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Word from the Director

In 2012, PEP celebrates its tenth anniversary! Since 2002, PEP has provided training and support to more than 500 local researchers for the conduct of 172 policy studies in 49 developing countries. Our researchers have developed a world-wide reputation for producing scientifically-sound evidence on issues related to poverty, and social and economic development in their respective countries. With an average researcher age of 36 years and 43% female participation, PEP has contributed to the creation of a growing and increasingly gender-balanced pool of Southern-based researchers to participate in and influence current and future debates on poverty, development and economic policy issues in developing countries.

Building on these foundations, PEP is increasingly called upon by international institutions to coordinate locally-led policy analyses on a variety of pressing policy issues. This growing demand for the unique perspective of in-country expertise testifies to PEP's success in its core mandate of empowering and giving a stronger voice to developing country researchers. To better respond to this increasing "professionalization" of its services, PEP's management committee took the decision to restructure in order to devote more time and resources to the promotion and mobilization of existing capacities for policy analysis in the South, without losing sight of the importance of constantly renewing its talent pool through PEP's core training and mentoring activities.

At the same time, PEP is changing its name - but not its acronym! - from the "Poverty and Economic Policy research network" to the "Partnership for Economic Policy". First, this reflects the success in devolving PEP's leadership from an initial North (Canada)-South (Philippines) collaboration to a full global partnership of institutions in Africa (Consortium pour la recherche économique et social, CRES, Senegal), Asia (Angelo King Institute, AKI, Philippines), Latin America (Grupo de Análisis para el Desarrollo, GRADE, Peru) and North America (Centre interuniversitaire pour le risque, les politiques économiques et l'emploi, CIRPÉE, Canada). Second, it captures the broadening thematic scope of PEP's activities to a broad range of economic policy issues, while maintaining a central preoccupation with the impacts on distribution and equity.

Important new agreements are currently under negotiations with major donors in support of the new PEP. We look forward to sharing more on these in the next issue of PEP Talk!

John Cockburn
PEP Executive Director
ABOUT PEP

The Partnership for Economic Policy is a global network of researchers, policymakers and other stakeholders, devoted to ensuring greater participation of local expertise in the analysis of policy issues related to poverty, and economic and social development in developing countries.

Since 2002, PEP support has contributed to building the scientific and policy expertise of more than 500 researchers based in nearly 50 countries in Asia, Africa and Latin America. The expansion of its activities has resulted both in and from PEP’s unique partnership of institutions on each of these continents: Consortium pour la recherche économique et sociale (CRES, Dakar, Senegal), Grupo di Analisis para el Desarrollo (GRADE, Lima, Peru) and Angelo King Institute (AKI, Manila, Philippines).

Launched with initial funding from the International Development Research Centre (IDRC) of Canada, PEP has now evolved into a multi-donor funded organization, with a fast-growing number of international donors and collaborators. Its main partners now include:

- Australian Agency for International Development - AusAID
- Canadian International Development Agency - CIDA
- Inter-American Development Bank - IADB
- International Development Research Centre - IDRC
- International Food Policy Research Institute - IFPRI
- International Labor Organization - ILO
- United Nations Development Program - UNDP
- United Nations Children Fund - UNICEF
- United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women - UN Women

These multiple collaborations have also contributed to the development of several niches of expertise for PEP research, now covering a variety of thematic foci (children, gender, education, labor, crisis, growth, etc.), as described in section II of this report.

The reputation of PEP research is one of scientific rigor and quality, with outputs that measure up to the highest international standards, applying cutting-edge methodologies, as well as the most updated analytical concepts, tools and techniques. The “PEP toolbox” for policy analysis is described on page 5 of this report.

Beyond their geographic and thematic coverage, the scope of PEP activities has also extended, over the years, in terms of different areas of intervention. PEP support now goes beyond the development and strengthening of local expertise in developing countries, to ensure the mobilization of such expertise, as well as its influence on policy, both at the national and international levels. The different areas of PEP activities are described in the following pages.

With such an extensive scope of activities and expertise, PEP is now acknowledged worldwide as a “one of a kind” organization, whose work contributes to enhancing the voice of local expertise in the analysis and debate on key economic policy issues facing developing countries.
With nearly ten years of experience, and the continued support of world-renowned experts in development economics, PEP has become a unique source of expertise in building local capacities for economic and policy analysis in developing countries.

Indeed, PEP relies on a unique and efficient mechanism of manifold support, that it has developed over the years, to help Southern-based researchers overcome the usual impediments to the conduct of state-of-the-art research within their home countries.

**PEP “Grant plus” mechanism**

The core activity of PEP is its open and competitive call for proposals (CFP), which has funded most PEP-supported projects to date – 147 of 172 projects, selected out of more than 2300 submitted proposals.

A total of 49 studies - involving 153 developing country researchers – were granted PEP support in 2010-2011; 17 of them were selected following the last PEP call for proposals in 2010, while the other grants were awarded in the context of special thematic research initiatives (see the list on page 7).

**Selected teams are provided with...**

... **resources**

In addition to funding, PEP provides a variety of resources to ensure that researchers carry out their analysis in the best possible research environment: recommended readings, updated training material, software tools, online journals and international databases, etc.

... **training**

PEP-supported researchers receive in-depth training in methodologies, concepts and techniques relevant to their particular project. Training may be provided in the context of PEP general meetings (see section V, page 30) or directly through interaction with PEP resource persons. PEP also provides training material for self-teaching, which is made available for public access on the PEP website. See also the new PEP School programs on page 28-29.

... **mentoring**

Following approval and provision of a research grant for the conduct of a new study, one of PEP-affiliated resource persons is assigned as a “mentor” to the research team, in order to provide ongoing and direct assistance throughout project execution. Mentored “learning by doing” is key to PEP’s capacity building strategy.

... **study visits**

PEP-funded researchers may apply for additional funding to finance a 3-to-4-week study visit with resource persons at the institution of their choice in the course of their project. This mechanism provides longer periods of direct communication to allow researchers to explore particularly complex methodological or technical issues with ongoing support, as well as first-rate access to computer and documentary facilities

*“Before I joined the PEP network, if you “googled” my name probably you could get zero results. Today, the story is different; the PEP network has made me just what I am in the poverty research world. I am proud of that.”*

Milu Muyanga, Kenya

*“PEP has provided us with a series of analytical tools that are quite difficult to obtain for research teams working in developing countries, including international bibliographic databases and program licenses”*

Maria Ines Terra, Uruguay
PEP helps local analysts meet the highest international quality standards

In order to select the most promising research projects to be granted PEP support, all submitted proposals undergo careful review and analysis by PEP scientific expert committees to assess each project’s feasibility, contributions and relevance, both in terms of scientific and policy concerns.

Once selected, the progress of each project is carefully monitored through ongoing interaction with PEP resource persons and periodic progress reports. Interim and final research reports are requested and each receives detailed comments and suggestions – often resulting in several revisions.

Section II of this report describes the 2010-2011 findings from PEP research on a variety of development issues and themes, from child welfare to inclusive growth strategies. See also the complete list of PEP-supported projects in 2010-2011 on pages 20-22.

The evidence produced in the context PEP-supported analyses is therefore guaranteed to meet the highest international standards of scientific rigor and quality.

Moreover, PEP research projects always contribute specific recommendations on which decision-makers can rely to design and implement appropriate policies to combat poverty and/or maximize pro-poor benefits of their interventions. See section III (pages 21-25) to find out how PEP research helps inform policymaking in developing countries.

PEP resource persons

PEP resource persons are international experts who specialize in the various themes and approaches of the network (see page 5). By devoting their time to training and mentoring PEP-supported researchers, these experts contribute to strengthening research capacities in developing countries, and thus building local expertise in the analysis of important development policy issues.

Their contributions, however, go beyond knowledge transfer. Indeed, their work and experience in the specific context of developing countries have yielded important methodological developments for the field, as described on page 5. These innovative tools and techniques are now used and highly valued by development analysts and practitioners worldwide.
PEP Toolbox

Among the several peerless features of PEP is the breadth of analytical perspectives, tools and techniques in which PEP resource persons specialize, and that supported researchers can choose to apply and be trained in via PEP support. Here are the four main categories of methodologies applied in the context of PEP research.

Macro-micro modelling and simulations
Combining computable general equilibrium (CGE) models and sophisticated household survey-based microsimulation techniques, to link the impact of macro shocks/policies to poverty and other dimensions of household welfare.

Over the past few years, PEP’s renowned international modelling experts have devoted time and energy to offer the international modelling community a series of new reference CGE models that allow more country-specific and extensive applications, including dynamics, global modelling and international financial assets.

These models now stand out among the most widely acknowledged of PEP contributions to the advancement of research in development economics. All PEP CGE models are made available for public access on the PEP website.

Community-based monitoring systems (CBMS)
Developing and implementing local poverty monitoring systems to track a variety of welfare indicators at the household level, collecting data that will provide detailed measurement of poverty in a multidimensional sense.

Often implemented in collaboration with local government units, community-based monitoring systems, help to address existing data gaps in national statistical databases for assessing the extent of multidimensional poverty and identifying the poor.

The resulting “poverty maps” or profiles help in guiding use of local budgets and targeting beneficiaries of pro-poor intervention programs, while empowering local communities to participate in the process. The censuses are also used to monitor the poverty impacts of such programs, or that of economic shocks and crises, at the household level.

