

top stories

**Sixteen teams selected for second round of PAGE II support**

Sixty-two researchers in 15 developing countries will receive PEP support under the second round PAGE II initiative. Selection was made following presentations of shortlisted proposals at the 2018 PEP Annual Conference. [Find out more](#)



**PEP special issue of Environment and Development Economics**

The work of PEP researchers and resource persons is highlighted in a PEP special issue of the prestigious journal *Environment and Development Economics*. The issue provides local perspectives on policy questions related to "Natural resources and economic development". See ["external publications"](#) or [find out more](#)



**Thirteen new PEP Research Fellows**

PEP selected 13 new Research Fellows to join the seven selected in 2017. This group of 20 of the most talented developing country research will spearhead PEP's efforts to promote increased participation of local researchers in national and international development policy debates. [Find out more](#)

**PEP working papers available via SSRN**

PEP working papers are now available as an Economics Research Centers Papers Series within the Economics Research Network (ERN) on SSRN. Subscribe to the Partnership for Economic Policy Working Paper Series to receive email announcements of newly published papers in the series. [Find out more](#)

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current initiatives & collaborations

**Strengthening impact evaluation capacities in East and West Africa**

**New PEP funding received from Hewlett Foundation**

In September 2018, the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation awarded PEP funding of \$1.4M (US) over three years for activities to [strengthen impact evaluation capacities in East and West Africa](#).

Coordinated by PEP's Experimental Research (PIERI) group, PEP will provide support for local researchers conducting impact evaluations (IEs) of government programs. PEP will also provide technical support to government officials interested in conducting IEs.



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.

**PAGE II Policy Analysis on Growth & Employment – 2016-2020**

With funding from UK Aid and the IDRC of Canada, the PAGE-II initiative (2016-2020) is currently supporting 45 policy analysis projects led by small teams of local researchers in 33 developing countries, including 21 low-income economies and fragile or conflict states.

The selected research teams receive support and training through PEP's unique "Grant Plus" program. As part of PAGE II, PEP introduced a series of new features to its capacity building approach, including [online training courses](#), mentoring in policy outreach, as well as a new type of [institutionalisation project](#).



**Uruguay's domestic workers boosted by minimum wage policy**

Uruguay's domestic sector is dominated by women (99%) and represents 13% of total female employment. But the occupation is undervalued and associated with low wages and high levels of informality. In 2006 new rights were established for domestic workers, including minimum wages, regulations on working hours and inspections of working conditions. A team of local PEP researchers analysed the impact that the introduction of minimum wages for domestic workers had on their wages, employment, and mobility between the formal and informal sectors. Their findings indicate that this led to almost 20% of domestic workers increasing their wages, in both the formal and informal sectors. There was also a migration of formal workers to the informal sector, particularly for workers outside of the capital city. [Download PEP Policy Brief 183](#)



**Impact of Foreign Direct Investment in the coal export sector on the Mongolian economy**

More than half of Mongolia coal exports, one of the country's main export commodities, is transported to China by road. However, this causes several problems: it is expensive when international prices are low, creates a bottleneck when prices are high, and generates a lot of pollution. The government plans to use foreign direct investment (FDI) to build a railway transporting coal to the Mongolia-China border. Through the first PEP institutionalisation project, a team of local researchers examined the impact of FDI in the exported coal and railway sectors on the Mongolian economy. Their findings indicate that, while this would be positive for GDP and employment, FDI in the exported coal sector would also bring Dutch disease effects, harming other sectors of Mongolia's economy. [Download PEP Policy Brief 182](#)

[More PEP findings](#)

conferences

**2019 PEP Annual Conference**

will be held **May 30 – June 3** in **Cape Town, South Africa**

**15th CBMS Philippines National Conference**

will be held **March 13-15, 2019** in **Quezon City, Philippines**

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.

