers and briefs published by PEP since the last issue of PEP-talk (July 2017)

Peer effects and risk-taking among entrepreneurs: Lab-in-the-field evidence

By Maria Adelaida Lopera Baena, Christian Arnault Emini (WP 2017-22)

The effects of minimum wages on the labor market and income distribution in Kenya: A CGE analysis

By Tabitha Mwangi, Florence Nelima Simiyu, Luif Milik Beyene, Abart Onderl (WP 2017-22)

Now available in English:

Impact of mining and oil boom on the labor market and economic development in Niger

By Amina Adebayo, Diva Suryanti, Veronique Basset, Ousmane Sowe, Jean-Marie Démée, Jorge Dávalos, Luca Tiberti, Luca Tiberi, and mennur Emira (WP 2016-21)
### Recent Journal Publications by PEP Resource Persons and Staff

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title of Article</th>
<th>Journal and References (Links)</th>
<th>Authors</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Community-level sanitation coverage is more strongly associated with child growth and household drinking water quality than access to a private toilet in rural Mali</td>
<td><strong>Environmental Science and Technology</strong> 2017 Jun 203 (1): 721-727 Online</td>
<td>Michael Harris, María Laura Alzúa, Nicolas Obert and Amy Pickering</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A comparative analysis of economies of the French overseas department through the social accounting matrices</td>
<td><strong>Revue d’Economie Régionale et Urbaine</strong> Forthcoming</td>
<td>Sébastien Mathouraparsad and Bernard Decaluwé</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robust Linear Static Panel Data Models Using Epsilon-Contamination</td>
<td><strong>Journal of Econometrics</strong> Forthcoming</td>
<td>Badi Baltagi, Georges Bresson, Anoop Chaturvedi and Guy Lacroix</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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 entitled "unsubscribe – PEP-talk".

Copyright © 2017 PEP-net. All rights reserved.