Distributive analysis and poverty measurement tools
Developing and applying concepts, techniques and tools to monitor, measure and analyze poverty, equity and related issues in a multidimensional setting, primarily using household survey data.

In this case as well, PEP research has yielded major contributions to the field with the development of two world-renowned software tools, Distributive Analysis/Analyse Distributive (DAD) and Distributive Analysis for Stata Package (DASP). Development researchers, analysts and practitioners worldwide have been using these tools to provide a fuller characterization of the nature, distribution, causes and consequences of poverty, building profiles used to inform debates and assist in policymaking - whether to make decisions in terms of public spending or to address a wide range of specific welfare issues - inequality, gender, health, labor, child poverty, infrastructure, etc..

Impact evaluations
Providing rigorous assessments of the impacts - both expected benefits and unintended effects - of programs and policies, using experimental and non-experimental approaches.

Randomized controlled trials, for instance, enable researchers to directly construct a valid “counter-factual” of what program participants would have experienced had they not participated. This counterfactual is then compared to outcomes actually experienced by participants in the program or policy in question.

These assessments provide sound empirical evidence to inform program managers, donors, policy-makers and civil society on program effectiveness and ways to improve the design of future programs.
Listening to research users and communicating findings in order to inform and influence policy are some of the greatest challenges of the academic field of development research.

Over the past couple years, PEP has devoted extensive resources to build its organizational expertise in terms of policy engagement, in order to assist its researchers in creating strong policy linkages and implementing effective influence strategies. This initiative has led to the publication, in 2011, of the renewed “PEP Research Communication Strategy”, as well as a new “guide” for researchers on “How to Build a Policy Influence Plan”.

When undertaking initiatives to contribute to poverty reduction in their home countries, PEP researchers can now rely on PEP support every step of the way; from the development of their research proposal, to the communication of their findings and policy recommendations to national stakeholders.

**Activities**

The areas of activities in which researchers can benefit from PEP’s experience and support include:

- Defining policy issues
- Identifying and consulting with relevant policy audiences
- Building networks
- Organizing national policy conferences
- Presenting in international conferences
- Interacting with mass media
- Preparing policy briefs and publishing in refereed journals

PEP does not only strongly encourage these initiatives, but also provides researchers with continual guidance and supervision, as well both technical and financial support.

In addition to ensuring wider and more effective dissemination of their research findings to inform policy, the same activities contribute to increasing the researchers’ exposure, and thus building their reputation as experts in the field, both with national decision-makers and the international research and donor communities.

Section III of this report describes some of PEP researchers’ related undertakings in 2010-2011, as well as several reported cases of influence exerted by PEP researchers and their findings over policymaking in various countries.
PEP Policy Analysis

PEP is a global organization that specializes in the analysis of policy issues related to poverty, economic and social development in developing countries, with the unique trait of systematically providing a locally-based analytical perspective.

Moreover, the geographic scope of PEP activities, combined with a “networking” type of organizational structure, provide a unique opportunity for local-based, and usually isolated, Southern researchers to share and learn from experience with international peers in the North and South.

These exchanges also allow for the comparison of research results, conclusions and/or methodological applications among countries and regions, as well as for increased South-South knowledge transfers through greater interaction of both individuals and institutions.

To date, PEP has supported a total of 507 researchers and 172 research projects, in 49 different countries of Asia, Africa and Latin America. The supported analyses have explored a variety of development issues, out of which a certain number of thematic foci have arisen:

- Globalization and Trade
- Poverty and Inequality
- Education and Training
- Fiscal Policy
- Impact of Government Programs
- Localizing and Meeting the MDGs
- Improving Local Governance
- Social Protection
- Children
- Gender
- Labor Markets
- Health
- Impact of Crises
- Inclusive Growth
- Program Targeting
- Environment

See pages 8 to 22 for an account of PEP research findings and projects supported over the year 2010-2011.

PEP SPECIAL INITIATIVES & COLLABORATIONS

As mentioned in the introduction to section I (page 2), an increasing number of international donor institutions and development partners have been calling on the expertise of PEP to lead or collaborate in several thematic research initiatives. The following pages describe some of these collaborative projects, their outcomes to date and potential contributions for policymaking in the relevant countries.

Here is the complete list of the most recent and current initiatives:

**AusAID**

Simulating the distributive impacts of different growth strategies in China, Pakistan and the Philippines

**EEPSEA**

CBMS support in generating vulnerability index and maps at the village level to assist local government units in preparing appropriate plans and programs to address evolving pressures on the environment particularly that of climate change.

**IFPRI**

Collaborating in the African Growth Development Policy (AGRODEP) Modeling Consortium

**ILO**

Using CBMS to monitor and analyze child labor conditions in the Philippines

**AusAID – CIDA – IDRC – IFPRI**

Analyzing the impacts of the global financial crisis on poverty and appropriate policy responses in developing countries

**UNICEF**

Assessing the impacts of the global financial crisis and appropriate policy responses for children in West and Central Africa

Simulations of fiscal space and public spending on children in Burkina Faso

Situational analyses of child poverty in Uganda and Burkina Faso

Assessing the impact of a community-led total sanitation (CLTS) program in rural Mali

**UNDP**

Strengthening capacities for poverty and social impact analysis in sub-Saharan Africa

CBMS Development Grant Program in the Philippines

Using CBMS for localizing the MDGs

CBMS: Monitoring Household Coping Strategies during Complex Crises and Recovery (also with UNICEF)
Several of the theme-focused initiatives recently undertaken at the request of international development partner agencies (as listed on page 7) have led PEP to devote an increasing share of its activities to expanding both knowledge and local expertise related to child well-being in developing countries. A great part of these activities was commissioned by UNICEF, but some were funded by ILO and others the result of independent initiatives from PEP researchers. Drawing on the variety of analytical perspectives and methodological approaches fostered by PEP research, a series of initiatives have been implemented to produce empirical evidence that will assist governments and other stakeholders in designing policies and programs to achieve greater equity and well-being for children.

- Identifying deprivation among children in a multidimensional sense
- Analyzing alternative public spending on children
- Monitoring and analyzing child labor conditions
- Evaluating the impacts of specific child welfare policies and programs;
- Simulating the effects of economic shocks and policies on child well-being;

**Child Situational Analysis**

UNICEF is taking advantage of the PEP Network’s unique expertise in multidimensional poverty approaches in the analysis of the patterns, determinants, incidence and drivers of inequities. In the context of UNICEF global effort to study child poverty and disparities in developing countries, teams of local and international PEP researchers were commissioned to conduct country-level “child situational analyses” in Uganda – following specific demand from the country’s Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development (MGLSD) – and subsequently in Burkina Faso.

**Simulations of fiscal space and public spending on children in Burkina Faso**

In 2011, the UNICEF Country Office of Burkina Faso commissioned a team of PEP local and international researchers to produce evidence regarding the economy-wide consequences, fiscal space, growth effects and long- and short-term impacts on multi-dimensional child well-being, of new or expanded public spending for children, and alternative strategies to finance this spending. The evidence produced will help UNICEF make a stronger case for raising new revenues (internally or externally) or reallocating government spending toward areas that are more likely to contribute to the improvement of child welfare in the country.

**Evaluating the impact of a sanitation program in rural Mali**

In recent years, UNICEF has been contributing to the expansion of a promising new approach to improve sanitation practices in developing countries, called the “Community-led Total Sanitation” (CLTS) programs. By 2011 however, despite positive outcomes observed in several countries, no quality external evaluation had yet been conducted to assess the actual effectiveness of CLTS programs. As PEP research also fosters advanced methodologies that allow rigorous impact evaluation through randomized control trials, a new collaboration was formed – led by the Argentine-based Centro de Estudios Distributivos Laborales y Sociales (CEDLAS) at the Universidad Nacional de la Plata, with support from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and participation of local stakeholders – to produce scientific evidence on the actual impact of such a program on targeted outcomes and population in rural Mali.
Assessing the impact of crises and alternative policy responses on various dimensions of child well-being

**Food Crisis in Mali**

In 2008, UNICEF first called on the expertise of PEP lead researchers to develop an analytical approach that would serve to assess the impact of the 2007-08 food crisis and related policy responses on different aspects of child well-being in Mali (i.e. not only traditional monetary or food poverty, but also nutrition, education, child labor and access to health services).

The project was quite successful and even provided detailed assessments of how different policy targeting schemes may lead to the exclusion of specific groups of children, and/or have collateral effects on disparities in several dimensions of child well-being in the country.

**Global Financial Crisis in West & Central Africa**

In 2010, UNICEF decided to extend the collaboration to conduct similar analyses of the impacts of the global financial crisis on children in the region of West and Central Africa.

PEP, through its African partner (CRES), was selected in a competitive bid (the only Southern bidder) to lead a team of local and international researchers in a project including three country analyses – in Burkina Faso, Cameroon and Ghana. Again, the outcomes provided compelling evidence, not only as to the expected deterioration of child welfare in the region, but on specific policy interventions to implement in order to effectively mitigate such impact.

**Using PEP Community-based Monitoring Systems (CBMS) to monitor and analyze child labor conditions in the Philippines**

PEP Asian partner (AKI) has been called on by the International Labour Organization (ILO) Country Office in the Philippines to design and provide a series of training programs to build the capacity of local government units (LGUs) in monitoring and analyzing child labor issues and their impact on development outcomes.

