



news bulletin march 2014

news and events

publications

policy findings and impact / training / conferences / PEP news
working papers / policy briefs

Special announcements

2014 PEP Annual Conference to be held in Santa Cruz, Bolivia (April 30 to May 7)

The 11th PEP annual conference and general meetings will be held in Santa Cruz, Bolivia, from April 30 to May 7, 2014. The event will be hosted and organized in collaboration with the Institute for Advanced Development Studies (INESAD) and funded by IDRC and UK Aid. Over 200 participants will gather to discuss research and policy issues **under the broad theme of inclusive growth and employment in developing countries.**



In particular, the meetings will feature presentations of final reports and new proposals as part of the PEP research and capacity building program initiative for Policy Analysis on Growth and Employment (PAGE). This year's conference will also feature a special policy forum on « **Fostering entrepreneurship for inclusive growth and poverty reduction** » with the support of the Multilateral Investment Fund (MIF) of the IDB Group, the Development Bank of Latin America (CAF) and others. [Find out more...](#)



The most recent PEP-PAGE video describes one of the ongoing PAGE projects

Beyond technical skills training: the impact of credit counselling on entrepreneurial behaviors of Ugandan youth

[CLICK HERE](#) to find out about this project & watch the clip

Follow us on:



news and events

policy findings and impact

PEP impact stories are a series of brief accounts describing how PEP researchers' findings and recommendations have contributed to inform and influence policy in developing countries. The most recently published of these accounts is presented below and **more can be found at: [PEP impact stories](#)**

Ghana

Ghana committed to expand anti-poverty program in response to a PEP report on the effects of fuel subsidies

[Read full paper](#)



In early 2013, the Ghanaian Government removed fuel subsidies over the first half of the year. Prices of petrol, kerosene, diesel and LPG rose between 15% and 50% by mid-September 2013. Following the subsidy removal and before the 2013 budget was finalised, on the request of the Ghanaian Government PEP was commissioned by UNICEF to assess the impact of the reform on the poor and to ensure a mitigating response in the form of a social safety net.

The analysis confirmed that, so far, government aid has disproportionately benefited the country's wealthiest population - with 80% of fuel subsidies going to the country's wealthiest, while Ghana's poor receive only 3% of the revenues generated. However, the findings showed that removing fuel subsidies would, nevertheless, increase poverty by 1.5% (i.e. an additional 395,000 people pushed into poverty).

On the other hand, in terms of mitigating policy responses, the researchers demonstrated how doubling the national cash transfer program (LEAP) to 150,000 households in 2014 would completely reverse the national increase in poverty and reduce inequality. In response to these findings, the Ghanaian government committed to doubling LEAP to 150,000 households and announced that they plan to eventually triple their commitment. Find out more through the following [PEP working paper](#)

Research team: [Edgar F.A. Cooke](#) | [Sarah Hague](#) | [John Cockburn](#) | [Abdel-Rahmen El Lahga](#) | [Luca Tiberti](#)

[CLICK HERE](#) to find out more about the outcomes of recent UNICEF-commissioned studies

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.

[CLICK HERE](#) to find out about those ongoing initiatives through which PEP is currently supporting research in developing countries.

training and workshops

As the core component of PEP's mission has always been 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

PEP-CRES School, offering two training workshops - **IN FRENCH**

- Impact evaluation using experimental and non-experimental approaches, June 9-17
- Modeling the impacts of macro policies and shocks, June 9-20

Dakar, Senegal

June 9-20, 2014

Registrations are ongoing

PEP-Laval Intensive Graduate School in Development Economics – **IN ENGLISH**

Offering three training workshops :

- Development Policy Modeling – June 2-6
- Dynamic Impacts of Macroeconomic Policies and Shocks – June 9-13
- Microeconomic Analysis of Welfare and Policies – June 16-20

Quebec City, Canada

June 2-20, 2014

Registrations are ongoing, but close to deadline

Recent events

Location

Dates

Special training workshop in policy modeling and simulation techniques provided to local analysts within the Chadian government, in the context of a special initiative funded by the UNDP. [Find out more...](#)

N'Djamena, Chad

March, 2014

conferences



March 24-26, 2014 – Manila, Philippines

10th CBMS Philippines National Conference

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. This year's conference, in particular, engages discussions related to the uses of CBMS for budgeting, disaster risk reduction and management, local governance, vulnerability mapping, program design/targeting and impact monitoring, among others. [Find out more about this event...](#)

January 28-30, 2014 – Dakar, Senegal

Reporting on the outcomes of the YESSA conference

The PEP Africa Office (coordinating team) and the International Development Research Center (IDRC), together with other partners, hosted an international conference on [Youth and Employment in Sub-Saharan Africa \(YESSA\)](#) in Dakar (Senegal), on January 28-30, 2014. A report summarizing the main outcomes and recommendations from this important meeting is now available : [CLICK HERE](#) to read it

January 10, 2014 – Nairobi, Kenya

PEP researchers in Kenya present findings from an impact evaluation of education policies

On January 10, a team of local researchers in Nairobi, Kenya, organized a dissemination workshop to present their PEP-supported research findings regarding the impact of "teachers contracts", and related implications for education policies. This particular impact evaluation project had been led in close collaboration with the Ministry of Education and the Kenya National Examination Council (KNEC), as well as "Vision 2030" Strategic Planning Group – all of whom attended the event. [Find out more...](#)



pep news

Two new papers published from UNICEF-commissioned studies in Ghana and Uganda. [Find out more...](#)

Shortlisted entries for the 3rd edition of the CBMS-Philippines Special Awards for LGUs, posted on the PEP website: [Find them 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

This month, find out about current opportunities offered by **PEGNet**, the **ILO**, **GTAP**, etc...

publications

working papers

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

[Estimating the impact on poverty of Ghana's fuel subsidy reform and a mitigating response](#)

By Edgar F.A. Cooke, Sarah Hague, John Cockburn, AbdelRahmen El Lahga and Luca Tiberti (WP 2014-02)

[Impact of increased public education spending on growth and poverty in Uganda: An integrated micro-macro approach](#)

By Véronique Robichaud, Luca Tiberti, Helene Maisonnave (WP 2014-01)

Find all PEP working papers [here](#) and all PEP policy briefs [here](#)



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** to this newsletter's mailing list, send us an email entitled "Unsubscribe – PEP-talk"

Copyright © 2013 PEP-net. All rights reserved