SAGA PROGRESS REPORT (12/04-12/05)

UPCOMING WORKPLAN (11/05-11/06)

Strategies and Analysis for Growth and Access (SAGA) is a project of Cornell and Clark Atlanta Universities, funded by cooperative agreement #HFM-A-00-01-00132-00 with the United States Agency for International Development.
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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

SAGA is now beginning its fifth year, chronologically. Due to funding shortfalls, however, we are still at a level of spending that is consistent with an amount envisaged for 2.5 years of the project. Thus, in terms of the overall level of effort, we are only slightly more than halfway into the activities envisaged in the overall Cooperative Agreement. Despite our disappointment with the severe cut-back in funding, we continue to engage in a wide range of activities and have made significant strides toward SAGA’s objectives of high quality poverty research, institution strengthening, and policy outreach. This report familiarizes and informs USAID and others about our progress and plans.

In research, 208 papers have been prepared under SAGA, many of which uncover surprising findings that will alter the way policy makers need to think about key issues. (Additionally, we have posted the proceedings, *Quantitative and Qualitative Methods for Poverty Analysis*, from the workshop held March 11, 2004, in Nairobi, Kenya.) For example:

- Conditional on a child’s level of schooling, having better educated parents or enjoying the advantages of being in a wealthier household have only modest or inconsistent (across tests) benefits for academic performance. Therefore, efforts to enroll and keep in school children from less advantaged backgrounds will contribute significantly to closing not just schooling gaps themselves but also the substantial skill gaps that exist between them and more affluent children.

- Education among women is generally associated with lowering at-risk behaviors. Among men, however, we often find just the opposite case for age at first sex, abstinence, and number of partners – that education increases behaviors that are associated with high risk of HIV/AIDS infection. However, this is not the case with condoms, where education, even among men, is associated with higher use of condoms.

- Income and asset dynamics in western and northern Kenya exhibit patterns consistent with the notion of a poverty trap. Nonlinear asset and welfare dynamics create critical thresholds, points at which safety nets become especially important to guard against shocks that could make people permanently poor and to induce rural people to manage risk without severely compromising expected income growth. Health and mortality shocks appear the most common explanations for households falling into chronic poverty, a result consistent with what we find in Uganda.

- Unemployment in South Africa at the end of the period stands at a staggering 41.8% and is concentrated among African, female, poorly educated, and young workers, although increasingly, even those with high levels of education are suffering. Almost nine in ten unemployed individuals have been unemployed for more than three years or have never had a job at all.
SAGA is **building capacity** in partner institutions to conduct high quality research, to raise funding for research, and to raise their national and international profiles. Prominent examples are:

- The “Shared Growth in Africa” conference, held in Accra on July 21-22, 2005, was hosted by ISSER, as part of our institution building strategy, to raise ISSER’s profile from national to regional prominence.

- Funding was obtained from ACBF for the Economy of Ghana Network. Also, building their capacity to organize, manage and raise funding for Pan-African conferences (Accra, July 2005; Cape Town, October 2004).

SAGA researchers and our partner institutions are reaching out to promote the maximum level of **policy impact** in a variety of ways:

- In the month of September, there were 21,164 hits on the SAGA website and 5,880 downloads of PDF files. In the period January-September, 2005, the SAGA website registered 225,516 hits, and there were 50,132 downloads of SAGA publications. This is more than double the number of hits registered for all of 2004 (101,088).

- We have held 20 policy-oriented conferences and workshops, and we regularly engage policy-makers and stakeholders directly in our effort to promote evidence-based policy making. This is illustrated by:
  
  - SAGA co-hosted a major regional education conference that included participation of the Minister of Education, the Rector of the University of Dakar, and other high level officials from Government and academia to discuss challenges in the education sector.
  
  - Conferences held in Ghana and South Africa involved policy makers: Imraan Rasool, Premier of Western Cape, and Alan Hirsch of the President’s Office at the “Micro-Macro Linkages” conference, Cape Town, October 2004; Deputy Finance Minister, Chief Economist for Africa of the World Bank, and Head of USAID-Ghana at the “Shared Growth in Africa” conference, Accra, July 2005.

The SAGA teams are also working hard to promote and foster **engagement with our partners at USAID** through a variety of mechanisms. For example:

- Cornell researchers and their colleagues presented nine policy seminars are USAID in Washington during the last year.