The training workshops were provided to 13 LGUs from different provinces of the country, between May 3 and June 30, 2011, in Manila. The objective of the initiative was to ensure that LGUs were to assimilate and address issues related to child labor in the preparation of their local development plans. It was supported under the ILO-IPEC’s program on the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labor.

**Other PEP related projects**

PEP also supports initiatives from independent local research teams to study child-related issues in their home countries. Several of them can be found on pages 16-19, including several projects that focus on issues of child labor and education. Below is an example of PEP-supported research findings published in 2011, following completion of such a study, led by a team of Kenyan researchers.


By Jane Kabubo-Mariara & al. PEP working paper 2011-12

The study reveals important complexities in what characterizes maternal and child deprivation in the country, with household and environment living conditions as main determinants, as well as considerable variations across country districts. The findings entail important policy recommendations for improving human capital investments in Kenya, including the implementation of policies to address specific issues such as nutrition deficiencies or lack of critical social infrastructure, while taking into account regional distribution. According to the analysis, such government initiatives would have long-term human capital returns and intergenerational effects in the country.
At the onset of the global financial crisis, there was considerable debate as to the eventual repercussions it might have in developing countries, i.e. whether and how it would impact national economies and worsen deprivation among the most vulnerable. Strong voices emerged to suggest that weak integration into the global economy, particularly in the case of Africa, would protect these countries from the worst effects of the crisis.

Yet, as the crisis evolved, falling world export demand, foreign direct investment, remittances and, more recently, aid flows inexorably drew these countries into the global slump. Furthermore, weak fiscal situations and lack of access to a severely constrained global credit market denied these countries the most important tools – stimulus spending – that developed countries used to weather the storm.

In 2009, PEP decided to mobilize several of its members in Asia, Africa and Latin America to monitor, analyze and forecast the impacts of the crisis in terms of socioeconomic well-being in their respective countries. Small teams of researchers were selected in over 20 countries to take part in the initiative, which was granted support from several institutions such as AusAID, CIDA, IDRC, IFPRI and UNICEF.

The research initiative was broken down into three components, or groups of studies, each providing a different analytical perspective on the issue, for more comprehensive results. The following boxes describe each of these components and summarize the related studies’ findings to date.

### Assessing the welfare impact from community-level censuses

A first group of studies have been catalyzing PEP Community-Based Monitoring Systems (CBMS) program to measure and monitor the poverty impacts of the crisis directly at the local level in seven different countries - Indonesia, Kenya, Lao PDR, Nigeria, Philippines, Tanzania and Zambia. In each country, several communities serve as observatories, or sentinel sites, where data is collected on the multiple dimensions of poverty through CBMS’s household-level censuses.

From data collected so far, it seems that although domestic economies were not affected to the degree that was initially anticipated – due to their relatively weak integration into the global financial sector – households are still impacted through various transmission channels. For example, as the crisis affected different economic sectors to varying degrees, workers in export-oriented manufacturing sectors often report having been displaced or experiencing reductions in wages or working hours. Other households have been impacted through the remittance transmission channel, as overseas workers – often in developed countries – had to cope with retrenchment or reduced pay.

The seven PEP research teams using CBMS also report on the different mechanisms that households have been resorting to in order to cope with these new constraints. Results to date show that poor households often tend to change their food consumption pattern, withdraw their children from school, and change their health-seeking behaviour. Obviously, such coping strategies may be damaging and counterproductive in the medium- and long-run.

If some governments have implemented programs that could potentially mitigate the impact of the crisis, CBMS results confirm that exclusions and leakages may impair these programs’ overall efficiency to protect the most vulnerable groups of population.
Assessing the specific impact on children

The third component of the initiative was introduced in the preceding section of the report (page 9). Three country studies (Burkina Faso, Cameroon and Ghana), sponsored by UNICEF, aimed to analyze more specifically the welfare impact of the crisis and appropriate policy responses on children in West and Central Africa. These studies applied the same macro-micro simulation techniques as the projects referred to above.

The researchers found that in the absence of a strong policy response, in these three countries alone, slightly less than a million children will have been drawn into poverty and suffer from hunger by the end of 2011, as a result of the crisis. Policy simulations provided compelling evidence that a targeted cash transfer to poor children would be, by far, the most effective policy intervention to counter the deterioration. Such a program, financed by foreign aid worth less than 1% of domestic GDP, would fully offset the negative effects of the crisis on child poverty and nearly completely offset the impacts on child hunger, school attendance and child labor.

Anticipating national-level impact and appropriate policy responses from macro-micro simulations

In the second group of studies, local researchers worked to develop and apply combined macro modeling and microsimulation techniques to link the effects of the crisis on national economies to multiple aspects of household welfare, while also exploring the likely impacts of various possible policy responses to protect the most vulnerable. This group encompasses 9 different country studies – 3 in Asia (Bangladesh, Pakistan, Philippines), 2 in Africa (Senegal, South Africa) and 4 in Latin America (Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, Uruguay) – with widely different outcomes.

If the channels of impact seem to be relatively similar in all case studies – essentially a reduction in export volumes and prices, foreign aid and remittances – national economies are affected to varying degrees. Initial levels of economic performance, fiscal balance and/or integration into the global economy are obviously crucial, not only for the impacts on the country’s economic well-being, but also for the government’s capacity to implement policies to counter the impacts of the crisis.

In a country like Bolivia, for example, external revenues had significantly increased prior to the crisis, due to an important export commodity price boom, leading to the first recorded fiscal surpluses in the country’s history (from 2006 to 2009). So far, with the exception of the drop in the world mining export prices, it seems that the crisis had relatively mild effects on the Bolivian economy.

Other countries are not so lucky; in South Africa for example, where export volume has fallen by 19.5% (excluding gold), gross domestic product, investment and the government deficit all deteriorated and the forecasts are less optimistic than for Bolivia. Given the fall in production for most sectors, followed by a drop in investments, the impact on socioeconomic well-being in South Africa is forecasted to be much greater at the household level. Where economies are hit hard or unable to react, long-term poverty impacts at the household level ensue, especially through employment. In all studies, PEP research teams have prepared specific recommendations on the best policy options that governments should apply to substantially reduce these effects on households and protect the most vulnerable.

If some general conclusions can be drawn concerning global and regional trends – especially through the general drop in world demand, export volumes and prices – results yielded by the different PEP teams to date illustrate the highly contextualized, country-specific, impacts of the crisis.
Governments encourage growth through various policies: infrastructure, education, training, health, agricultural extension, trade, etc. Each strategy has wide-ranging impacts on the entire economy - sectoral production, wages and other factor returns, consumer prices, public finances, etc. - with very different distributive consequences and welfare impacts for the concerned populations.

In 2010, PEP was commissioned by the Australian Agency for International Development (AusAID) to lead small teams of local researchers in a special research initiative that aimed to analyze such interactions and consequences in different countries – China, Pakistan and the Philippines. By building these "motors of growth" into country-specific economy-wide models linked to household survey-based microsimulation models, the researchers simulate the distributive impacts of infrastructure investments and alternative financing mechanisms, and provide insights on accompanying policies to allow greater participation by the poor.

The different studies’ findings will contribute to both national and international policy debates, particularly on the role of public infrastructure in economic growth and poverty reduction.

The project has been carried out in collaboration with an international coordinating team of experienced researchers in macro and micro-modeling techniques, whose contributions in terms of methodological developments are also expected to serve internationally as a new resource for both researchers and decision-makers to assist in related policymaking.

Simulating an increase in the ratio of public infrastructure investment to GDP

For the initiative to yield the most useful outcomes possible, all three country studies simulate the same type of growth strategy – i.e. an increase in the ratio of public infrastructure investment to GDP – to allow for comparison of results and conclusions between countries.

In each case, simulations were performed under two different financing scenarios; in the first scenario, the increase in public expenditure is financed by an increase in production taxes collected by the national government, while in the second scenario, it is financed by an increase in foreign aid assistance.

The use of mixed macro-micro simulation techniques enabled the teams to produce detailed assessments of the respective strategies’ impact on both:

1) the economy as a whole (growth impact)
   GDP, prices, wage rates, income, consumption, trade, etc.

2) household welfare and disparities (distributive impact)
   Who will gain and how?

in order to assess whether devoting increased resources to the development of public infrastructure would be an “effective inclusive growth strategy”.

The three boxes presented on the following page (page 13) describe the preliminary findings produced by each of the country research teams to date.
China

Preliminary findings show that, in both scenarios (i.e. regardless of the financing mechanism), such an increase would prove to be an effective inclusive growth strategy. The investments result in considerable productivity improvements and significant positive impact on the economy as a whole, in terms of both economic growth AND reducing poverty and inequality - where all sectors and households benefit in the long run.

It seems, however, that under the «production tax financing scenario», some negative impacts occur, although mostly in the short term. This includes a slight increase in inequality rates in the long run, as the negative effects seem greater for “constrained” households (with less access to credit and savings instruments) than “non-constrained” households (better integrated in economic processes with access to capital). In the case of the «foreign aid financing scenario», positive effects are generated immediately, especially in terms of poverty reduction and inequality, although the impact on the latter is somewhat less significant.

Philippines

Preliminary results reveal that increased public investment in infrastructure manifest itself in terms of greater capital accumulation and improved productivity.

