



CIRDAP Aziz-ul-Haq Library (CAL) is pleased to share *CAL E-Abstracts* with you. CAL E-Abstracts is a compendium of newly published articles (abstract and citation) related to poverty reduction and rural development in the Asia and Pacific Region. This is part of CIRDAP'S efforts to facilitate easy access to current literature on IRD and poverty alleviation.

## 1. Demystifying Poverty Measurement in Vietnam

by Demombynes, Gabriel; Hoang Vu

*World Bank Working Paper On Poverty, Vol. 1, 2015*

### Abstract

This paper provides an overview of poverty measurement issues in Vietnam for the non-specialist. Vietnam has two main approaches to measuring poverty. An income-based approach is used by the Ministry of Labor, Invalids, and Social Affairs to generate a classification used for determining anti-poverty program eligibility as well as poverty monitoring over the short term. A separate consumption-based approach has been used by the General Statistics Office and the World Bank (GSO-WB), principally to examine poverty changes over the longer run. These national poverty lines are distinct from the \$1.25-a-day and \$2-a-day international poverty lines. Vietnam's GSO-WB national poverty line is similar in purchasing power parity terms to that of other countries with similar levels of development. Simple projections of poverty rates through 2020 imply that the GSO-WB poverty rate will fall from a 2012 level of 17.2 percent to below 10 percent by 2020, and that over a third of ethnic minorities will still be poor despite large poverty reduction gains.

**Keywords:** anti-poverty, anti-poverty program, caloric requirements, cash expenditure, changes in poverty, consumption aggregate, consumption basket, consumption smoothing, cost of food.

**Link:** <http://documents.worldbank.org/curated/en/2015/02/24143580/demystifying-poverty-measurement-vietnam#>

## 2. From Poverty Reduction to Poverty Relief : Impact of Non-Farm, Income in Integrated Agriculture Development Area (IADA) Samarahan Sarawak, Malaysia

by NDM Idris, C Siwar

*Institute for Environment and Development Space 11 issue1 (32 - 41) - 2015*

### Abstract

Eradication of poverty is the main agenda of the country since independence (1957) and a main thrust of the New Economic Policy (NEP) when it was introduced in 1970. As a result, Malaysia has been able to achieve the goal of reducing poverty, from 52.4% in 1970 to 1.7% in the year 2012. This study examines the impact of non-farm income on poverty and its effect on the time taken to attain relief from

poverty. Face-to-face interviews with 220 households of farmers in the Area of Integrated Agricultural Development (IADA) in Samarahan, Sarawak were conducted from December 2005 to February 2006. The objective was to investigate the effect of non-farm income on poverty and to measure the length of time out taken for farmers to emerge out of poverty. The analysis on poverty measurement was done using FGT indices as proposed by Foster, Greer and Thorbecke; and the index introduced by Murdoch was also employed in this study. The results showed that non-farm income reduced poverty by 47.06%, while the poverty gap declined by 58.67% and the intensity of poverty (severity of poverty) decreased by 80.69%. The time required to break away from poverty for poor and hard-core poor farmer households with nonfarm income were 8.16 years and 6.51 years, respectively compared with 11.49 years for poor and 8.67 years for hard-core poor farmers without non-farm income. This proved that non-farm income sources were essential in reducing the transition period from poverty reduction to poverty relief for farmers in the IADA.

**Keywords:** average exit time from poverty, farmers, non-farm income, poverty measurement, poverty reduction, poverty relief.

**Link:** <http://202.185.40.50/geografia/images/upload/4ok.geografia-jan15-nordiana-edam.pdf>

### **3. Roles and Issues of Village Development and Security Committee (VDSC) Institution for Rural Development in Malaysia**

*by AB Ahmad, AD bin Silong, M Abbasiyannejad*

*Journal of Asian Development Studies Vol. 3, Issue 4, (December2014)*

#### **Abstract**

In Malaysia, village institution such as VDSC acts as a liaison group between the villagers and the government. From survey of literatures on village institution, it is evident that little research has been done, which focused on the subject of village institution, especially in the Asian region. Many papers have been written about other countries such as China, Africa, India, Pakistan, and Iran. Thus, this study is conducted to explore the role of this institution in village development, and the issues and challenges that affect their effectiveness. Thrusting upon the qualitative paradigm, semi structured interviews were conducted, which generated two main themes, namely their role in village administration, which covers ensuring welfare, safety and unity of the villages, political survival of the ruling party, and monitoring village development such as monitoring and evaluating local development projects. This study also identify issues and challenges affecting these institutions such as lack of financial resources, lack of training and development among the leaders, and high commitment expected from these leaders, despite they are just doing voluntary jobs. In reviving the role of VDSC institution for village development in Malaysia, the government should establish a special allocation for these institutions; second, provide better training and development for the leaders; and third, create a permanent post for their chairpersons. These findings could therefore be used as a basis towards improving their capacities to ensure they can deliver a positive impact on the development of rural communities in the future.

