

IDRC's Highlights at the 2009 Canadian Economics Association (CEA) Meetings (as of May 25)

At the 43rd Annual Meeting of the CEA, May 29-31 2009, the International Development Research Centre (IDRC) is supporting six sessions, a policy panel and a keynote address on issues in development economics organized by the Canadian Development Economics Study Group (CDESG)¹, as well as presentations of various IDRC funded projects and research fellows. This note highlights CEA sessions involving IDRC and our research partners.

For the latest details and to view the full list of presentations and presenters, please consult the CEA website (<http://economics.ca/2009/>).

Friday, May 29

8:30 - 10:00 **CDESG Session 1: Aid, Development and Happiness**

Aid is Good for the Poor (Kurt Annen - University of Guelph *et al.*)

The paper raises the question of whether some policy measures affect the incomes of the poor more than the incomes of the average.

Happiness and Foreign Aid (Mak Arvin and Byron Lew - Trent University)

This paper examines if the donor and recipient happiness are important determinants of levels of aid.

The Effect of Transfers on Investment and Economic Growth: Do Remittances and Grants Behave Similarly? (Anupam Das - University of Manitoba)

This study presents to what extent are remittances (as private transfers) differentiable from grants (as public transfers) in their effects on capital formation and growth.

10:30 - 12:00 **CDESG Session 2: Labour Markets in Developing Countries**

Status Concerns and Labour Market Participation in Developing Countries: Evidence from Rural India (Mukesh Eswaran - UBC *et al.*)

This paper argue that people may not be inclined to participate in the labor market in some developing countries because of status concerns emphasized by culture.

Enforcement and Compliance with Labor Regulations (Lucas Ronconi - Universidad Torcuato Di Tella)

This paper empirically analyzes the effect of government enforcement on compliance with labor regulations in Argentina.

Gender Differences in Labour Market Participation During Conflict: Evidence from Displaced People's Camps in Northern Uganda (Kim Lehrer – UBC)

This paper uses a unique data set and the exogenous nature of the conflict and resulting displacement in Northern Uganda to examine their impacts on labour market

¹ IDRC's grant to CDESG is in support of a project which aims to foster dialogue between economic development researchers in Canada and developing countries. For more information about CDESG, please visit <http://home.cc.umanitoba.ca/~compton/CDSG.html>.

participation.

10:30 - 12:00 Income Inequality: Consequences and Policy Responses

Family allowances and child school attendance. An ex ante evaluation of alternative schemes in Uruguay (Verónica Amarante *et al.*- Universidad de la República)

This paper presents ex-ante microsimulations on the effects of “Asignaciones Familiares”, an Uruguayan child allowances program, on teenage school attendance, adult labour participation, poverty and income inequality. This research is funded by IDRC through the Poverty and Economic Policy (PEP) research network.

Poverty and Income Support for Immigrants and Natives In The European Union: Evidence From The EUSILC (Karen Robson - York University, *et al.*)

Revisiting the link between income and children outcome: An analysis using exogenous income shocks within families (Ping Ching Winnie Chan *et al.* – StatCan)

12:00 - 12:30 International Development Research Centre (IDRC) information session on doctoral awards

Room BA 1220 - IDRC will hold a short presentation on Q&A on how to apply to IDRC doctoral awards for graduate students in social sciences who want to undertake fieldwork in a developing country.

14:00 - 15:30 CDESG Session 3: Development and Economic Growth

The impact of FDI on growth, employment and inequality: the Argentine experience (Andres Lopez - Mercosur Network of Economic Research)

This paper aims at estimating the effect of foreign takeovers on the acquired firms' performance. This research project is funded by IDRC through the Mercosur Network of Economic Research.

Military Spending and Economic Growth in South Asia: An Empirical Investigation (Wimal Rankaduwa - University of Prince Edward Island)

This paper undertakes an empirical investigation into the effects of military spending on economic growth in four countries: Bangladesh, India, Pakistan, and Sri Lanka.

An Endogenous-Growth Model of Migration and Remittances (Tiana Rambiloma - Université Laval)

This study proposes a joint analysis of transnational migration and remittances, and explores its implications for economic growth in the migrant-sending country.

16:00 - 17:30 CDESG Keynote address by Jeffrey Williamson, Harvard University Trade and Poverty: When the Third World Fell Behind.