Indeed, the simulation results suggest that, regardless of the financing mechanism, an increase in public infrastructure investment would not only bring about positive real GDP effects (growth), but also a reduction in poverty and inequality, both in the short- and long-run.

Although the pattern of results is similar in both financing scenarios, it seems that the magnitude of the effects would be greater under foreign aid, due to the absence of higher production taxes that hinder the competitive-ness of producers in the economy.

Pakistan

Preliminary results show that, while both simulations (tax financing and aid financing) have positive effects on the national economy, the channels through which these effects occur are very different. Moreover, contrary to the other two case studies, the impact in terms of welfare or poverty reduction in Pakistan are greater under the tax financing scenario, whereas foreign aid yields more important gains in terms of economic growth.

The key reason is that, while taxes would hit the manufacturing and services sectors, the agriculture sector would be exempt, and thus its output would increase sharply as a result of improved infrastructure. The impact in poverty reduction would be greater as this sector employs 45% of Pakistan’s labor force, who would directly benefit from its expansion. Finally, while both scenarios project a slight deterioration in terms of inequality, this is less important under the tax scenario given the same redistributive effects.
The PEP-CBMS network, in collaboration with the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) and the United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF, New York), has launched a special initiative that aims to monitor the coping strategies adopted by households during complex crises. This initiative entitled “Monitoring Household Coping Strategies during Complex Crises and Recoveries” has been carried out in two countries where Community-based Monitoring Systems were already implemented, the Philippines and Kenya.

**Shocks and vulnerabilities**

The recent global economic crisis, compounded by food and fuel price increases, has exposed households and the vulnerable groups to shocks that may have affected their income and increased their risks in terms of human development. At the same time, households faced a variety of other shocks, including economic, social, life-cycle and natural shocks. The likelihood of economic shocks increases with globalization as economic interdependence of national economies across the world increases. Meanwhile, the likelihood of being exposed to natural shocks increases with climate change. These events, as well as some idiosyncratic shocks, have caused households to face substantial risks which would require immediate support and intervention. Some of these shocks have, in fact, caused loss of jobs, decrease in income, loss of assets and increase in expenses.

While macro indicators provide important assessments regarding the impact of macroeconomic shocks at the aggregate level (i.e. on a national economy), it is essential to take a deeper look at how households are affected during such crises. Using PEP Community-based Monitoring Systems (CBMS), the impact on households can be assessed through a variety of indicators, and a multidimensional setting. Indeed, while facing crises, households tend to adopt strategies in order to cope with the negative impacts; some of these coping strategies, however, may have long-term harmful consequences for the population.

**Designing adapted data-collection instruments**

This initiative, therefore, aims to help fill the information gap at the household level, by focusing on the collection and analysis of data on the coping behaviors of households during crises and recovery periods. The outputs of the project include a policy research study, that aims to identify the appropriate responses during crises, as well as “community-based crisis and recovery monitoring module” that shall serve as a cost-effective tool to gather such information in the context of future crisis periods and other related situations.

As part of the initiative, a technical workshop was held in March 2011 in Manila, Philippines, gathering a variety of experts – representatives from the CBMS-Philippines Team, the CBMS-Kenya Team, the UNDP-Philippines Office, UNDP-New York, UNICEF, as well as the National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA) and National Anti-Poverty Commission (NAPC) of the Philippines – to discuss the conceptual framework to be adopted in order to understand and monitor the crises-related household coping behaviors, and the type of data to be collected. The data collection instruments (e.g. questionnaire) were designed in a way that would ensure to capture both the different types of “shocks”, and the specifically-related coping strategies. Consultations with local partners were, indeed, an important aspect of the project.
After pre-testing the new collection module, the final version was administered in the selected “sentinel sites”, or communities, in the Philippines and Kenya, together with the CBMS core household profile questionnaire. While the core questionnaire collects information on various dimensions of poverty and welfare, the appendix module contains the additional questions that capture the different types of shocks experienced by the households, their impact, the related coping strategies adopted and the recovery of households.

The survey covered all households included in the selected sites in the Philippines and Kenya. In the case of the Philippines, it includes four sentinel sites, two urban barangays (one in Pasay City, Metro Manila, and one in Sto. Tomas, Batangas) and two rural barangays (San Miguel in Llorente, Eastern Samar, and El Rio in Sibagat, Agusan del Sur). In Kenya, the data collection covered the Njoguini ward in Murang’a Municipal Council.

Presentation of preliminary results

The CBMS-Philippines Team and the CBMS-Kenya Team were able to present preliminary results from the survey during the CBMS Network Policy Conference held on 7-8 December 2011, in the midst of the 9th PEP general meeting in Siem Reap, Cambodia (see page 30). The results, prepared based on the collected data, were shared and discussed with the participants - including development economists, researchers and policymakers from around the world - for a better understanding of the type of strategies that households may resort to in the context of crises.

Facing crises and constraints in the Philippines

In the case of the Philippines, results from the analysis of the collected data reveal certain patterns in the way that identified coping strategies vary depending on the severity, frequency and combination of shocks experienced by households. The sequence in adoption of coping strategies also varies across different types of shocks. For instance, strategies adopted when facing price increases may be different from those adopted in case of serious illness, accident or disability. It was also observed that there are differences in the strategies adopted by the different groups of households, e.g. poor vs. non-poor households.

Although various types of coping strategies were reported by households in response to different types of shocks, not all of these strategies are available to all households and, therefore, individual decisions are to be made depending on the options available to each. It is argued that, given more restrictive constraints in terms of access to and allocation of resources, poor households are more likely to adopt strategies with potential harmful consequences in the long-term. Moreover, the likelihood of adoption of some of the more severe types of coping strategies depends on household characteristics. While several factors contribute to households’ recovery from the shocks, some household-specific characteristics also affect the degree and the length of time for households to fully recover from the negative impact of the shocks. The results of this study, therefore, provide useful information for policymakers to understand the way (as well as the extent to which) households may be impacted in the context of specific shocks, and to help design appropriate (and timely) policy responses to support the vulnerable populations during periods of crises and recoveries.
In 2010-2011, PEP published a series of reports based on findings from projects it supported under various themes and types of analysis. This section provides short summaries of some of these outcomes, grouped under two main themes of research. Note that all referred publications (working papers and policy briefs) below are made available on the PEP website.

**Assessing the impact of government programs and policy reforms on a variety of development outcomes:** education, labor, poverty, health, etc.

### ARGENTINA

**Educational Reform and Labor Market Outcomes: The Case of Argentina’s Ley Federal de Educación**

In 2008, a team of PEP researchers in Argentina set out to evaluate the impact of an education reform policy (Ley Federal de Educación, LFE), implemented by the Argentinian government in 1994, on labor perspectives for low-income youth in the country. The policy aimed primarily at increasing schooling by extending compulsory education two additional years. As it turns out, the evidence yielded by the empirical study shows that those poor young people who were educated under the LFE derive no benefits in terms of better wages or greater integration into the labor market today. Find out how the researchers explain such failure and their recommendations to improve future policy interventions - i.e. for education to induce better employment perspectives for low-income youth.

**Supported research team:** Leonardo Gasparini, Carlos Germán Bet, Carolina García Domench, Maria Laura Alzua, Mariana Marchionni, Mariana Viollaz

**Related PEP publications:** Working Paper 2011-21 * Policy Brief 88

### URUGUAY

**School Attendance, Child Labor and Cash Transfers: An Impact Evaluation of PANES (Plan de Asistencia Nacional a la Emergencia Social)**

In this PEP-supported study, a team of local researchers assessed the impacts of a cash transfer program, implemented in 2005, on school attendance and child labor in Uruguay. The researchers relied on impact evaluation methodologies to compare the outcomes for beneficiary and non-beneficiary households. The team also explored the role of some of the potential impact channels highlighted in the literature on cash transfer programs: household income, adult labor supply and conditionality. The results show that the cash transfers had virtually no impact on the desired outcomes, through any channel. The researchers – who worked in close collaboration with the concerned government agencies throughout the project – provided very specific recommendations to help improve the design of a new cash transfer program in Uruguay.

**Supported research team:** Veronica Amarante, Andrea Vigorito, Arim Rodrigo, Mery Ferrando

**Related PEP publications:** Working Paper 2011-22 * Policy Brief 85
**BURKINA FASO**

**Education Spending and Poverty in Burkina Faro**

Studying the poverty impacts of public investment in education in Burkina Faso, a team of Burkinabe researchers used a CGE model of the national economy to simulate the effects of a 40% increase of government expenditure in basic education through different scenarios. The results show that such an investment would have significant impacts, alleviating poverty at the national level, but unevenly among groups. They also clearly demonstrate that the effectiveness of the impact is conditional on the fiscal policy through which the expenditure would be financed by the government. Find out more on the researchers’ findings and specific policy recommendations in the related publications on the PEP website.

**Supported research team:** Lacina Balma, Manessomdé Modeste Roméo Kabore, Adama Ouattara, Samuel Kabore Tambi, W. Francine Alida Ilboudo, Zerbo Kassoum

**Related PEP publications:** Working Paper 2011-04 * Policy Brief 82 (in both French and English)

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**ARGENTINA**

**Effects of Argentina’s Social Security Reform on Labor Markets and Poverty**

In 1994, a major reform of the Social Security System was implemented in Argentina, as part of the country’s general pursuit of economic modernization. Among several other features, the reform included the introduction of individual accounts – to be administered by private entities - in the new Pension Funding System. Using PEP modelling and microsimulation techniques, a team of local researchers assessed the particular effects of this reform on labor outcomes, poverty and income distribution (from 1994 to 2008) in the country. The results show that, when funds are allocated in order to increase investment in physical capital, the Pension Reform has a significant effect on growth while, on the other hand, when funds are used to finance public debt, the effect on growth is negligible. Such evidence on the program’s impacts at the micro level may affect government’s decisions in light of recent initiatives to reverse some of the changes introduced in 1994.