- SAGA researchers recently held a workshop at the USAID mission in Kampala highlighting the key results of SAGA research in Uganda. This was followed by a meeting at USAID to discuss how EPRC and Cornell might support analysis of the Sero survey, a DHS-like survey carried out by Macro International that collected blood samples to identify HIV status.
As we look to the future and the severe budgetary cuts to SAGA, we have only modest expectations in terms of accomplishments and activities for the next year. Our hope is that some funds will be identified to allow us to not lose momentum and avoid the draconian cuts in activities that seem inevitable at this juncture.
I. INTRODUCTION AND SUMMARY

Strategies and Analyses for Growth and Access (SAGA) is a multi-year cooperative agreement between USAID and Cornell and Clark-Atlanta Universities. SAGA has three core objectives:

- To advance understanding of poverty and poverty reduction in Africa through high quality research in four broad areas: (i) schooling, education and human capital, (ii) health and nutrition, (iii) risk, vulnerability and poverty dynamics, and (iv) empowerment and institutions.

- To build capacity in African economic research institutions to undertake such research.

- To ensure that research informs the policy process in African countries and in USAID.

Although some of our activities are multi-country in nature, most are focused on a set of specific core countries: Ghana, Kenya, Madagascar, Senegal, South Africa and Uganda. These were selected after extensive consultation with USAID missions, potential collaborating research institutions in-country, and local policy makers. The main modality of our activities is through collaboration with African partner institutions in the SISERA network, which in our core countries are:

Ghana: Institute of Statistical, Social and Economic Research, University of Ghana (ISSER)
Kenya: Institute of Policy Analysis and Research, Nairobi, Kenya (IPAR)
Madagascar: Institut National de la Statistique (INSTAT)
South Africa: Development Policy Research Unit, University of Cape Town (DPRU)
Uganda: Economic Policy Research Center (EPRC)
Senegal: Centre de Recherche en Economie Appliquée (CREA)

- We conduct research, dissemination and policy outreach in partnership.

- We offer technical assistance to develop research proposals, evaluate research, conduct courses, and more generally to help to raise the partner SISERA institutions’ profiles nationally and internationally.

- We run a small grants program that helps to post U.S.-based researchers to research institutions in Africa.

This report summarizes our achievements and future plans for each of our core objectives of research, institution building, and policy outreach. We note at the outset that these divisions are somewhat arbitrary and artificial. By design, most SAGA activities address more than one

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1 Note that INSTAT is not a SISERA institution, but has become the focal point of our institutional collaboration since the local SISERA institution is no longer part of the network owing to its demise.
objective. When a research output is co-authored between someone at Cornell and someone at a partner institution, it builds capacity (at both institutions). When such a paper is presented to policy makers in a workshop, it raises the profile of our partner institutions. Despite these obvious synergies, we organize this report along the lines of objectives to keep the focus on SAGA’s goals.

II. RESEARCH

Despite two decades of economic reforms, African growth and poverty reduction remains disappointing. The central tenet of SAGA’s research is that there is much to be learned about this disappointment from adopting a “bottom-up” analysis of poverty and poverty reduction. This strategy starts with the capabilities of individuals, households, and communities — their productivities, vulnerabilities, institutions, and environment — to consider how development can and does play out at the ground level, and to understand what factors keep Africa’s poor from prospering. This is in contrast to the bulk of research on policy and poverty which takes a “top-down” approach from policy (usually macroeconomic or structural) to individuals.

To maximize the policy relevance of our efforts, we develop SAGA’s research program collaboratively with our partner institutions, USAID missions, policy makers, and other stakeholders in each core country. To date, SAGA researchers have over completed 200 papers and many more are in progress. We have also fielded several major surveys and sponsored 20 research workshops and conferences. Here, we highlight selected results and our plans to build upon this work for the upcoming year.

II.1. Schooling, Education, and Human Capital

II.1.1 Schooling Attainment and Cognitive Ability

The vast majority of research on education and human capital uses attainment — years of schooling completed — as its outcome measure. Yet in systems where the quality of schooling is variable and poor, this is not a good measure of human capital accumulation. In Africa, a variety of individual, household, and institutional factors conspire to ensure that too many children do not learn in school. Policy makers need to understand what factors contribute to children’s learning, not just their attendance. To address those questions, SAGA has co-funded large and ambitious surveys of children, their households, schools, and communities in Madagascar and Senegal to understand the determinants of children’s cognitive ability as measured by standardized tests. We are presently engaged in the detailed econometric analysis of the data we have collected with our collaborators. Highlights of papers recently completed include:

*From Madagascar* (http://www.saga.cornell.edu/images/wp166.pdf):

- Rates of current enrollment, passing through the primary cycle, and transitioning to lower secondary school are high overall. Still, the data point to clear urban rural gaps as well as differences by level of household resources. Almost all children in the sample enter school, so the differences show up as earlier school leaving for children in rural
households or poorer households. Children in the subsample of smaller and more remote rural communities do quite poorly along all these dimensions compared with other rural areas and urban areas—a consistent pattern in these data

- Wealthy children in both urban and rural areas are much more likely than poor children to attend private primary schools, which are approximately five times more costly than public schools. However, it is also noteworthy that despite the elimination of public primary school fees in 2002, it is surprising that about 25% of households with children in public schools report paying such fees.