**Keywords:** Village institution, Community Based Organization, Rural Development

**Link:** <http://www.globalcentre.org/uploads/JADS%203-4%20A.%20Binti,%20P%2051-63.pdf>

#### 4. Financial Burden of Household Out-of-Pocket Payment for Reproductive Health Care in Vietnam: A Study from 3 Northern Provinces in Vietnam

by M Van Hoang, GK Bao, MH Tran, TT Quach

*Vietnam Journal of Public Health- Vol. 2 iss. 2 2014*

##### Abstract

**Introduction:** This paper aims to describe the pattern of out-of-pocket payment (OOP) for reproductive health care among women who had a child of less than 12 months of age in three Northern provinces Vietnam and examine its financial burden to households of the study subjects. **Methods:** This study was conducted in 3 Northern provinces. 2000 women having a child of less than 12 months of age were interviewed. **Results:** 13.6% of the households were pushed into poverty due to the out-of-pocket payment for reproductive health care in the last 12 months. Ethnic minority and near-poor households had higher risk of being impoverished due to the out-of-pocket payment for reproductive health care. Health insurance was shown to have financial protection impacts for reproductive health.

**Conclusion:** Household out-of-pocket payment for reproductive health care is considered as a major impediment to achieving poverty reduction and the Universal Coverage of reproductive health care in Vietnam.

**Key words:** Burden, out-of-pocket reproductive health, Vietnam.

**Link:** [http://www.vpha.org.vn/attachments/article/987/p614\\_Financial%20Burden%20for%20Reproductive%20Health%20Care.pdf](http://www.vpha.org.vn/attachments/article/987/p614_Financial%20Burden%20for%20Reproductive%20Health%20Care.pdf)

#### 5. Determinants of Household Poverty in the Rural Sector in Sri Lanka: 1990-2010

by S Ranathunga, J Gibson

*Economics, Vol. 3, No. 3 2014*

##### Abstract

A satisfactory explanation of why some people are poor is essential to tackle the roots of poverty. Therefore, the causes of poverty and their behavior over time are more important to understand the depth of the problem in a particular sector in a country. This study examines the micro-level factors associated with household poverty and their behavior over the years in the rural sector in Sri Lanka using disaggregated Household Income and Expenditure Surveys (HIES) data in 1990/91 to 2009/10 using Probit regression analyses. The major factors affected for the poverty reduction in the rural sector within last two decades are employment of the head of the household in the public sector, education of the head of the household, the head engaging in the non-agriculture sector, higher female adult ratio, and the receipt of remittances. They are statistically significant variables to the model. Relatively, foreign remittance has played a very important role in poverty reduction in the rural sector. Households

with the higher dependency ratio, the large household size, and head engaged in private sector job and the female headed households are more likely to be poor in the rural sector in Sri Lanka. However, almost all the coefficients (both positive and negative factors) show declining trends of their impact on poverty over time while impacts of the head engage in non-agriculture activities and the higher female adult ratio have increased.

**Keywords:** Poverty Determinants, Probit Regression Analysis, Rural Sector, Sri Lanka.

**Link:** <http://www.sciencepublishinggroup.com/j/eco>

## 6. Efficiency Analysis of Conventional vs. Islamic Microfinance: An Appraisal for Sustainability in Pakistan

by HZ Mahmood, R Khan, B Mehmood, K Khan

*International Journal of Empirical Vol. 3 No. 4, 2014*

### Abstract

Microfinance has emerged as an impressive tool for poverty alleviation in global developing economies of all of the continents. Critiques have questioned some of the features of conventional system of microfinance which gave room to Islamic mod of micro-financing (IMF) to the poor. But sustainability of Islamic microfinance is questioned by pyramids of microfinance proponents. Therefore, this study has been devised to compare the efficiency of the conventional vs IMF institutions in Pakistan. A non-parametric approach i.e. Data Envelopment Analysis was rendered to gauge the efficiency of the target institutions. In this regard, panel data of 9 Conventional microfinance institutions and 3 IMF institutions were used spanning over a period of 4 years i.e. 2008 to 2011. The results revealed that 2 out of 3 IMF institution and 2 out of 9 conventional MFIs were found on efficient frontier. Therefore, the sustainability of IMF institutions can be rated as high in Pakistan and this mod of financing should be encouraged by policy makers.