**Supported research team:** Maria Laura Alzua, Hernán Ruffo, Pablo Brassiolo

**Related PEP publications:** Working Paper 2011-11

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**CAMEROON**

**Dimensional and Regional Distribution of Multi-Poverty in Cameroon**

Using the recently developed technique of Dimensional Scores to provide a fuller characterization of poverty in Cameroon, local PEP researchers were able to measure the level and geographic distribution of poverty in each of five main welfare dimensions: health, education, monetary income, social infrastructure and living environment. They were also able to identify which socioeconomic factors were determinants of each dimension of poverty and how dimensional interactions may be used to combat poverty more effectively. The study thus entails specific policy recommendations on how to allocate resources among sectors and regions in Cameroon for the most effective impact in terms of poverty alleviation.

**Supported research team:** Paul Ningaye, Alexis Tiomela Yemedjeu, Virginie Takoutio Feudjio

**Related PEP publications:** Working Paper 2011-01 * Policy Brief 81
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Supported research team</th>
<th>Related PEP publications</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NIGERIA</td>
<td>The Determinants of Multidimensional Poverty in Nsukka, Nigeria</td>
<td>In this study, a team of PEP Nigerian researchers compare a variety of poverty measures - from traditional money-metric indicators to multiple dimensions of welfare - in order to explore factors that may be considered as poverty “determinants”. Their analysis is based on survey data collected at the household level in Nsukka, Nigeria. After decomposition, results indicate that i) 70% to 78% of the population in the area should be categorized as deprived or poor and that ii) rather than low income, the major determinants of their condition are, in fact, large family size, low level of education, poor employment, rural location and poor health. Researchers thus conclude that, in order to be effective, pro-poor policy initiatives should ensue from an integrated approach that accounts for inter-linkages between the these factors.</td>
<td>John Ataguba, Mba Ifeoma Christy, William Fonta</td>
<td>Working Paper 2011-13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MALI</td>
<td>Multidimensional Poverty and Living Conditions in Mali (2001-2006)</td>
<td>As poverty analyses in Mali are usually based on a monetary approach, a team of local researchers sought to provide a more detailed characterization of the poor’s living conditions in the country, taking account of several dimensions of welfare, based on data produced by two distinct national surveys carried out in 2001 and 2006. The results show how poverty and inequality have evolved over the period, and how welfare-related non-monetary needs may vary, both among and within the country’s specific regions and social groups. These results are crucial to assist in the formulation of policies aimed to address the population’s basic needs and contribute to the development of human capital. They also provide specific recommendations on how to reduce regional disparities through the expansion of public services and targeted interventions in favor of the most vulnerable groups and priority welfare issues to be addressed.</td>
<td>Kassim Dabitao, Aoua Dembele, Arouna Sougane, Fadimata Haidara</td>
<td>Working Paper 2011-08 * Policy Brief 78</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CAMEROON</td>
<td>Sources of Poverty, Inequality and Gender Disparities in Cameroon</td>
<td>This study applies a specific decomposition technique on data from the 2001 and 2007 Cameroon household consumption surveys to explain poverty and inequality trends in the country, while identifying gender-related factors that can explain income disparities and discrimination. The researchers find that the level of household economic well-being in Cameroon is essentially determined by the following factors: education, health, employment in the formal sector, age cohorts, household size, gender, ownership of farmland and urban versus rural residence. Meanwhile, that list practically encompasses all of those (more specific factors) that were found to explain income disparities between male- and female-headed households. The researchers conclude that public interventions that aim to encourage education for all, employment and rural development in Cameroon have the most potential to effectively address both poverty and gender-based inequality at the national level.</td>
<td>Paul Ningaye, Alexis Tiomela Yemedjeu, Virginie Takoutio Feudjio</td>
<td>Working Paper 2011-15 * Policy Brief 84</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Monitoring household welfare and poverty trends at the local level using PEP Community-based Monitoring Systems (CBMS)

**KENYA**

**Using a Local Poverty Monitoring System (LPMS) to Monitor Poverty Trends in Tana River District**

The study examines poverty conditions in Tana River District (Kenya) using the CBMS methodology – collecting and analyzing data from different periods and sub-locations within the district. The study compares the poverty trends in terms of the capacity of households to access social services such as health, education, safe drinking water and wealth creation opportunities between two study periods (2007-08 and 2009-10). At the same time, the study provides information on a series of MDG indicators, also monitored through CBMS. As community members are engaged in the process of data collection and analysis, updates are provided on a regular basis to the national and local governments. In particular, the Ministry of State for Planning, National Development and Vision (MoSPND & Vision 2030) of Kenya have drawn such important lessons from the outputs, that it has decided to scale up the implementation of CBMS in three additional districts or “Local Authorities”.

Local researchers involved: Mary Amuyunzu-Nyamongo, Alice Sereti Sinkeet and Walter Olilo  
Local partner institution: African Institute for Health and Development (AIHD)  

**INDONESIA**

**Implementation and Scaling up of Community-Based Monitoring Systems (CBMS) to Assist in Local Governance and Empowerment in Indonesia**

Since the central government had enacted a law on regional autonomy in Indonesia, regional government units have been playing a strategic role in the formulation and implementation of development plans at the local level in Indonesia. Such planning, however, must be based on accurate and updated information regarding the needs of local populations. Based on the success of a pilot research conducted in 2005, an initiative was launched by a local research team from the SMERU Research Institute in collaboration with the local government of the Kota Pekalongan district, for the latter’s adoption of CBMS as a tool for local planning and budgeting, and for tracking MDGs. The collaboration was able to provide empirical evidence on the usefulness of CBMS to empower local governments in generating the necessary disaggregated data to assess welfare and poverty conditions of households, and for monitoring the achievement of the millennium development goals (MDGs) at the local level. For instance, CBMS data and findings were used by the government in the implementation of a water infrastructure project and Pekalongan authorities have decided to integrate CBMS in the “Information System on Population Administration” in 2012.

Meanwhile, CBMS is currently being scaled up by the National Secretariat of PEKKA (Women Household Empowerment), again with the support of the CBMS team at SMERU, in selected areas of 18 provinces in Indonesia - covering at least 600 villages. Through this particular project, CBMS data will be used to support the work of PEKKA in strengthening capacities of women-led households, to improve both their status in and contribution to a more democratic society.

Local researchers involved: Akhmadi, Asri Yusrina, Athia Yumna  
Local partner institution: SMERU Research Institute  
# List of PEP-supported projects

The first table is the list of projects that were granted PEP support following the last PEP call for proposals, launched in January 2010.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Project title</th>
<th>Project leader</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Africa</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Benin</td>
<td>CBMS-Benin Phase 3: Community-Based Poverty Monitoring System in the Commune of So Ava and the 13th District of Cotonou</td>
<td>Marie-Odile Attanasso</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Burkina Faso</td>
<td>CBMS-Burkina Faso Expansion: Strengthening the CBMS in Yako, Diebougou and Koper Communes, and Assessing Elements of Impact of the Global Financial Crisis in these localities</td>
<td>Lassina Konaté</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Burundi</td>
<td>Monetary versus Non-monetary Poverty in Burundi</td>
<td>Jean-Claude Nsabimana</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cameroon</td>
<td>Productivity of the Non-farm Informal Sector and Poverty Reduction in Cameroon</td>
<td>Justin Bem</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ethiopia</td>
<td>Alternative Policy Strategy to ADLI (Agricultural Development-led Industrialization) for Ethiopia: A Dynamic CGE Framework Analysis</td>
<td>Lulit Mitik Beyene</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Africa</td>
<td>CBMS-South Africa Pilot: Implementation of Community-Based Multi-Poverty Monitoring System in Limpopo Province</td>
<td>Grace Oloo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Africa</td>
<td>Impacts of Infrastructure Investment in South Africa: A Dynamic CGE Analysis</td>
<td>Vandudzai Mbanda</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Uganda</td>
<td>A Robust Multi-Dimensional Poverty Profile for Uganda</td>
<td>Yele Batana</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asia</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>China</td>
<td>The Rural Household Income and Poverty Reduction effects of Priority Forestry Programs in China</td>
<td>Can Liu</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>China</td>
<td>The Impact of Tuition Relief Program in Senior High School on Poor Junior High Students in Rural China</td>
<td>Xinxin Chen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>China</td>
<td>The Impacts of &quot;Land of Love, Water Cellar for Mothers&quot;</td>
<td>Liguo Lin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>China</td>
<td>Wage and Income Inequalities among Chinese Rural-Urban Migrants from 2002 to 2007</td>
<td>Zhong Zhao</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lao PDR</td>
<td>Resource Boom, Growth and Poverty in Laos</td>
<td>Phouphet Kyophilavong</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Argentina</td>
<td>CBMS-Argentina Pilot: Implementation of a Community-Based Poverty Monitoring System in Argentina</td>
<td>Sebastian Auguste</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brazil</td>
<td>Impact Evaluation of the Brazilian Pension Program Benefício de Prestação Continuada (BPC) on Family Welfare</td>
<td>Ana Lucia Kassouf</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Latin America subregion</td>
<td>Are there ethnic inequality traps in education? Evidence for Brazil and Chile</td>
<td>Guillermo Cruces</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The projects listed in this first table (above) were selected on a competitive basis, following an open call for proposals. These 17 grants provided support for a total of 65 developing country researchers.
### GLOBAL FINANCIAL CRISIS INITIATIVE