- Controlling for being in school and for grade level, we find that current primary school students (in 2nd and 3rd grade) who live in urban areas score higher on tests than rural children. Those in the smaller rural public schools appear to do the worst. It was also seen that private school students consistently score higher than public school students in the same grade.

- Children who did well in the 2nd grade are more likely to have progressed through to lower secondary school. This association may indicate that getting children to do well early in the primary cycle is important for later school success.

- Of particular note are the poor conditions of the sample’s small rural public primary schools. Close to half of such schools were described by the interviewers as ‘dilapidated’ or ‘very dilapidated’; among the parents themselves of children in these schools, 81% described their schools this way. In more than a third of the small schools, some of the students must sit on the ground, and some classes must be held outdoors for lack of classroom space.

- In terms of overall satisfaction with their child’s school—the level of concern on the part of teachers and school directors, and the manner in which they (parents) were treated by school personnel—parents of both public and private school students tended to rate their schools fairly favorably.


- Schooling matters strongly, even for knowledge of ‘life skills’ that are presumably imparted largely outside of the classroom.

- Conditional on a child’s level of schooling, having better educated parents or enjoying the advantages of being in a wealthier household have only modest or inconsistent (across tests) benefits for academic performance.

- Efforts to enroll and keep in school children from less advantaged backgrounds will contribute significantly to closing not just schooling gaps themselves but also the substantial skill gaps that exist between them and more affluent children.
Gender gaps in cognitive skills also exist though they are modest. These differences between girls and boys are due both to disparities in their level of schooling and differences in the impacts of other determinants of test performance. Here too, however, achieving parity in the level of schooling for girls and boys will serve to close a significant portion of the skill gaps.

While household characteristics have limited effects on test outcomes controlling for grade attainment, they have strongly significant impacts on attainment itself. Wealth in particular has large effects on schooling.

Next Steps

Work is progressing steadily in both Madagascar and Senegal. We will be focusing on preparing a series of papers along the following dimensions over the next year:

- *Determinants of scholastic achievement in Madagascar (test performance)*: This will be a multivariate regression analysis of the determinants of children’s achievement on standard math and French tests.

- *Effects of early cognitive abilities on school attainment in Senegal*: In this paper, we are looking at the impact of early cognitive ability, measured by testing after first grade, on subsequent attainment and academic achievement.

II.1.2. Community Schools in Senegal

Two articles on the topic of community schools were posted on the SAGA website in April, 2005:

- “Costs and Financing of Basic Education and Participation of Rural Families and Communities in Third-World Countries” ([http://www.saga.cornell.edu/images/nal-commsch.pdf](http://www.saga.cornell.edu/images/nal-commsch.pdf)) by N’Dri Assié-Lumumba. This article draws from earlier works of the author to provide a broad background for the project on “Contribution à la scolarisation universelle, l’éradication de la pauvreté, et la mise en place d’un programme national pour le développement durable” that was submitted to Cornell University.

- A synopsis by of the project “Les écoles communautaires de base au Sénégal: Contribution à la scolarisation universelle, l’éradication de la pauvreté, et la mise en place d’un programme national pour le développement durable ” ([http://www.saga.cornell.edu/images/nal-senegal.pdf](http://www.saga.cornell.edu/images/nal-senegal.pdf)). This paper was co-authored by N’Dri Assié-Lumumba, Mamadou Mara (Chef de la Division, Appui au Développement (DADS), Direction de l’Alphabétisation et de l'Education de Base (DAEB), Ministère de la Formation Professionnelle, de l’Alphabétisation et des Langues Nationales Dakar, Sénégal), and Marieme Lo, then a doctoral student at Cornell University.
Next Steps

The data collection process for the study will start in November 2005, targeting June 2006 for the production of the report.

After the production of the final report, arrangements will be then made to prepare manuscripts for a book and articles for refereed journals.

II.2. Health

SAGA’s work on health and nutrition falls into three categories: the impact of finance, decentralization and the characteristics of health delivery systems on utilization and health outcomes; the behavioral aspects of preventing HIV; and the use of health-related measures of well-being in poverty analyses.