**Key Words:** Microfinance, Islamic Microfinance, Microfinance Efficiency, Technical Efficiency, Scale efficiency, Productivity, Pakistan.

**Link:** <http://www.rassweb.com/wp-content/uploads/PDF/IJEF/Vol-3/Issue-4/Paper%203.pdf>

## 7. Water Related Problems in Afghanistan

by H Habib

*International Journal of Educational Studies, Vol. 1, No 3 (2014)*

### Abstract

Following three decades (before the Bone conference) political unrest and civil war, Afghanistan faces many different environmental problems; mainly water is a serious problem nationwide. Because of Afghanistan's innate landlocked country, virtually all major Afghanistan's rivers drain off into riparian neighboring countries. According to the UNEP post-conflict environment Assessment report on

Afghanistan, where as the country as a whole uses less than one-third of its water potential 75000 million cubic meters. Due to water scarcity, damaged water infrastructure systems during long time civil war in urban and rural areas water is a major and important problem. Meanwhile Afghanistan's water potentials are an equal distributed. Afghanistan will not reach It's energy, irrigation (agriculture) or urban and rural development goals, without substantial improvement in the development and management of Afghanistan's water resources. These goals are have crucial relation to the Afghanistan National Development Strategy (ANDS, 2008-2013). As a result of drought in recent years (1999-2003) in Afghanistan degraded widespread natural resources: lowered water tables, dried up wetlands, eroded land, depleted wildlife populations and denuded forests. Excessive extraction of water for agriculture proposes combined with long term drought has led to drastic declines in water resources and absolutely Afghanistan's Environment is under the great pressures.

**Keywords:** Water Resources, drought, post-conflict, landlocked, rural area, water conflict, sanitation, water scarcity.

**Link:** <http://www.escijournals.net/index.php/IJES/article/view/412>

## 8. Rural and Urban Poverty Estimates for Developing Countries : Methodologies

*by S Katsushi, B MALEB*

*Economics & Business Administration - 2015*

### Abstract

This paper is to set out the backgrounds for the construction of new rural and urban poverty and inequality estimates using the World Bank Living Standard Measurement Survey (LSMS) data of developing countries with focus on methodological details as well as on their advantages or disadvantages. First, we have reviewed recent regional estimates based on the US\$1.25 per day poverty line as well as those based on Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI) for both rural and urban areas. It has been found that the level of poverty is much higher in rural areas than in urban areas across different regions regardless of the definitions of poverty. Second, we have summarised estimates of poverty and inequality for Tanzania and Uganda based on recent panel data constructed by LSMS.

**Keywords:** methodological, urban poverty, methodological.

**Link:** <https://ideas.repec.org/p/kob/dpaper/dp2015-07.html>

## 9. The Effect of Price of Intermediate Imported Product on Nonfarm Participation of Households in Rural Vietnam

by HX Trung, HT Huong, LTV Nga, ND Hung, DTT Linh  
*Academy of Social Sciences, Vietnam, 2015*

### Abstract

This paper examines the impact of an increase in volume of chemical fertilizer on the allocation of labor between nonfarm and farm sectors in rural Vietnam during the period 1993-1998. We use rigorous method – instrumental variables approach to document the evidence. The study shows that higher volume of chemical fertilizer due to lower price of chemical fertilizer reduces the employment of rural households in nonfarm sector and increases the participation in farm activities. We document that larger volume of chemical fertilizer creates the incentives for households with small agricultural land to work more in farm activities.

**Keywords:** Rural Credit, chemical fertilizer, agricultural land, farm activities.

**Link:** [https://www.pepnet.org/sites/pepnet.org/files/typo3doc/pdf/files\\_events/2015\\_kenya\\_conf/PMMA\\_12673.pdf](https://www.pepnet.org/sites/pepnet.org/files/typo3doc/pdf/files_events/2015_kenya_conf/PMMA_12673.pdf)