**November 14, 2018 | Montevideo, Uruguay**

**PEP researchers in Uruguay spark discussion on domestic workers' conditions at national conference**

PEP researchers in Uruguay organized a national policy conference attracting key policy actors and stakeholders from the Ministry of Labour and Social Security, the union for domestic workers (SUTD), and the social security institute (BPS) to discuss their findings on the impact of the introduction of a minimum wage policy for domestic workers. Representatives of the SUTD and the BPS responded to the team's findings – particularly that informality is higher among domestic workers in the capital city – by proposing to improve and increase domestic work supervision. [Read more](#)



training

PEP continually offers training in the most up-to-date techniques and tools for economic policy analysis. These sessions aim to help local researchers contribute to the design of effective national growth and poverty reduction strategies in their own countries.

Online courses

PEP offers three [online distance-learning courses](#): **Policy Impact Analysis**, **Computable General Equilibrium Modelling**, and **Measuring and Alleviating Poverty and Inequality**. These graduate courses are offered in collaboration with and accredited by Université Laval in Canada.

PEP received 150 applications from 50 countries to attend the 2019 (January-April) online courses, the vast majority of which were accepted. A call for applications for the 2020 edition will be launched in the fall of 2019

other PEP news

**PEP research fellow joins World Economic Forum's Global Future Council on Health and Healthcare.** [Read more](#)

**PEP Executive Director appointed to Kenya's Monetary Policy Committee.** [Read more](#)

**The Global Coalition to End Child Poverty launches an online discussion forum on child poverty, hosted by PEP.** [Read more](#)

**PEP-PIERI Research Director discusses capacity building for local impact evaluations at Evidence 2018 conference.** [Read more](#)

**PEP-PIERI Research Director promotes CBMS at ASEAN-China-UNDP Symposium.** [Read more](#)

**PEP celebrates 16 years of building capacity for local development solutions.** [Read more](#)

**PEP Executive Director panellist at Evidence to Action Conference.** [Read more](#)

The **September 2018 issue of the CBMS Network Update is now available online** featuring:

- ASEAN-China-UNDP Symposium Highlights Use of CBMS
- Panabo City Experience on Mainstreaming the SDGs
- DLSU-AKI Research Paper recognized as "Outstanding"
- 15th CBMS Philippines National Conference Announcement

[Download the newsletter](#)

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](#) for related events and opportunities



publications since the March 2018 issue of PEP-talk

working papers

**Rural non-farm engagement and agriculture commercialization in Ghana: complements or competitors?**

By Paul Kwame Nkegbe, Abdelkrim Araar, Benjamin Musah Abu, Yazidu Ustarz, Hamdiyah Alhassan, Edinam Dope Setsoafia, Shamsia Abdul-Wahab (WP 2018-07)

**The role of weather on schooling and work of young adults in Madagascar**

By Francesca Marchetta, David E. Sahn, Luca Tiberti (WP 2018-08)

[All PEP working papers](#)

policy briefs

**Policy Brief 182** Impact on the Mongolian economy of foreign direct investment in the coal export sector

By Ragchaasuren Galindev, Tsolmon Baatarzorig, Nyambaatar Batbayar, Delgermaa Begz, Unurjargal Davaa, Oyunzul Tserendorj

**Policy Brief 183** Uruguay's domestic workers boosted by minimum wage policy

By Alma Espino, Soledad Salvador, Karina Colombo, Sharon Katzkowicz, Gabriela Pedetti and Martina Querejeta.

[All PEP policy briefs](#)

external publications

Recent journal publications by PEP grantees

Based on research conducted with PEP support in developing countries

Article title	Journal & references	Authors
Reduction of child poverty in <b>Serbia</b> : benefit or employment strategy?	The Economics of Transition <a href="#">Online</a>	Nicholas-James Clavet, Luca Tiberti, Marko Vladislavjevic, Jelena Zarkovic Rakic, Aleksandra Anic, Gorana Krstic, Sasa Randjelovic
Extension of mandatory health insurance to informal sector workers in <b>Togo</b>	Health Economics Review Vol. 8 (22), 2018 <a href="#">Online</a>	Dosse Mawussi Djahini-Afawoubo, Ezzo-Hanam Atake
The Effect of Input-trade Liberalization on Nonfarm and Farm Labour Participation in Rural <b>Vietnam</b>	European Review of Agricultural Economics (forthcoming)	Jorge Davalos, Trung Xuan Hoang and Luca Tiberti

[All external publications from PEP-supported researchers and projects](#)

PEP special issue

A special issue in *Environment and Development Economics* based on research conducted with PEP support in developing countries (see "top stories"). All articles in this issue are open access.