II.2.1 Institutional Analysis and Health Delivery Systems

This work is concentrated in Madagascar where we have collaborated with the World Bank, INSTAT and the Ministry of Health to conduct a major survey of the health care system, including health facilities, household, and user surveys. The project is the Study Of Efficiency And Equity In Health Care In Madagascar, or EEEFS.

We completed the first preliminary report on the impacts of the economic crisis and subsequent elimination of cost recovery on the supply side—in particular, on the quality of services provided in public health centers.

- The survey of health facilities reveals severe inadequacies in infrastructure: for example, only 53% had electricity and only 60% had an adequate source of water (tap or pump) and less than 38% of facilities have supplies of drugs adequate to their needs.

- The effects of the 2002 crisis on health care utilization was severe but apparently short-lived: consultations fell by about 10% but since then have rebounded strongly.

- Direct observation of health practitioners (by doctors carrying out this part of the survey) suggests that standard treatment protocols are often, even typically, not followed completely. For example, in only about a fifth of the centers did practitioners note lethargy in their patients.

Next steps

We are currently conducting detailed econometric analysis of the demand for health care services using the EEEFS data. The objective of this work is to understand how households respond to quality in their choice or provider (e.g., private vs. public provider, basic care vs. hospital care) or in the decision whether to seek care at all. The very detailed data on facility characteristics will permit accurate assessments of the different aspect of quality (qualifications of staff, availability of medicines, cost, attitudes of personnel). The analysis will also be able to compare consumer perceptions of service quality with rating made by medically trained
observers during the survey. More generally, in conjunction with other ongoing studies of the
data, our present work focuses on providing a clear and comprehensive picture of the
functioning of the Malagasy public health sector some seven years into the policy of health
sector decentralization.

In addition to this work on Madagascar, we will study the demand for public and private
health care services in Uganda, another country that has made substantial progress in the
decentralization of health services and has also eliminated user fees for basic health care.

II.2.2 HIV/AIDS

Our work on HIV during the previous year has focused on HIV knowledge. Using the
Demographic and Health Surveys (DHS) we have recently completed a 7-country study (Benin,
Burkina Faso, Ghana, Kenya, Madagascar, Mozambique, Nigeria, Tanzania, Uganda and
Zambia) that examines the determinants of, and changes in behaviors that put people at risk of
contracting HIV/AIDS. Specifically, we look at the age at first sex, abstinence, the number of
sex partners, and the use of condoms. (See http://www.saga.cornell.edu/images/wp173.pdf to be
presented at a major international workshop in Cape Town in December 2005 (see
include:

- We can see that the predominance of positive behavioral change applies to all behaviors,
  for both men and women. Particularly noteworthy is that case of condom use among men
  and women with persons other than co-habitating partners.

- Among the behaviors examined, the least progress has been made in terms of increasing
  the share of abstinent women.

- The one country where negative signs predominate is for women in Nigeria. Likewise,
  the most recent signals in terms of behavior change are decidedly mixed for women in
  Uganda. The country with the most dramatic changes in behavior, at least in percentage
terms, is Mozambique.

- Education among women is generally associated with lowering at-risk behaviors. While
  we expected safer sexual practices to be increasing with education and wealth, even
  among men, this does not seem always to be the case. Despite our expectations that, for
  example, more education would be a complement with information in the determinants of
  safe sex, or that greater assets will increase safer sex practices (assuming that health is a
  normal good), it also appears that the more educated men are, the more able they are to
  persuade potential partners or engineer circumstances that enable them to engage in more
  and unprotected sex, and that the sex itself is a normal good increasing in wealth.

- We find that the extent to which modern contraception, as well as radio access, is
  practiced is strongly associated with lower age at first intercourse, less abstinence, more
  multiple partners, and greater condom use among women. We conclude from the
analysis that there is possibly an element of causation operating through access to modern contraception.

A second area of research on which we have concentrated during the past year is that of analyzing the implications of scaling up HIV voluntary counseling and testing in Africa, and more specifically what these interventions tell us about potential prevention impacts. (See “Scaling Up HIV Voluntary Counseling and Testing in Africa: What Can Evaluation Studies Tell Us About Potential Prevention Impacts?” by Peter Glick in Evaluation Review, Vol. 29, No. 4, 331-357 (2005), http://erx.sagepub.com/cgi/content/abstract/29/4/331).