## 10. Determinant of Access to Rural Credit and Its Effect on Living Standard: Case Study about Poor Households in Northwest, Vietnam

by TTT Tu, NQ Viet, HH Loi

*International Journal of Financial Research, 2015*

### Abstract

This study investigated the determinants of accessibility to formal credit and its effects on living standards from 2010 to 2012 based on dataset of Vietnam Households Living Standards Survey (VHLSS) from the General Statistics Office of Vietnam and support of Eview 7 program. It is evident that average of education level, land area per capita, owned residential area affect is key factors of accessing to credit; meanwhile, average of education level affects the probability to require and amount of credit. Interestingly, we find that poor recognize by local and rate of non-farm income is positive factor of accessibility on formal credit; in addition, interest rate has statistically significant, implying has impact on loan amount. In otherwise, by using DID (Note 2) approach and OLS (Note 3) model for analyzing panel dataset in 2010, 2012; we find that have only impact of accessing to loan on education expense in short-term. Next, the results also indicate that enhance education level and rate of non-agriculture income lead to achievement of living standards.

**Keywords:** Rural Credit, statistically, enhance education, accessibility.

**Link:** <https://ideas.repec.org/a/jfr/ijfr11/v6y2015i2p218-230.html>

## 11. User Innovation and Entrepreneurship: Case Studies From Rural India

by V Yadav, P Goyal

*Journal of Innovation and Entrepreneurship - 2015*

### Abstract

Innovation research has abundant literature on technologically advanced innovations and entrepreneurship. However, literature from a rural innovator and entrepreneur perspective is sparse. Therefore, we explore rural user innovation and entrepreneurship in a developing country, India. Using multiple case study research method, we study cases of five rural user innovations in detail. These rural innovators innovated to alleviate the drudgery of their lives and to fulfill their need for a low-cost local solution to a widespread rural problem. They often face a resource void for commercializing their innovations and we find that external actors can play an enabling role in filling this void. The findings of our study help propose a framework for enabling rural innovation and entrepreneurship in developing countries like India. Further, in addition to poverty alleviation, we found that there was a positive social impact on the lives of rural entrepreneurs and their community.

**Keywords:** User innovation; Entrepreneurship; Rural innovation; Case study; Developing country.

**Link:** <http://www.innovation-entrepreneurship.com/content/4/1/5>

## 12. Examining Gender Inequalities in Land Indicators in Asia

by C Kieran, K Sproule, C Doss, A Quisumbing, SM Kim

*CGIAR Research Program on Policies - 2015*

### Abstract

A broad consensus has emerged among both policymakers and researchers that strengthening women's property rights plays an important role in reducing poverty and achieving equitable growth. Despite the important role of land in rural livelihoods and as a form of wealth in many Asian cultures, surprisingly few nationally representative data exist on women's land rights in Asia. This paucity hinders the formulation and implementation of appropriate policies to reduce gender gaps in land rights. This paper reviews the available data on men's and women's land rights, identifies what can and cannot be measured by these data, and uses these measures to assess the gaps in the land rights of women and men. Building on the conceptual framework developed in 2014 by Doss et al., we utilize nationally representative individual- and plot-level data from Bangladesh, Tajikistan, Vietnam, and Timor-Leste to calculate five indicators: incidence of ownership by sex; distribution of ownership by sex; and distribution of plots, mean plot size, and distribution of land area, all by sex of owner. The results show large gender gaps in landownership across countries. However, critical data gaps cloud our understanding of land rights and why women fare better or worse in certain countries. In particular, the limited information on joint and individual ownership indicates that this is an important area for future data collection and analysis.

**Keywords:** gender, land, ownership, Asia.

**Link:** <http://www.ifpri.org/sites/default/files/publications/ifpridp01429.pdf>



### 13. Piloting Improved Cookstoves in India

by JJ Lewis, V Bhojvaid, N Brooks, I Das, MA Jeuland

*Journal of health Volume 20, Supplement 1, 2015*

#### Abstract

Despite the potential of improved cookstoves to reduce the adverse environmental and health impacts of solid fuel use, their adoption and use remains low. Social marketing—with its focus on the marketing mix of promotion, product, price, and place—offers a useful way to understand household behaviors and design campaigns to change biomass fuel use. We report on a series of pilots across 3 Indian states that use different combinations of the marketing mix. We find sales varying from 0% to 60%. Behavior change promotion that combined door-to-door personalized demonstrations with information pamphlets was effective. When given a choice amongst products, households strongly preferred an electric stove over improved biomass-burning options. Among different stove attributes, reduced cooking time was considered most valuable by those adopting a new stove. Households clearly identified price as a significant barrier to adoption, while provision of discounts (e.g., rebates given if households used the stove) or payments in installments were related to higher purchase. Place-based factors such as remoteness and nongovernmental organization operations significantly affected the ability to supply and convince households to buy and use improved cookstoves. Collectively, these pilots point to the importance of continued and extensive testing of messages, pricing models, and different stove types before scale-up. Thus, we caution that a one-size-fits-all approach will not boost improved cookstove adoption.