**Natural Resources and Economic Development**

*Environment and Development Economics*  
Vol. 23, Special Issue 5, October 2018. [Online](#)

Editors [John Cockburn](#), [Hélène Maisonnave](#) and [Luca Tiberti](#)

- Effects of ups and downs of the **Mongolian** mining sector
- Gold price volatility, tax revenue, and employment: Can **Burkina Faso's** adaptation strategy avoid the natural resource curse?
- Climate risk and food availability in **Guatemala**
- Mining and petroleum boom and public spending policies in **Niger**: a dynamic computable general equilibrium analysis
- The impact of oil revenues on wellbeing in **Chad**



Other recent publications

Former PEP grantee and current PEP research fellow, Vaqar Ahmed has published a book citing extensively from research conducted with PEP support.

**Pakistan's Agenda for Economic Reforms**

By [Vaqar Ahmed](#)

Oxford University Press, 2018, [Online](#)

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

Article title	Journal & references	Authors
Vulnerability and policy responses in the face of natural resource discoveries and climate change: Introduction to a PEP special issue on Natural Resources and Economic Development	Environment and Development Economics Vol. 23 (Special Issue 5) October 2018, pp. 517-526 <a href="#">Online</a>	<a href="#">John Cockburn</a> , <a href="#">Martin Henseler</a> , <a href="#">Hélène Maisonnave</a> , <a href="#">Luca Tiberti</a>
Energy Subsidy Reform and Poverty in Arab Countries: A Comparative CGE-Microsimulation Analysis of Egypt and Jordan	Review of Income and Wealth Vol. 64(1), pp. S249-S273 <a href="#">Online</a>	<a href="#">John Cockburn</a> , <a href="#">Véronique Robichaud</a> , <a href="#">Luca Tiberti</a>
Monetary and multidimensional child poverty: Why they differ	Journal of African Economies. Vol. 27(4), pp. 483-512 <a href="#">Online</a>	<a href="#">Paola Ballon</a> , <a href="#">John Cockburn</a> , <a href="#">Sylvain Dessy</a> , <a href="#">Setou Diarra</a>
The effect of Peru's CDM investments on households' welfare: An econometric approach	Energy Policy Vol. 123, December 2018, pp. 198-207	<a href="#">Nicolas Pécastaing</a> , <a href="#">Jorge Davalos</a> , and <a href="#">Andy Inga</a>
The Economy-wide Impacts of the South African Child Support Grant: A Microsimulation-Computable General Equilibrium Analysis	World Development Vol. 112 (2018), pp. 272-281	<a href="#">Luca Tiberti</a> , <a href="#">Hélène Maisonnave</a> , <a href="#">Margaruel Chifiga</a> and <a href="#">Ramos Emmanuel Mabugu</a>
The incidence of the provision of infrastructures in the price of land	Revista Latinoamericana de Estudio Urbano Regionales Vol. 44(135), 2018, pp 5-28 <a href="#">Online</a>	<a href="#">Lucas Ronconi</a> , <a href="#">Juan Casazza</a> , and <a href="#">Eduardo Reese</a>
Réforme fiscale : quel rôle pour les modèles d'équilibre général calculable ?	L'Actualité économique Vol. 93 (3), September 2017, pp. 367-403 <a href="#">Online</a>	<a href="#">André Lemelin</a> and <a href="#">Luc Savard</a>
Gender gaps in the path to adulthood for young females and males in six African countries from the 1990s to the 2010s	IZA Journal of Development and Migration Vol. 8 (16), 2018 <a href="#">Online</a>	<a href="#">Jane Mariara</a> , <a href="#">Andy McKay</a> , <a href="#">Andy Newell</a> and <a href="#">Cinzia Rienzo</a>
A Community Based Program Promotes Sanitation	Economic Development and Cultural Change (forthcoming, available <a href="#">online</a> )	<a href="#">María Laura Alzua</a> , <a href="#">Habiba Djebbari</a> , and <a href="#">Amy J Pickering</a>