- Although there is a widespread belief that scaling up HIV voluntary testing and counseling (VCT) programs in Africa will have large prevention benefits through reductions in risk behaviors, these claims are difficult to establish from existing evaluations of VCT.

- Considerations from behavioral models and the available data suggest that as VCT coverage expands marginal program effects are likely to decline due to changes in the degree of client selectivity, and that potential uptake among those at highest risk is uncertain. The paper also assesses two other common perceptions about VCT in Africa: that a policy of promoting couples-oriented VCT would be more successful than one emphasizing individual testing, and that VCT demand and prevention impacts will be enhanced where scaling up is accompanied by the provision of anti-retroviral drugs.

**Next Steps**

USAID/Uganda recently sponsored a survey similar to Demographic and Health Surveys that included tests for respondents’ HIV status. Unlike other such surveys, the HIV data can be linked to other survey data, permitting analysis of the socioeconomic correlates and consequences of HIV status. These data will be available to the public in late 2005, and SAGA researchers at Cornell and EPRC have agreed with the Uganda USAID mission to analyze them.

**II.2.3 Non-Income Measures of Well-Being and Poverty**

Most poverty researchers accepts Sen’s argument that poverty is multidimensional, involving not just lack of income, but inadequate capabilities and functionings, including poor health, illiteracy, and lack of political voice. Yet in practice, virtually all empirical poverty research measures deprivation in incomes or expenditures alone. SAGA researchers have begun to address this limitation of the empirical work with a series of papers that address non-income measures of well-being in Uganda. Key results include:

- Despite Uganda’s rapid growth during the 1990s, both infant mortality rates and children’s heights have stagnated.

- Household incomes are significantly correlated with children’s heights and their survival probabilities, but the correlation is small, so that even if Uganda’s rapid growth were to
continue for another decade the impact on IMRs and children’s heights will be small up to 2015.

Even under optimistic assumptions about improvements in health care and mother’s education, both of which have significant effects on infant mortality rates (IMRs), Uganda will not achieve the MDG for infant mortality or child nutrition (http://www.saga.cornell.edu/images/wp188.pdf and http://www.saga.cornell.edu/images/wp186.pdf).

- Increased reliance on cash crops relative to food crops by poor households does not worsen their children’s nutritional status in Uganda. If anything, the opposite seems to be the case (http://www.saga.cornell.edu/images/wp186.pdf).

Next steps

We will bring together these papers and others into an edited volume of poverty analyses in Uganda. However, after reviewing the papers prepared to date, we decided that we need two or three more papers to fill out such a volume. This may involve future Cornell/EPRC collaborations, but we are also circulating our papers among other Uganda researchers to solicit interest in contributions to the volume.

II.3. Empowerment and Institutions

II.3.1 Q-Squared

- Economists’ analysis of poverty is almost always quantitative, based on survey data, while anthropologists and sociologists are more likely to rely on qualitative poverty assessments. That these different methods often arrive at different conclusions about poverty changes is disturbing, and has begun to attract the attention of scholars in many social sciences. SAGA researchers have been at the forefront of efforts to bring together researchers from different disciplines to reconcile the apparent contradictions of quantitative and qualitative approaches to poverty analysis. Activities in this area during the last year consisted of publishing a proceedings volume from a conference held in summer 2005 and has been widely distributed in Kenya and among the broader, global community of scholars working on mixing qualitative and quantitative methods. See Quantitative and Qualitative Methods for Poverty Analysis (http://www.saga.cornell.edu/saga/q-qconf/proceed.pdf).

- Editing of the World Development Special Issue is complete. It will come out in 2006. See Appendix I for a Table of Contents for this issue, showing the article titles and authors who are included.

Next Steps

The third phase of the Q-Squared process has begun, focusing on policy and implementation, and targeting a conference in 2007. A website has been created to match this
third phase, with information of conferences, papers, people and useful links. The objective is to encourage dialogue among the community of analysts who try to bring together qualitative and quantitative perspectives on poverty analysis. See http://www.q-squared.ca/.

II.3.2 Labor Market Institutions

An important institution that affects the well-being of the poor is the function of the labor market. SAGA’s work program in South Africa and Madagascar has a focus in this area.

From South Africa

Work conducted under the SAGA project presents one of the most comprehensive analyses of the evolution of the South African labor market in the last decade and culminated in the publication of “The Post-Apartheid South African Labour Market,” (see http://www.saga.cornell.edu/images/wp176.pdf).

From Madagascar

Our work on the urban labor market in Madagascar uses household and labor force survey data to analyze changes in the structure of the urban labor market and earnings in Madagascar since the early 1990s. Major findings are: (see http://www.saga.cornell.edu/images/wp175.pdf).