**Keywords:** promotion, product, price, adoption, attributes, cookstoves.

**Link:** <http://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/10810730.2014.994243#>

### 14. Proceedings of International Conference on Biodiversity, Livelihood and Climate Change in the Himalayas

by HJB Birks

*International Conference on Biodiversity, Livelihood, 2015*

#### Abstract

The status of taxonomists working on Nepal's fauna was overviewed through publications in last 30 years from 1976 to 2005 from the key sources of Biological Abstracts (BA) and Zoological Record (ZR). A total of 5007 references were indexed in BA and ZR while searching a keyword "Nepal". From total indexed references, 2797 papers related with faunal studies were sorted from BA and ZR. The number of publications each year ranged from 13 (in 1976) to 159 (in 1998) with an average number of 93 publications every year in the field of zoological science. The number of taxonomic papers comprised 66 percent of the total publications with highest number of single author papers. About 89 percent references were published by foreign scientists ranging from 13 (in 1976) to 155 (in 1998) but number of Nepalese first authors ranged from 0 (in 1976) to 12 (in 1989, 1994, 1997 and 2000) with an average number of foreigners and Nepalese authors were 86 and 6, respectively. Taxonomic papers by Nepalese scientists as first author are extremely low (1%). This suggests that Nepalese authors



involved in taxonomic publications were heavily dependent on overseas expertise which reflects lack of experts in various fields of zoological science in Nepal. This is due to weak institutional capacity, lack of basic infrastructure for taxonomy, lack of opportunities in government sector, insufficient governmental fund for zoological inventories, weak government policy to facilitate new inventories, and bureaucratic hurdles in taxonomic studies viz. exporting and importing biological specimens.

**Key words:** Fauna, taxonomy, zoology, biological abstract, zoological record.

**Link:**[http://www.researchgate.net/profile/Prem\\_Budha/publication/273961696\\_Taxonomy\\_and\\_zoological\\_science\\_in\\_Nepal\\_status\\_issues\\_and\\_suggestions/links/551172170cf21209d528991b.pdf](http://www.researchgate.net/profile/Prem_Budha/publication/273961696_Taxonomy_and_zoological_science_in_Nepal_status_issues_and_suggestions/links/551172170cf21209d528991b.pdf)

## **15. Ecosystem Services and Livelihoods in a Changing Climate: Understanding Local Adaptations in the Upper Koshi, Nepal**

*by LD Bhatta, BEH van Oort, NE Stork, H Baral*

*International Journal of Biodiversity Science, Ecosystem Services & Management, 2015*

### **Abstract**

Mountain ecosystems are increasingly being affected by global environmental change, challenging the ubiquitous agro-ecosystem-based livelihoods of the people. This article uses participatory research methods to document and analyses (1) local and regional impacts of climate change on ecosystem services (ES) and livelihoods, and (2) the main current adaptation strategies of local peoples in the mountains of central Nepal. Major observed impacts include reduced precipitation and an irregular rainfall pattern, affecting paddy cultivation and winter crop production. Production is also affected by increased pest and pathogen prevalence. Other impacts include increased livestock disease and reduced forest regeneration. Our results confirm earlier findings of a decrease in the districts forest cover in past; however, substantial efforts in forest conservation and management at the local level have gradually increased forest cover in recent years. Despite the increased potential for forest ecosystem services, the availability of forest goods, in particular fuel wood, fodder and litter, have decreased because of a strict regulation on forest goods extraction. Additionally, new invasive species are colonising these forests, preventing regeneration of preferred and local forest vegetation in some areas and, as a result, the densities of tree crops are changing. Most users cope with these changes by short term, reactive solutions. However, a number of local adaptation strategies, such as changing both agricultural practices and water harvesting and management, are increasing efficiency in resource use. To increase the adaptive capacity of poor households, we suggest it is essential to incorporate climate change adaptations within the local planning process.

