

news bulletin january 2015

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special greetings and head news

Happy New Year 2015 !!

At the onset of 2015, the PEP team sends to all its friends, colleagues and followers its warmest greetings and best wishes for the new year. We also take the opportunity to thank you for your continued interest and participation in the fulfillment of the PEP mission! 2014 was, in particular, a year of major advances for PEP, especially in terms of institutional development - [find out more](#).



HEAD NEWS

New PEP video, describing one of the projects supported under the PEP research and capacity building initiative for **Policy Analysis on Growth and Employment, PAGE :**

Estimating the effects of migration and remittances on the left-behind in Cambodia
[CLICK HERE](#) to find out all about this project and watch the clip

Follow us on:



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 in various countries. A few examples are provided below, but **more can be found here: Recent policy findings from PEP researchers in developing countries**

Macedonia

[More about the PAGE initiative](#)

PAGE – Youth self-employment in households receiving remittances in Macedonia



Selected for support under the PEP initiative for "Policy Analysis on Growth and Employment" (PAGE), in 2013, this team of local researchers in Macedonia sought to explore whether remittances may be used to support the entrepreneurial activities of unemployed youth living in recipient households. Results from their analysis show, among other things, that youth living in households receiving remittances have 28% to 33% higher probability to establish their own business, than the non-youth non-receiving counterparts. This initiative emerges from two main observations: while low job creation and the persistently high youth unemployment rate (around 55%) are some of the most important socioeconomic problems in Macedonia, remittance inflows represent, in average, about 4% of the country's GDP - the usage of which, however, remains largely unknown. Find out all about the research methods and findings through the following PEP publications:

Reports and publications: [Project webpage and video](#) | [Working paper 2014-08](#) | [Policy brief 115](#) | [Slide presentation](#)

Research team: [Nikica Mojsoska-Blazevsk](#) | [Marjan Petreski](#) | [Maia Nestorovska](#) | [Edi Smokvarski](#)

Nigeria

[More about the PAGE initiative](#)

PAGE – Is there discrimination against female entrepreneurs in formal credit markets in Nigeria?



Contrary to the results of other recent studies, this PEP-supported local research team - selected for support under the PEP initiative for "Policy Analysis on Growth and Employment" (PAGE), in 2013 - did not find evidence of significant discrimination against women in formal credit markets in Nigeria. However, results from their analysis show that micro/small enterprises are significantly more "credit-constrained" relative to medium enterprises. And the fact that women entrepreneurs are mostly involved in small and micro ventures suggests that access to formal credit is, nonetheless, a big constraint to the growth of women enterprises at that level. This analysis was conducted using data from the 2010 World Bank Investment Climate Survey, conducted among Nigerian enterprises (sample of 1590 firms). Find out more through the following PEP publications:

Reports and publications: [Working paper 2015-01](#) | [Policy brief 116](#) | [Slide presentation](#)

Research team: [Emmanuel O. Nwosu](#) | [Anthony Orji](#) | [Chioma Nwangwu](#) | [Vivian Nnetu](#)

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.

"**Long-term partnership to support UNICEF's work on social policy and social protection reform in the MENA region**"

- with UNICEF-MENA (Middle-East and North Africa)

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

PEP has also recently 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

training and workshops

As the core component of PEP's mission is to build/strengthen local research capacities in the South, the organization of intensive training workshops has been part of its regular set of activities since its creation in 2002.

"**PEP Schools**" offer personalized training, provided by world leading experts, in a variety of cutting-edge research methodologies, tools and concepts of development economics, to help local researchers in developing countries contribute to the design of effective national growth and poverty reduction strategies.



Forthcoming PEP schools and training workshops

Location

Dates

- Development policy modeling – June 8-12, 2015
- Dynamic impacts of macroeconomic policies and shocks – June 15-19, 2015

conferences



November 26, 2014 – Buenos Aires, Argentina

PEP-PAGE national policy conference: "The role of minimum wage and income transfer policies in social protection to the informal sector in Argentina"

A team of local researchers in Argentina – supported by PEP under the 1st round of the PAGE initiative – present and discuss their research findings and conclusions with representatives from the Ministry of Labor, national union organisations, ILO and other institutions in Argentina. [Find out more..](#)

November 28, 2014 – Phnom Penh, Cambodia

PEP-PAGE national policy conference: "A research-policy dialogue on the impacts of national trade policies on welfare and the labor markets".