The second group of tables below presents the different projects that were undertaken in 2010 in the context of PEP’s special initiative to assess the impact of the global financial crisis in developing countries from different perspectives (see pages 10-11).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project Title</th>
<th>Global Financial Crisis: Macro-micro Analysis of the Impact on Poverty and Appropriate Policy Responses in Developing Countries - 9 country studies</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>PEP resource persons</strong></td>
<td>Bernard Decaluwé, Renato G. Flores Jr., André Lemelin, Helene Maisonnave, Veronique Robichaud</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Country</strong></td>
<td>Bangladesh Bolivia Colombia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Project leader</strong></td>
<td>Selim Reihan Carlos Gustavo Machicado Ricardo Arguello</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Country</strong></td>
<td>Ecuador Pakistan Philippines</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Project leader</strong></td>
<td>Sara Wong Vaqar Ahmed Erwin Corong</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Country</strong></td>
<td>Senegal South Africa Uruguay</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Project leader</strong></td>
<td>Francois Joseph Cabral Margaret Chitiga Cecilia Llambi</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project Title</th>
<th>Simulating the Impact of the Global Financial Crisis and Policy Responses on Children in West and Central Africa – 3 country studies</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>PEP resource persons</strong></td>
<td>Sami Bibi, John Cockburn, Ismaël Fofana, Luca Tiberti</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Country</strong></td>
<td>Burkina Faso Cameroon Ghana</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Project leader</strong></td>
<td>Samuel Kabore Tambi Christian Arnault Emini Theodore Antwi-Asare</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project Title</th>
<th>Monitoring and Mitigating the Poverty Impacts of the Global Financial Crisis - 7 country studies</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>PEP resource persons</strong></td>
<td>Celia Reyes, Alellie Sobrevinas, Jeremy De Jesus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Country</strong></td>
<td>Indonesia Kenya Lao PDR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Project leader</strong></td>
<td>Akhamadi* Mary Amuyunzu-Nyamongo Samaychanh Bousha</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Country</strong></td>
<td>Nigeria Philippines Tanzania</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Project leader</strong></td>
<td>Anthonia Achike Celia Reyes Rangya Muro</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Country</strong></td>
<td>Zambia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Project leader</strong></td>
<td>Richard Musonda Silumbe</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Each of the three projects above encompasses a certain number of country studies that were entrusted to selected local researchers, who were known to PEP as they had successfully completed granted projects in the past. The 19 grants included in this initiative provided support for a total of 32 developing country researchers. Each country team worked under the supervision of, and in coordination with, a team of PEP resource persons.
## POVERTY AND SOCIAL IMPACT ANALYSIS (PSIA)

The next table (below) presents a list of projects that are currently supported in the context of a special initiative launched in 2011, in collaboration with the United Nations Development Program (UNDP), to “Strengthen Capacities for Poverty and Social Impact Analysis (PSIA) in developing countries”

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Project title</th>
<th>Project leader</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Armenia</td>
<td>Trade Liberalization between EU and Armenia: A Poverty and Social Impact Analysis</td>
<td>Gagik Torosyan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Benin</td>
<td>Social Policy (Implementing Microfinance Program for the Poor) and Women Empowerment in Benin</td>
<td>Dieudonné Bléossi M. Dahoun</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Egypt</td>
<td>Impact Monitoring Study for the first phase of the integrated Development Government of Egypt 1000- Poorest Villages</td>
<td>Dalia Bayoumi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lesotho</td>
<td>The Impact of Electricity tariff increases on Poverty in Lesotho</td>
<td>Alka Bhatia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Namibia</td>
<td>An Analysis of the Impact of Income Tax Reforms on Poverty and Inequality in Namibia</td>
<td>Jan Swartz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Niger</td>
<td>Sanitation Development Plan in Niger: Poverty and Social Impact Analysis</td>
<td>Boubakar Djibo Boukar</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saint Lucia</td>
<td>PSIA: The Future Impact of the Value-Added Tax (VAT) in Saint Lucia</td>
<td>Augustus Cadette</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Togo</td>
<td>Impact Analysis of Government Policy Responses to Recent International Crises</td>
<td>Aristide Kielem</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Uganda</td>
<td>Universal Primary Education in Uganda: Optimizing Equitable Participation and Public Investment Returns</td>
<td>Sebastian Levine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ukraine</td>
<td>Poverty and Social Impact Analysis (PSIA) of Increase of Natural Gas Prices and Selected Social Guarantees</td>
<td>Katerina Rybalchenko</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Through the 10 project grants included in this UNIDP-funded initiative, PEP is providing support to a total of 44 developing country researchers.

## INCLUSIVE GROWTH INITIATIVE

Finally, the last table (below) presents a list of projects that were undertaken in 2011 in the context of a special research initiative commissioned by the Australian Agency for International Development (AusAID) to “Simulate the Distributive Impact of Different Growth Strategies” (see pages 12-13).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project Title</th>
<th>Simulating the Distributive Impact of Different Growth Strategies – 3 country studies</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Project title</td>
<td>Simulating the Distributive Impact of Different Growth Strategies – 3 country studies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PEP resource persons</td>
<td>John Cockburn, Selma Didic, Yazid Dissou, Jean-Yves Duclos, Luca Tiberti</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Country</td>
<td>ChinaPakistanPhilippines</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project leader</td>
<td>Yumei ZhangVaqar AhmedErwin Corong</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Making PEP Research Count

Indeed, in helping to build and promote the expertise of developing country analysts, the ultimate goal of PEP support and research activities is to ensure that their particular, local, perspective exerts greater influence over national and international policy debates and decision-making related to development issues and poverty reduction in their home countries.

Communicating findings in order to inform and exert effective influence over policy is, however, one of the greatest challenges for researchers; especially in the context of developing countries, where the related processes, or “consultation mechanisms”, often present particular impediments.

In 2010-2011, PEP devoted extensive resources to build its own expertise in terms of research communications, in order to provide its researchers with better guidance and support in their related undertakings.

As mentioned in section I (page 6), the initiative has resulted in the publication of a new PEP Research Communication Strategy, and a special “guide” to help PEP researchers build an effective policy influence plan. But beyond that, PEP has been increasingly focused on encouraging researchers to engage with policymakers and other research users, from proposal design, all throughout the project cycle and beyond its completion.

Finally, in order to ensure proper follow-up of and assistance to these initiatives, PEP has also recently implemented a quite effective Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) Strategy, using an automated report and data collection system that provides regular updates on both the achievement of PEP’s objectives and the impact of its activities in terms of capacity building, promotion of local expertise, as well as policy influence in favor of socioeconomic development and improved wellbeing in developing countries. Various results regarding such achievements from the last M&E survey, i.e. as of November 2011, are presented in the following section.

POLICY ENGAGEMENT & LINKAGES

Working in close collaboration with national policy stakeholders

As part of PEP’s strategy to ensure that 1) supported projects are responsive to emerging development policy issues and 2) that their findings will be assimilated in policy formulation, ongoing consultation with relevant stakeholders and government agencies has become a fixed component of PEP research initiatives.

As a result, according to the last M&E survey, 86% of recently supported research teams have been working in close collaboration with policymakers and other stakeholders, 90% of whom were identified as direct research users, and their implication an effective or potential channel of policy influence.

PEP researchers are not only encouraged to target and engage these stakeholders at the onset of their research initiative, but also to create linkages and build networks with strategic contact resources in relevant institutions, to facilitate the dissemination of their findings once the project is complete.

“The consultation process undertaken at the beginning of our project was important to inform the program managers of the impact evaluation underway and its initial results. As an external consulting group, we were able to continue to share knowledge on the program’s achievements and shortcomings, as well as to inform decisions regardless of changes in management due to political transitions...”

Fabio Soarez, Brazil
Publications

Once a PEP research project is completed, final results and findings are edited and published in two distinct formats: working paper and policy brief.

The PEP policy brief is a one-page, non-technical summary of the main conclusions and policy recommendations that is systematically distributed to all policy-relevant stakeholders.

All PEP publications are also posted on the PEP website and disseminated throughout the network on a regular basis. See the list of PEP 2010-2011 publications on page 29.

PEP working papers are listed with both SSRN (Social Science Research Network) and RePEc (Research Papers in Economics), which ensure wide circulation. According to access statistics provided by the latter service, the 101 PEP working papers listed on this site alone have resulted in 39,995 abstract views and 11,830 downloads (6369 views and 1876 downloads in 2011).

CONFERENCES

PEP national policy conferences

Assistance from PEP to ensure effective dissemination and policy influence includes both financial and logistical support for researchers to organize national policy conferences, through which they can directly communicate their findings to stakeholders and policymakers.