**Keywords:** climate change, adaptation, vulnerability, livelihoods, cropping systems.

**Link:**<http://www.cifor.org/library/5554/ecosystem-services-and-livelihoods-in-a-changing-climate-understanding-local-adaptations-in-the-upper-koshi-nepal/>

## **16. Better Land-Use Allocation Outperforms Land Sparing and Land Sharing Approaches to Conservation in Central Kalimantan, Indonesia**

*by Elizabeth A. Law, Erik Meijaard, Brett A. Bryan, Thilak Mallawaarachchi, Lian Pin Koh, Kerrie A. Wilson*

*Biological Conservation, Volume 186, June 2015, Pages 276–286*

### **Abstract**

Land sparing and land sharing are contrasting strategies often aimed at improving both agricultural production and biodiversity conservation in multifunctional landscapes. These strategies are embodied in land management policies at local to international scales, commonly in conjunction with other land-use policies. Evaluation of these strategies at a landscape scale, for multiple ecosystem service benefits, and multiple elements of biodiversity has not previously been attempted. We simulated the effects of applying land sharing and land sparing strategies to the agricultural zones designated by four future land-use scenarios (reflecting both current land-use and prospective land-use plans) in the Ex-Mega Rice Project region of Central Kalimantan, Indonesia. We assessed impacts of each strategy on biodiversity, agricultural production, and other ecosystem service benefits at a landscape scale. We examined whether it was possible to achieve predetermined targets that reflect the aspirations and entitlements of diverse stakeholder groups. We found that the prospective land-use plans for the region would deliver considerably more benefit than the current land-use allocations, and while not all targets can be achieved, additional progress could be made with reasonable and realistic levels of land sharing or sparing. We found that species and forest types sensitive to agricultural disturbance could benefit most if land in agricultural zones was spared and prioritised for conservation. Conversely, land sharing strategies favoured the more widespread and common species, particularly if the area of wildlife-friendly agriculture is increased. However, the effectiveness of agricultural-focused land management strategies is inherently limited by the extent of agricultural zones. While agricultural land sparing and sharing strategies can deliver some gains in target achievement for multiple ecosystem services, we find that they have a limited effect over the benefits achieved by implementing better land-use allocation from the outset.

**Keywords:** Biodiversity conservation; Ecosystem services; Multifunctional landscapes; Land use planning; Scenario analysis; Wildlife friendly farming.

## **17. Progress Towards Resolving the Measurement Link Between ICT and Poverty Reduction**

*by Julian May Ph.D., Kathleen Diga*

*Social Development, 2015*

### **Abstract**

This chapter provides a review on the debate and latest literature around Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs) and its connection to poverty. The review first acknowledges the trend of global poverty, which today can be measured in a multitude of dimensions. This multidimensional poverty measurement approach has emerged within ICTs and Development (ICTD)

research alongside a new contribution called “digital poverty”. When looking at the empirical linkages between the concepts of poverty and ICTs, the literature reveals heterogeneity in the measurement choices as to who are the poor and whether the poor have ICTs across developing countries. Yet in various cases where the poor have ICTs, some are found to be sensitive to changes of price and see variability within equity of affordability. Furthermore, only few studies have been able to show causal inference to make the micro-level impact linkage between ICTs and poverty. In reviewing this literature, we provide some of the major themes, gaps, and recommendations towards improving the understanding of ICTD and poverty.

**Keywords:** affordability, Technologies, poverty measurement, recommendations.

**Link:** [http://link.springer.com/chapter/10.1007/978-981-287-381-1\\_5](http://link.springer.com/chapter/10.1007/978-981-287-381-1_5)

## 18. How Do Farmers’ Climate Change Beliefs Affect Adaptation to Climate Change?

by Geoff Kuehne

*Society & Natural Resources, Vol. 27 Issue, 5 (2014)*

### Abstract

Southeastern Australia is at the cutting edge of climate change, with predicted warming, drying, and increased variability expected to affect rural livelihoods. Some are optimistic about rural landholders' ability to adjust because of their history of coping with climatic extremes. Others see a conservative rural population more skeptical of climate change than the general public and more likely to resist making necessary changes. These contradictory portrayals, largely unresolved in research and policy circles, provided the focus of our research. We examine links between rural landholders' knowledge, beliefs, and risk perceptions and their adaptations to climate change. We found most rural landholders in our case studies were not climate change deniers and were adapting tactically to drier conditions. Low levels of climate change knowledge were an important influence on adaptation, and mistrust in climate change science confirms the need for particular strategies to effectively engage rural landholders in constructive dialogues.