• From the perspective of government policies in Madagascar, prospects for continuing expansion of the EPZ are good, but a major problem is the elimination in January 2005 of quotas imposed under the Multi-Fiber Agreement

II.3.3 Access to Social Services

An important aspect of our work in this research theme is on the functioning of institutions that deliver services directly to the poor. Our work in Madagascar and Uganda has considered the benefits by gender of a different form of public services, the provision of safe drinking water. The undoubted health benefits of such policies likely apply equally to males and females; instead, the analysis focuses on time use outcomes, which potentially can differ significantly by gender. In Madagascar and Uganda, as in most developing countries, the burden of water collection time falls very disproportionately on women and girls. Also as in most developing countries, overall hours of work (home and market) are higher for women than men. In the econometric analysis, we address the question: will public investments in water supply serve to reduce the work burden on women absolutely and relative to men? The results suggest that:

• In these two countries, such investments can have at best only limited impacts on time use and the gender distribution of work and leisure. In rural areas, where the time burden of water collection is largest, the most feasible large-scale investments would be in well construction. However, the estimates indicate that in both countries, this will not lead to time savings over the alternative of using natural sources such as lakes or rivers. In large part this is because the distances to these two sources of drinking water tend to be similar, as well as not very great.
• In urban areas of both countries, the availability of interior taps (and outdoor taps in Uganda) leads to reductions in average time in water collection. Yet these savings generally do not amount to more than a few hours per week relative to alternative sources, as the latter are already fairly close at hand for most urban residents. Hence the effects on time use and the overall burden of work of investments that make interior taps feasible for urban households will be limited.

• Even in rural areas of Madagascar and Uganda, the time in water collection of women and girls, while not trivial, is usually no more than 3 to 4 hours per week, which puts limits on the time-related benefits to public water supply investments. Time savings may be larger in other countries, especially in more arid climates.

In Kenya, SAGA work undertaken by IPAR and by Cornell University in collaboration with Egerton University and Tegemeo Institute has explored how rural households access extension and other services, with an eye towards understanding the likely impacts of further decentralization of the provision of government services and of donor and government-directed creation of farmer groups. Analysis of the original survey and focus group discussion data indicate that:

• Limited experience with decentralization does seem associated with increased household-level access to extension services, although the direction of causality remains somewhat unclear and the effect is most pronounced among wealthier households.

• Rural households’ mean willingness to pay for extension services in medium-to-high potential rural areas appears to be at least equal to prevailing rates charged by private service providers.

• Community groups created in concert with extra-village entities (e.g., government, NGOs or private firms) leverage more resources than groups that originate indigenously, from within the village, and have a greater positive impact on household incomes and propensity to adopt improved technologies as a result of the added access to resources.

• Policy changes that devolved authority over smallholder coffee cooperatives to growers appear to have resulted in lower productivity and poorer financial returns to coffee production. This appears due to the procedures used to elect local cooperative leadership, which facilitates the election of corrupt officials, with demonstrable adverse effects on the prices received by growers and farm-level productive efficiency. Furthermore, the data do not support arguments favoring consolidation of local factories into larger cooperatives as there appear diseconomies of scale in cooperative size (in terms of numbers of factories) even though there are economies of scale at factory level. The clear implications are for the relative efficiency of small, factory-based cooperatives but under different rules for electing leadership and monitoring and enforcing the performance of elected officers.
In parallel research, cooperative performance, as reflected in prices received by members for agricultural commodities grown, appears strongly, positively associated with vertical integration into processing, with credit access, and with better educated cooperative leadership.

Next Steps

The SAGA-Kenya team is presently revising and editing results from these studies on Empowering the Rural Poor into a volume for publication, most likely in late 2006 or early 2007.

II.3.4 Land tenure

ISSER’s work on land tenure funded by USAID/Ghana has recently begun. This research is timed to produce resources for deliberations about the directions, processes, components and likely impacts of reforms under the Land Administration Project (LAP). Also, it will contribute to discussions about the place of land tenure in poverty reduction through the GPRS.