Saturday, May 30

08:30 - 10:00 Development 5: Governance and development

Governance, Civil Conflict, and Refugee Protection in Sub-Saharan Africa: A Primer (Bruce Forster - University of Nebraska at Kearney *et al.*)

Business-NGO partnerships and NGOs' primary missions (Pierre Ly - University of Puget Sound)

Contracting The Road To Development: Early Impacts Of A Rural Roads Program (Martin Valdivia - GRADE)

This research, funded by IDRC through the Poverty and Economic Policy (PEP) research network, studies the early impacts of the Peruvian rural roads program (RRP), characterized by the contracting of private local firms, based on a quasi-experimental approach.

10:30 - 12:00 **CDESG Session 4: Assets and Credit in Development**

Determinants of Pastoralist Mobility and Movement in Northern Kenya (Russell Toth - Cornell University)

This paper provides support for the hypothesis that mobility is the key determinant of the critical threshold in herd accumulation dynamics amongst pastoralists (livestock herders) in the arid and semi-arid lands (ASAL) of east Africa.

Microcredit institutions and relative efficiencies in West African Economic and Monetary Union: preliminary results (Nasser Ay Tanimoune - Université d'Ottawa)

This paper proposes an exploratory empirical analysis based on the organizational efficacy of the microfinance sector within the WAEMU.

Who are the Indian Middle Class? A Mixture Model of Class Membership Based on Durables Ownership (Sudeshna Maitra - York University)

This paper estimates the size of the lower, middle and upper classes in urban India.

14:00 - 15:30 **CDESG Session 5: Power and Empowerment in Development**

Incomplete Contracts, Contested Exchange and Economic Power: A Theoretical Model with Evidence (Sripad Motiram-Indira Gandhi Institute of Development Research)

This paper draws upon different literatures on contracts, economic relationships and organizations.

Can Voting Technology Empower the Poor? Regression Discontinuity Evidence from Brazil (Thomas Fujiwara - University of British Columbia)

This paper addresses this issue by estimating the causal economic impacts of a new electronic voting technology in Brazil.

Microfinance and Gender Empowerment (Zaki Wahhaj *et al.* - University of Oxford)

This study propose a simple model of household bargaining which examines how providing women with credit affects production and decision-making power in the household.

16:00- 17:30 **CDESG Panel session: The Global Food Crisis: Implications for the Developing World**

Panelists: Susan Horton (Wilfrid Laurier University), Will Martin (World Bank) and Maximo Torero (IFPRI)

The recent trend in rising food prices has worrying implications for developing economies where food security is becoming even more precarious for the millions already in abject poverty. This panel will discuss the implications of the global food crisis on developing

countries and to discuss the role that policy can play to soften the blow on the poor in these uncertain times.

16:00- 17:30 CDESG Session 6: Education in Development

Fertility, education, child labor, and domestic chores: theory and evidence from Senegal (Ousmane Faye - African Population & Health Research Centre *et al.*)

This paper formulates and estimates a model of the determinants influencing household decisions about parents' and children activities as well as fertility decisions.

Presenters:

The Effect of Tutoring on Secondary Streaming in Egypt

(Asmaa Elbadawy - McMaster University & Population Council, MENA)

In this paper, exploiting the longitudinal nature of the dataset, they estimate the effect of taking tutoring on the likelihood of joining the secondary level stream that leads to university.

Food for thought: Assessing the impact of a country-wide school feeding program (Louise Grogan - Guelph)

A simple model of schooling decisions made within households in Tajikistan is developed to examine how the introduction of school feeding and take-home food rations might affect resource allocation.

Sunday, May 31

08:30 - 10:00 Development 9: Open economy macroeconomics and development

The Impact of Exchange Rate Volatility on Exports in Transition and Developing Economies: An Empirical Analysis (Afshan Dar - University of Ottawa)

Openness to Trade and Output Volatility (Maria Bejan - Itam)

International investment in tourism and the development dimension (Diana Barrowclough - United Nations Conference for Trade and Development)

This paper summarises findings from a three-year, multi-country, empirical study funded by GGP/IDRC (#103030) of the scale and impact of tourism FDI in developing countries.

The **International Development Research Centre**, a Canadian Crown corporation, has provided funds and expert advice to researchers in developing countries for more than 35 years. IDRC supports researchers' efforts to solve the problems they identify as crucial in their communities.

The **Globalization, Growth, and Poverty (GGP)** program supports research and capacity development with a view to enabling developing countries to identify combinations of domestic policies and international integration strategies to promote inclusive growth. To find out more, visit the GGP website (www.idrc.ca/ggp).