**Keywords:** Adaptation, climate change, risk perceptions, rural landholders

**Link:** <http://www.tandfonline.com/doi/pdf/10.1080/08941920.2012.686650>

## 19. Crop Productivity and Adaptation to Climate Change in Pakistan

by A Gorst, B Groom, A Dehlavi

*Geography and Environment, April 2015*

### Abstract

How effective adaptation practices in response to climate change are is a crucial question confronting farmers across the world. Using detailed plot-level data from a specifically designed survey conducted in 2013, this paper investigates whether there are productive benefits for farmers who adapt to climate change in Pakistan. The impact of implementing on-farm adaptation strategies is estimated for three of the most important crops grown across Sindh and Punjab provinces: wheat, rice, and cotton. This study finds that there exist significant positive benefits from adaptation for most of the farmers in the sample. For those that actually adapted, productive benefits are positive for wheat and cotton, but not significantly different from zero for rice. For those that did not adapt, the gains from adapting to climate change for all crops are predicted to be large. These findings provide evidence that the use of strategies to adapt to climate change can have a positive impact on food security. The large estimated gains for non-adapters, however, point to the existence of barriers to the adoption of these strategies. Policies aimed at reducing these barriers would be likely to both increase short term production of households and enable them to better prepare for the potential impacts of climate change.

**Keywords:** adaptation, implementing, significant, potential impacts.

**Link:** <http://www.lse.ac.uk/GranthamInstitute/wp-content/uploads/2015/04/Working-Paper-189-Gorst-et-al.pdf>

## 20. Rural Livelihood Diversification in the South Central Coast of Vietnam

by Ong Nguyen Chuong, Nguyen Thi Phuong Thao, Tran Le Yen Ha

*Social Sciences, 2015*

### Abstract

The study aims to investigate patterns and determinants of rural livelihood diversification and household income in the South Central Coast of Vietnam using a balanced panel data set by extracting from the Vietnam Household Living Standards Surveys (VHLSSs) at household and community levels in 2004, 2006 and 2008. The Simpson Index of Diversity (SID) is used to generate the extent of diversification and to quantify the contribution of the diversification of income sources to rural household income in the region. In sequence, the Tobit model is applied to investigate the determinants of SID and two stage least squares (2SLS) estimations is employed to examine the correlation between SID and household income. The descriptive statistics results show that the involvement of household in economic activities and sources of income in the region are quite diverse. There is a slight increase in income share from salary and wage associated with an increasing participation proportion in economic activities of rural household in working for wages; however, agriculture is still a key livelihood earning for almost rural households and working for wages does not seem to dramatically increase total household income. Moreover, the diversification of income sources is found to be influenced by the variables of age of household head, female head, ethnicity of household head, number of dependents, household labors as well as community infrastructures. In addition, the variables of the estimated value of SID, household labors, and average years of education of labors have positive and statistically significant effects on

household income. The results imply that these factors need to be considered by policy makers for enhancing household income in the region.

**Keywords:** Rural household, livelihood diversification, income, The Simpson Index of Diversity (SID), determinants, the Tobit model, the South Central Coast.

**Link:** [http://webhieuqua.net/mernetwork/wp-content/uploads/2015/02/Working-Paper\\_Da-Nang-Team\\_Final-Version.pdf](http://webhieuqua.net/mernetwork/wp-content/uploads/2015/02/Working-Paper_Da-Nang-Team_Final-Version.pdf)

## 21. Impact of Household and Demographic Characteristics on Poverty in Bangladesh: A Logistic Regression Analysis

by Farah, Nusrat

*A Logistic Regression Analysis Paper 3 2015*

### Abstract

Poverty is multi-dimensional in nature and depends on interactions of various socio-economic factors. Several demographic and health factors can shape up the economic status of a household, and theory suggests that the ability of a household to earn a given level of income can depend on the characteristics internal to the household. While most studies done on poverty measurements rely on the income, expenditure and consumption data, this study has used data from Bangladesh Demographic and Health Surveys (DHS). The main objective of this paper is to identify the factors that have relative effect on poverty of the household. The principal component analysis was used to create an asset index which gave the Social Economic Status (SES) of each household. The variables were tested as a univariate model to see the effect on SES. Finally, a logistic regression was estimated based on this data with the SES (that is poor and non-poor) as the dependent variable and a set of demographic variables as the explanatory variables. The results presented in this paper suggest that the DHS data can be used to determine the correlates of poverty. The results also suggest that demographic and household data can describe poverty.