II.4. Risk, Vulnerability and Poverty Dynamics

The risk of falling into poverty (measured in many possible dimensions) deserves considerable attention given the importance that poor people place on vulnerability and the relative scarcity of research on the subject and related issues such as poverty traps and dynamics. This is especially true for Africa’s poor who face unusually high risks, especially, but not exclusively among those living in rural areas. The poor have fewer means for dealing with the risks that they face, and lack access to assets and a range of institutions usually associated with mitigating the wide range of risks and shocks that affect households in Africa. As a result, the poor often choose low-risk, low-return portfolios that trap them in a low-level equilibrium. This problem is compounded by lack of easy access to effectively functioning markets offering remunerative returns or to higher return production and processing technologies that might generate surpluses sufficient to enable them to climb out of persistent poverty. The complex interactions among market access, market performance, technology adoption, risk management, and livelihoods as they jointly affect household-level vulnerability and poverty dynamics represent a major area of inquiry across multiple countries under SAGA.

From Ghana

The major event this year was the “Shared Growth in Africa” conference, held in Accra on July 21-22, 2005.

- Approximately 45 papers were presented, the majority by Africans based in Africa.
- The conference was hosted by ISSER, as part of our institution building strategy, to raise ISSER’s profile from national to regional prominence.
• The conference was co-organized by Prof Ernest Aryeetey of ISSER, Prof Ravi Kanbur of Cornell University, and Dr. John Page, the new Chief Economist for Africa at the World Bank.

• The Mission Chief of USAID-Ghana was on the opening panel of the conference.

• Work sponsored by USAID-Ghana was presented at the conference.

• The conference was co-funded by SAGA, The World Bank and DFID. SAGA’s $25,000 managed to leverage another $100,000 from these donors.

• A selection of the papers presented at the conference will be published in the *African Development Review*, the Africa-wide professional journal published out of the African Development Bank. The refereeing and selection process has just started.

• Work also continued on editing the *Analytical Perspectives on the Economy of Ghana* volume, with papers selected form those presented at the Accra conference in 2004 and from work commissioned for SAGA from Ghanaian authors. James Currey has expressed an interest in publication. The volume will probably come out in 2006.

**From Madagascar**

Collaborative research between Cornell and FOFIFA has shown that:

• Rice markets are reasonably well competitively integrated at the sub-regional (within *fivondronana*) level, with factors such as high crime, remoteness, and lack of information are among the factors limiting competition. There appears insufficient competition at the regional level, as reflected in persistently positive and significant expected profits to spatial arbitrage at provincial scale. But very high transfer costs continue to impede spatial market integration at the national level, underscoring the importance of nationwide efforts to improve transport infrastructure so as to increase the remote rural poor’s access to markets and reasonably priced staple products.

• Supporting the government’s emphasis on agricultural productivity growth through improved technology adoption as a central plank of its poverty reduction strategy, we show that, controlling for geographical and physical characteristics, communes that have higher rates of adoption of improved agricultural technologies and, consequently, higher crop yields enjoy lower food prices, higher real wages for unskilled workers and better welfare indicators.

**From Kenya**

A national policy conference on reducing risk and empowering the poor in rural Kenya, held in early February 2005, hosted by IPAR, showcased SAGA research by IPAR, KIPPRA, Tegemeo, University of Nairobi and Cornell before a packed audience, including one Minister, five Members of Parliament, and two Permanent Secretaries. That event featured exclusively
SAGA co-funded work based at Cornell with Kenya-based collaborators at KARI, the University of Nairobi and Egerton University. Some key findings from this body of work include:

- Income and asset dynamics in western and northern Kenya exhibit patterns consistent with the notion of a poverty trap. Nonlinear asset and welfare dynamics create critical thresholds, points at which safety nets become especially important to guard against shocks that could make people permanently poor and to induce rural people to manage risk without severely compromising expected income growth. Health and mortality shocks appear the most common explanations for households falling into chronic poverty. ([http://www.saga.cornell.edu/images/wp154.pdf](http://www.saga.cornell.edu/images/wp154.pdf) and [http://www.saga.cornell.edu/images/wp169.pdf](http://www.saga.cornell.edu/images/wp169.pdf))

- Price risk faced by livestock producers in the arid and semi-arid lands of the north can be attributed almost wholly to variability in the inter-market margins between up-country and Nairobi terminal markets. The highest return investments in stabilizing livestock market conditions would therefore come from improvements in transport and security that affect inter-market basis risk. See “Decomposing Producer Price Risk: A Policy Analysis Tool with an Application to Northern Kenyan Livestock Markets” by Christopher B. Barrett and Winnie K. Luseno, published in *Food Policy* Volume 29, Issue 4, August 2004, Pages 393-405. ([Note: To see this link, copy entire link into browser.](http://www.sciencedirect.com/science?_ob=ArticleURL&_udi=B6VCB-4D8VHNV-2&_user=10&_handle=B-WA-A-W-E-MsSAYWA-UUA-AAUAWYYCVEV-AUEYYZCWEV-DUAWDBEDD-E-U&_fmt=summary&_coverDate=08%2F01%2F2004&_rdoc=6&_orig=browse&_srch=%23toc%235950%232004%23999709995%2335236501&_cdi=5950&view=c&_acct=C000050221&_version=1&_userid=10&md5=3f9d0d495e23cc017bbbc7d200aae92cc)