According to the most recent updates from PEP’s monitoring and evaluation initiative, 41% of the (recently completed) surveyed projects had already been presented to a policy-related audience gathered at the national level. More than half (54%) of these events were fully financed by the PEP researchers themselves. In 2010-2011, six of these events were organized with direct (financial and logistical) support from PEP – see pages 23-24 (next) for a description of a few of these events.

Using media to sensitize the general public

As national policy conferences tend to be widely publicized in national mass media (radio, television, press), PEP research findings are often reported to the general public, whose knowledge can incite political leaders’ response (34% of PEP projects according to the last M&E survey results). PEP researchers have also reported that their findings had been used by national NGOs to support their advocacy work to influence or induce pro-poor government policy and interventions.

International conference presentations

Another sign of the acknowledgment of their authority as field specialists is the number of PEP researchers (66% of those surveyed) invited to present their work in international conferences, intended for either policy or academic audiences, and held in all regions of the world. Again, PEP provides special grants and support to allow researchers to participate in these international events; the last M&E survey shows that 49% of such participations were subsidized by PEP (9 of which were in 2010-2011).
PEP researchers in Mali convene policymakers to talk poverty

Bamako, Mali - April 9, 2011. A team of PEP Malian researches gathered dozens of officials and representatives from relevant government agencies and international institutions, NGOs, civil society groups and national media, for a special policy seminar organized in collaboration with the Ministry of Economy and Finance.

The event was to officially and publicly release the researchers’ recent findings on the distribution and multidimensional characteristics of poverty in the country, while updating relevant decision-makers in the context of the implementation of the “National Poverty Reduction Strategy”. The PEP study had, in fact, been conducted in continual interaction with the government agencies and international partners to the strategy, and its outcomes fed directly into the policymaking process.

PEP researchers revive the national debate on poverty, inequality and polarization in Nigeria

Ibadan, Nigeria - March 8, 2011. A national policy conference was organized at the University of Ibadan, in Nigeria, to present the results and recommendations produced by two Nigerian PEP research teams, from studies conducted on issues related to poverty and inequality in the country. The attendance was mostly composed of policymakers, especially from the Ministry of Agriculture, the National Bureau of Statistics, multilateral donors, policy advisors and consultants, academia, as well as representatives from several national NGOs. A lively debate followed the PEP researchers’ presentations, especially regarding recent evolution of the discussed phenomena (poverty, inequality and polarization) despite considerable national resources. The ineffectiveness of the government’s previous attempts (programs and policies) to address these issues was at the center of the debate.

Revisiting Bolivian fiscal policies based on PEP findings

La Paz, Bolivia – February 3, 2011. A team of PEP researchers organized a national policy conference to present their findings and subsequent recommendations in terms of fiscal policies to induce economic growth and reduce poverty in Bolivia.

In addition to academics and representatives of civil society, NGOs and embassies, about 30% of the attendance was composed of public officials from different government agencies. Among them, former and current policymakers and stakeholders in fiscal policymaking from, for example, the National Direction of Budget Programming, the Ministry of Economy and Finance, the Bolivian Central Bank, etc. The event was also attended by a great number of consulting firms and government advisors in fiscal issues. Policy guests and discussants insisted on the relevance of the project’s results, given the current situation of the Bolivian economy and the actual government administration’s strategy of resorting to fiscal policy as a main instrument to promote growth and reduce poverty.

Essentially, evidence produced by the research project shows that fiscal policy and public investment alone are not sufficient to achieve the objectives; better efficiency in provision of public capital, as well as a productivity boost - particularly from the private sector - is also required. The results were also later commented in the press and, especially, a popular television program in which a renowned guest economic advisor, who had attended the conference, explicitly referred to the research results as recommendations that the government should take into account.
PEP researchers discuss social policies and labor market issues with regional stakeholders in Latin America

**Buenos Aires – February 3, 2011.** In collaboration with IDRC, ILO and UNICEF, a team of PEP researchers based in Argentina organized a national conference in Buenos Aires to communicate their research findings on the influence of labor markets and social policies on poverty reduction in Latin America in recent years.

The event was attended by policymakers from the Ministry of Labor, the Institute of Social Security of Argentina and Uruguay, representatives from several international organizations (including ECLAC, IDRC, ILO, UNICEF, World Bank) and universities of Ecuador, Peru and Uruguay. All participants actively discussed the project’s findings and related topics - such as labor market, social security, pension systems, cash transfer programs for children and unemployment protection, etc. The project’s cross-country comparisons were at the center of the debates; presentations from invited policymakers made it possible to exchange on experiences, advances and challenges of different countries, as several participants are responsible for policy design and implementation of such programs in Argentina, Brazil and Uruguay.

Ultimately, policy guests expressed keen interest in further research on the issues, as well as intent for future collaboration with PEP researchers as consultants for public institutions. Furthermore, collaborations with ILO and UNICEF (Buenos Aires) were launched to study specific policy programs on income subsidies and cash transfers to children in Argentina. One team member was later invited to speak at several conferences organized by the Institute of Social Security, ILO and the World Bank, and also to produce a document on Argentina’s labor market that is to be presented and discussed with high authorities of the Ministry of Labor.

### ASIA

**7th CBMS Philippines National Conference attracts record attendance**

More than 700 stakeholders of the Community-Based Monitoring System (CBMS) participated in the 7th CBMS Philippines National Conference held at the Sofitel Philippine Plaza in Pasay City on February 7-9, 2011. The three-day conference attracted the largest attendance yet of CBMS practitioners, academics and policymakers including at least seven governors and 143 municipal mayors.

Under the theme “Reducing Poverty and Vulnerabilities Amidst Global Shocks,” the conference featured presentations on the national poverty reduction agenda, status of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) in nine provinces, disaster risks mapping and adaptation strategies to climate change, developing partnerships for development, issues and challenges on program targeting and impact monitoring, and monitoring child welfare.

**CBMS presented in regional policy dialogue in Singapore**

In the context of a “Policy Dialogue on Inequality and the Obstacles to Human Development in the Southeast Asian Region” held on July 28, 2011 at the Institute of Southeast Asian Studies (ISEAS) in Singapore, Dr Celia Reyes (PEP Asian representative) was invited to presented the “CBMS tool” in a specially-dedicated session entitled "Measuring and Monitoring Poverty and Inequality: The ASEAN Experience".

Meanwhile, Mr. Try Sothearith, PEP Cambodian researcher and project leader, presented the CBMS experience in Cambodia and highlighted the strong correspondence between CBMS and MDG indicators, thereby facilitating the monitoring of the MDGs at the local level. The policy dialogue, co-organized by the IDRC, ISEAS and UNDP, aimed to provide a strategic opportunity of common platform to engage policymakers in discussing the three new and innovative inequality measures introduced by the UNDP Human Development Report (HDR) 2010 as well as to share on lessons learnt and experiences in regional human development over the last 40 years.
Recruitment of PEP researchers as policy consultants

Through consultation and dissemination initiatives, as well as via the Network’s connections, PEP researchers naturally benefit from increased international exposure and credibility as development policy experts. A significant number of research teams have reported that at least one member had either been promoted/hired (55%) and/or contracted (54%) to take on advisory work in policy consultancy mechanisms as a result of the reputational effect of their involvement with PEP. Contracting institutions and organizations cited in the researchers’ reports include a variety of national government agencies, as well as regional or international institutions.

In addition, according to the latest M&E updates, 76% of the surveyed PEP projects had led to the solicitation of research team members to pursue further analysis of related issues for government agencies or international organizations.

PEP’s contribution to poverty reduction through policy channels

As impacts on policy formulation or reform and, even more so, on socioeconomic well-being of targeted populations, tend to occur only in the medium to long term, it is particularly difficult to track the achievements of PEP initiatives on this level. Nonetheless, and even though the projects included in our 2010-2011 surveys were fairly recent ones, it appears that direct influence of PEP findings on policy formulation had already occurred in 25% of cases.

In particular, PEP-supported research from surveyed projects has been reported to have influenced the design, implementation and/or reform of several programs and policies in the following cases:

ARGENTINA - Ley Federal de Educacion (conditional cash transfer program for education): to be reformed/replaced by new (re-designed) program “Asignaciones Universales pro Hijo”, based on PEP findings and recommendations

CAMEROON - Plan national de développement sanitaire (National Plan for Health Development): the take-up of PEP research findings led to the implementation of several measures to improve the quality of health services

CHAD - Stratégie nationale de réduction de la pauvreté (National Anti-Poverty Strategy): PEP findings resulted in the implementation of new survey strategies to monitor the impact of health and education spending

INDIA - Social security benefits for workers from the informal sector: to be provided following PEP researchers’ report on informal sector’s conditions and capital mobility in India

KENYA - National initiative to achieve the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs): the Ministry of Planning and Finance is supporting the scaling up of PEP Community-based Monitoring Systems (CBMS) at the national level to assist in the MDG program initiative

NIGERIA - National Poverty Eradication Program: PEP research findings regarding the willingness of rural population to pay for health insurance have been influential in designing schemes that will benefit the rural and other vulnerable groups of population in Nigeria

TANZANIA - The local government unit of the administrative region of Dodoma has adopted the PEP Community-based Monitoring System (CBMS) as a basis (or official data source) for preparing the local development plans.