A team of local researchers in Cambodia present and discuss the results of their PEP-PAGE-supported study, and ensuing policy recommendations, with high-level policy makers (including the Minister of Commerce himself) and representatives from both the public and private sectors. [Find out more...](#)



November 28, 2014 – Skopje, Macedonia

PEP-PAGE national policy conference: "Discussing the potential uses of remittances to foster youth entrepreneurship"

Another team of local PEP researchers, supported under PAGE, meet with representatives from the national government of Macedonia (including several policy makers and advisors from the Ministry of Labour and Social Policy, the Cabinet of the Vice-Minister for Economic Affairs, the Employment Service Agency, the National Bank of Macedonia), from the World Bank and ILO, as well as over 20 news agencies – who provided wide media coverage for the event and the researchers' findings and recommendations. [Find out more..](#)



Upcoming events

February 2-4, 2015 – Manila, Philippines

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

This annual event is a gathering of key officials and representatives of national government agencies, local government units, non-government organizations and development partner agencies, to discuss recent developments on the implementation and uses of the community-based monitoring systems (**CBMS**) in the Philippines. [Find out more about this upcoming event...](#)

May 2015 - Nairobi, Kenya

2015 PEP Annual Conference - Description and program are forthcoming..

other pep news

PEP welcomes a new senior financial officer, Philip D. Ade, who has taken office on December 1, 2014, based at PEP's global secretariat in Nairobi (Kenya). [Read more...](#)

PEP was invited by the World Bank to discuss child poverty issues and research findings in a special blog piece. "Looking at poverty through the eyes of a child" - co-written by John Cockburn and Bekele Shiferaw. [Read more...](#)

PEP was awarded a special research grant by the Netherlands Organization for Scientific Research (NWO/Wotro), to assess the impact of segmented markets of fresh produce on productive employment in Kenya. [Read more...](#)

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 funding opportunities with IDRC, the **World Bank** and more...

publications

The following section lists all new papers and briefs published by PEP since the last issue of the PEP-talk in October 2014

working papers

Is there discrimination against women entrepreneurs in formal credit markets in Nigeria?

By Nwosu Emmanuel, Anthony Orji, CHIOMA NWANGWU, Vivian Nneta (WP 2015-01)

Youth self-employment in households receiving remittances in Macedonia

By Nikica Mojsoska-Blazevski, Marjan Petreski, Edi Smokvarski and Maja Ristovska, (WP 2014-08)

ERRATUM

In the previous issue of the PEP-talk, the authors of the following paper were misidentified. The rightful author of this paper is Dr. André Lemelin. Please see the correction below:

Endogenous Savings Rate with Forward-Looking Households in a Recursive Dynamic CGE Model: Application to South Africa

By André Lemelin (WP 2014-06)

Find all PEP working papers [here](#)

policy briefs

Policy brief 119

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

By Vathana Roth, Vutha Hing, Dalis Phann and Sreymom Sum

Policy brief 118

Risk tolerance, gender and entrepreneurship : the **Palestinian** case

By Yousef Daoud, Shaker Sarsour, Ruba Shanti and Sanaa Kamal

Policy brief 117

Choice of education language and entrepreneurship in **Chad**

By Mallaye Douzounet, Blandine Nan-Guer Koulké, Benjamin Fomba Kamga, Urbain Thierry Yogo and Eurydice Tormal Gosngar

Policy brief 116

Is there discrimination against female entrepreneurs in formal credit markets in **Nigeria**?

By Emmanuel Nwosu, Anthony Orji, Chioma Nwangwu and Vivian Nneta

Policy brief 115

Youth self-employment in households receiving remittances in **Macedonia**

By Marjan Petreski, Nikica Mojsoska-Blazevski, Maja Ristovska and Edi Smokvarski

Find all PEP policy briefs [here](#)



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

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