The probability of a household being poor depends on the ownership of assets and other household data. A closer look was then taken to identify whether the results were driven by rural or urban property. The further analyses suggest that rural poverty is significantly affected by the demographic and household characteristics. The results were mostly driven by rural poverty rather than urban poverty. The paper has some policy values, as it suggests that rural people more suffer from the plight of poverty than do the urban people. Hence, the government needs to focus on improving the standard of living in rural areas of Bangladesh.

**Keywords:** Bangladesh, Poverty Measurements, Rural people, Urban Property

**Link:** [http://thekeep.eiu.edu/lib\\_awards\\_2015\\_docs/3/](http://thekeep.eiu.edu/lib_awards_2015_docs/3/)

## 22. Gendered Perspective of Informal Sector of the Economy in Pakistan

by SM Hassan, F Farooq

*Journal of Commerce and Social Sciences, Vol. 9 (1) 2015*

### Abstract

This research paper examined gendered perspective of informal economy of Pakistan and has tried to highlight the gender discriminatory practices which home based women workers are facing. The paper mainly focuses on the gendered ideology of work prevailing in the society and other disparities which these women workers face due to being female. The mixed mode methodology was used to collect primary data from the four different sectors. The respondents of the study were home based women workers who were selected through purposive sampling process. The findings of the primary research revealed the worst condition of gender discriminatory practices, such as, exploitation (93.3%), behavioral problems (67%) and restricted mobility (73%), against home based women workers due to specific socio-cultural build-up of the society. On the basis of the study findings, a comprehensive table exhibiting life cycle risks of home based women workers was presented to identify the gendered perceptions existing in the society. Finally, the paper concludes that while designing interventions and formulating policies, gender dimensions and gender norms must not be ignored, in order to attain fruitful results and material and social welfare of the society.

**Keywords:** gender discrimination, gender disparity, home based women workers, Informal sector of economy.

**Link:** <http://www.jespk.net/publications/228.pdf>

## 23. Impact of Zakat in Alleviating Rural Poverty: A Case Study of Masjid Council for Community Advancement (MACCA) in Bangladesh

by KT Mahmud, MK Hassan, M Kazi Sohag, F Alam

*Finance and Human Development, 2015*

### Abstract

Kazi Tanvir Mahmud<sup>1</sup>, M. Kabir Hassan<sup>2</sup>, Kazi Sohag<sup>3</sup>, <sup>4</sup> Md. Ferdous Alam MACCA provided zakat to the rural poor in order to improve their living standard through accelerating income generating activities. The prime objective of the study was to assess the impact of zakat on the living standard of poor in terms of total household income, expenditure and saving. Primary data was collected from the households of Manikganj District of Bangladesh that received Zakat under Hasana Program of MACCA. Using simple random sampling technique 179 households were selected as sample for this study. Weighted Least Square (WLS) technique was used for accessing the influence of zakat fund on the total income, total expenditure and total saving of the household. The study showed that amount of zakat received by the beneficiaries did not have any significant influence in improving their income, expenditure and saving.

**Keywords:** MACCA, Zakat, Poverty, Bangladesh.

**Link:** <http://conference.qfis.edu.qa/app/media/236>

## 24. Impact of Microfinance on Poverty Alleviation: The Study of District

by Zahid Iqbal, Shahid Iqbal, Muhammad Ahmad Mushtaq

*Management and Administrative Vol 4, No 3 (2015)*

### Abstract

The core motive for conducting this study is to assess the impact of microfinance on poverty alleviation keeping in view the factors that affect the poverty including to fulfillment of basic needs, living standard and self-employment. This is a survey based research & primary data is collected for this study through a structured questionnaire that comprising various aspects of microfinance & poverty alleviation including fulfillment of basic needs, living standard & self-employment. Conveyance sampling technique was used for data collection form the customers of Khushalli Bank Ltd (KBL), Kashaf Microfinance Bank, Tameer Microfinance Bank Ltd (TMBL) & Akhovat Trust that are operating in district Bahawalnagar. Total valid no of respondents are N=263. Correlation analysis, and three Linear Regressions model is used to determine the relationship among microfinance, basic needs, living standard and self-employment to examine the impact of microfinance on poverty. The study found a positive impact of microfinance on poverty alleviation as the significant relationship between independent variable Microfinance (MF) and dependent variable including Fulfillment of basic needs (BN), Living Standard (LS) & Self Employment was fund that leads to decrease in poverty as well.

**Keywords:** Microfinance, Basic needs, Living standard, Self-Employment

**Link:** <http://absronline.org/journals/index.php/masr/article/view/487>

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