URUGUAY - Plan de Atención Nacional a la Emergencia Social (PANES): PEP research results were acknowledged for the design of new interventions to foster school attendance and reduce poverty in a new cash transfer component “Asignaciones Familiares”

Further examples and testimony of policy impact are presented in the “PEP Internal Monitoring and Evaluation Reports”, published every six months and posted on the PEP website (About PEP – Evaluation).
PEP Schools

“Personalized training, provided by world leading experts, in the most updated concepts and methodologies of development economics”

As an organization that focuses mainly on strengthening research capacities in the South, PEP has necessarily developed a particular expertise in providing training workshops that can be adapted to a variety of needs and contexts. Over the years, PEP resource persons have cumulated experience in tailoring their respective training material and courses to country-specific applications, in order to maximize engagement of and benefits for local recipients.

In 2010 and 2011, PEP has been catalyzing this experience into the formalizing and standardization of a series of training programs called “PEP Schools”. Each of the individual programs focus on one of the different methodologies and analytical perspectives fostered in and by PEP research activities, and for which PEP resource persons are acknowledged worldwide as leading experts.

What are PEP Schools?

PEP Schools provide intensive, advanced and flexible training in the understanding and promotion of social and economic development.

The courses are tailored for students, researchers and practitioners around the world who wish to conduct rigorous scientific analyses of issues related to poverty, development and economic policies.

PEP School participants learn how to apply the most recent concepts, techniques and tools in development economics to help design effective national growth and poverty reduction strategies in their respective countries.

A key feature of the PEP training programs is the use of analytical tools and techniques developed by the Schools’ own teaching team. These have become popular worldwide among development practitioners and analysts. Part of the training material developed by PEP’s experts and trainers is the result of collaborations with institutions such as the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) and the World Bank.

Delivery mode

PEP Schools’ training programs can be provided, on request, in each of the methodologies described on page 29, as a complete and independent course.

Courses provided in the context of PEP Schools usually - but not exclusively - include two complementary components:

- Preliminary distance training – carried out over a 2 to 3 month period, with technical support provided by PEP resource persons whenever needed
- Intensive “on-site” training workshop – bringing together participants and PEP resource persons in the same location for a period of 7 to 10 days, for knowledge consolidation and application exercises

Training workshops are usually organized in collaboration with host institutions in the country of delivery. PEP Schools can be delivered in all countries of Asia, Africa, Europe, North and Latin America, and training provided in French, English or Spanish.

Also, upon completion of either course, each participant obtains a certificate that officially testifies to his/her participation and training in the related techniques.

In 2010-2011, PEP Schools and training workshops were provided in the following countries: Belgium, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Malaysia, Mali, Mexico, Namibia, Philippines, Senegal and South Africa. More are expected to be held in 2012, in new countries in Africa, Asia, the Middle East and Latin America.
## PEP SCHOOL PROGRAMS

### Modelling the Impacts of Macro Shocks and Policies

This course trains participants in constructing models of their national economy, and conducting simulations in order to forecast the impact of macroeconomic shocks and/or policies on an economy’s multiple agents, sectors and various dimensions of poverty and welfare within the country.

The skills and methodologies acquired include:
- Computable general equilibrium (CGE) models: build and use as laboratories to conduct simulations of policies and shocks;
- Basic command of techniques and tools that are essential to CGE analysis, such as Social Accounting Matrices (SAMs) and the GAMS software.

### Impact evaluations

This course trains participants in the conduct of rigorous evaluations of the impact of social policies or programs on targeted populations.

Through experimental and non-experimental approaches, trainees learn to collect and compare data on both treatment and control groups, to ultimately produce crucial empirical evidence on the actual efficiency/success of specific policies or program interventions in achieving their expected outcomes.

In terms of methodological content, the course offers an introduction to:
- Social experiments theory and practical issues;
- Microeconometric approach to impact evaluation;
- Notion of counterfactual;
- Parameters of interest;
- Non-experimental evaluation techniques;
- Difference-in-difference, matching and regression discontinuity techniques, etc.

### Measuring and Analyzing Poverty

This course teaches participants how to use monetary and non-monetary approaches to measure and analyse poverty in a multidimensional setting.

It introduces tools that are useful to prepare reliable and robust poverty profiles, as well as to understand and forecast the impact on poverty of changes in various economic and non-economic factors.

The course is based on the use of household survey data, as well as PEP-developed software tools for distributive analysis, DAD and DASP. Methodologically, it involves, among other things:
- Measurement and comparison of monetary and multi-dimensional poverty;
- Construction and estimation of poverty line;
- Exercises in poverty and social impact analyses.

### Statistical Monitoring of Development

This course explores the theory and the application of probability sampling for the construction and the optimal use of surveys in monitoring human development and profiling poverty.

As for the one above, this particular program also makes extensive use of DAD and DASP software packages.

Methodologically, the course involves:
- A review of different types of data needed;
- Simulation experiments;
- Actual case studies and national survey data;
- Evaluation of estimates used in the monitoring of development;
- Elaboration of optimal survey plans for poverty measurement, based on past survey experience.

### CBMS Poverty Mapping

Participants of this course are CBMS country teams who have collected and processed their CBMS data. The training equips participants to use open-source software, CBMS-NRDB, in digitizing location of different administrative levels of their CBMS areas. From provincial to the household level, CBMS data are integrated into the digitized maps to generate CBMS poverty maps. Resulting poverty maps makes data easier to understand and facilitate evidence-based decision making by policy makers and program implementers, while empowering communities in the process.

Specifically, the training includes sessions on:
- Overlaying and revision of acquired existing shape files;
- Digitization of new shape files of location of households and infrastructure, geo-political boundaries of CBMS areas;
- Processing and conversion of existing CBMS data files from different software (MS Excel, MS Access, Stata, SPSS etc.) into compatible data files used in CBMS-NRDB;
- Modification of map layer properties to generate CBMS poverty maps;
- Interpretation of resulting CBMS poverty maps.
The 9th PEP general meeting was held in Siem Reap, Cambodia, from December 3 to 9, 2011. The event, organized and hosted by PEP’s Asian partner (AKI), gathered more than 125 participants from all regions of the world.

PEP-granted participants were convened to benefit from advanced training workshops, present and discuss their final research reports and work with invited international experts and resource persons. The meeting was, once again, a great opportunity for researchers and guests to share views, make contacts and learn from each other.

PEP general meetings are international events that gather hundreds of participants - development researchers, practitioners, lead experts and policy stakeholders - from around the world, who travel to learn and share knowledge on the most recent methodologies, concepts and findings in the analysis of policy issues related to poverty, economic and social development.

These meetings are, for instance, the perfect occasion for PEP-affiliated resource persons and international experts to provide hundreds of developing country researchers with intensive training in the use of the most updated analytical tools, concepts and methodological innovations fostered through the network’s supported research and initiatives.

Attending researchers are invited to present and discuss new research proposals or final reports from funded research projects, to peers and PEP-appointed evaluators. PEP meetings are, above all, a unique experience in terms of peer review and scientific validation for Southern researchers.

PEP international policy conferences

Each PEP general meeting features a one- or two-day policy conference, to present and discuss the policy implications of various PEP research outcomes. These presentations are thematically focused in accordance with current or emerging development policy issues, and several relevant stakeholders (policymakers, international institution representatives, etc.) are invited to participate.

As they provide an opportunity for international participants of both academic and government affiliations to debate on the issues at hand, these conferences contribute to bridging the gap between research and policy when defining options to address poverty issues and promote development in the South.

In Cambodia, the policy conference was organized around two main themes:

- Policy lessons from impact evaluations
- Public infrastructure and inclusive growth

Recent findings from PEP researchers were presented and debated with participating policy guests and experts, in order to highlight the most relevant policy implications and recommendations on the related topics.
## PEP Publications 2010-2011
### PEP Working Papers

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**PEP-CBMS working paper series**

The following publications are based on research projects using PEP Community-Based Monitoring Systems

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- **The Impact of the Global Financial and Economic Crisis on Poverty in Tana River, Muranga’a, Kilifi and Kisumu, Kenya**
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- **How to Make Public Spending Pro-poor in Nigeria**
  - Reuben Adeolu Alabi, Chinonso Chime, Ebheiremen Edith Aigomududu, Oshobugie Ojor Adams, Sifawu Omokhefue Abu

- **Être pauvre au Mali avec de l’argent en poche**
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- **Derived Impacts of Education Conditional Cash Transfer Programs: the Case of Teenage Pregnancy**
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- **Poverty exit policies in Benin**
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- **Effects of the Global Financial Crisis on Poverty: Evidence from Rural Nigeria**
  - Antonia I. Achike, H.E. Ichoku
PEP Books

The Many Faces of Poverty: Volume 2
PEP-CBMS coordinating team

The Many Faces of Poverty: Volume 3
PEP-CBMS coordinating team

Impact of the Rising Prices of Food and Fuel on Poverty in Cambodia, Ghana and the Philippines
Celia M. Reyes and Allelie B. Sobrevinas

PEP Newsletters

PEP Talk
March 2011
May 2011
July 2011

CBMS Network Updates
December 2010
March 2011
June 2011
September 2011

PEP newsletters are now published in e-version and sent by email to the list of PEP subscribers (now 8000+ recipients)

CBMS Proceedings

Monitoring the Impacts of the Global Financial Crisis at the Community Level
CBMS Proceedings 2010

Reducing Poverty and Vulnerabilities Amidst Global Shocks
CBMS-Philippines National Conference Proceedings 2011
Partnership for Economic Policy
2010-2011 ANNUAL REPORT

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