- Pastoralist households do not appear as vulnerable to trader exploitation as is sometimes argued. They appear to make sequential marketing decisions that fully exploit available market information and retain flexibility in response to price discovery once they arrive in markets. The fixed costs of market participation do impede market participation, and auctions yield more attractive prices for herders than do dyadic markets based on bilateral herder-trader bargaining. But the main impediments to livestock marketing in the arid and semi-arid lands of northern Kenya appear due not to underdeveloped livestock marketing infrastructure and institutions, but due to limited alternatives investments other than livestock in these areas.

- Increased maize price volatility post-liberalization appears associated with a reduction in maize cultivation by Kenyan smallholders and increased cultivation of crops such as sugarcane that exhibit relatively greater price stability. Weakness in input markets compound by the problem of price volatility to dampen response to market liberalization.

- Rural villagers are stratified into networks according to wealth and income. The poor engage in frequent, low-value transfers in kind and in exchange labor. The poorest engage in few cash transfers. Those of intermediate wealth engage more actively in
transfers in kind, but not in cash. The relatively rich are also active in transfer networks, and it is almost exclusively they who are able to raise large cash amounts through social networks, either as loans or gifts. As people get wealthier, they engage more in cash transfers and less in transfers in kind in spite of the fact that people who have access to formal financial services participate less in transfers through networks and access to formal financial services is positively associated with wealth.

From Elsewhere In Africa:

- SAGA researchers’ work on asset-based approaches to poverty analysis and the identification of poverty traps has sparked widespread interest among donors and researchers on the continent. The fractal poverty traps concept now underpins much of the work of the Kilimo Trust in east Africa and has become one of the central organizing concepts behind the Rockefeller Foundation’s work in Africa.

- Among Ethiopian pastoralists, previously documented patterns of poverty traps appear attributable in large measure to rainfall shocks that impact the large subpopulation of herders of intermediate ability, underscoring the importance of risk management tools. However, it turns out that informal social safety nets systematically exclude most of the poorest households, reinforcing the importance of public or external agency provision of productive safety nets such as those being piloted in Ethiopia currently.

Next Steps

- SAGA will co-sponsor with the World Bank and USAID a substantial, regional conference on Pastoralists, Poverty and Vulnerability: Policies for Progress in late June 2006 in Nairobi, Kenya. This event aims to draw lessons from research in Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia, Tanzania, and Uganda on the problems confronting governments, donors and NGOs trying to reduce poverty, risk exposure and vulnerability among pastoralist populations. The Kenya Office of the President’s Arid Lands Resources Management Program and the International Livestock Research Institute will co-host this event so as to increase its visibility among high-level policymakers. The co-organizers intend to edit a selection of the best papers into a published volume.

- SAGA researchers will continue to work together on exploring variation in individuals’ risk perceptions and management over time and differentiated by wealth, gender and other observable and targetable characteristics, with an eye towards better understanding how donors, governments and operational agencies can better respond to the range of risks differentially faced by poor peoples in rural Africa. This includes work with national early warning systems in trying to identify readily available leading indicators of changes in household-level productivity or nutritional status.
III. INSTITUTION BUILDING AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

A principal goal of SAGA is to strengthen the capacity of the SISERA institutions to conduct high quality research, to do outreach that raises their profile and among national and international policy makers, and to engage in policy dialogue. We believe that building up such local capacity is the only sustainable way to affect the policy dialogue through research. With SAGA support, our partner institutes have produced numerous research papers. They have also organized major national and international conferences; have bid for and won research grants that expand their research resources beyond SAGA’s contribution; and have made significant contributions to the national policy dialogue. The names of our major partners are provided at the SAGA website. Here we highlight several illustrative examples.

From Ghana

We have continued our strong partnership with ISSER, focusing on policy outreach and engagement through conferences, workshops and policy seminars.

From South Africa

There have been three major activities:

• First, completing the editing of the book *Poverty and Policy in Post Apartheid South Africa*, edited by Haroon Bhorat and Ravi Kanbur. The volume will come out in 2006, published by HSRC Press, a respected South African publisher. The overview paper is being circulated widely. The papers that will comprise the chapters of this volume are available on the SAGA website:

  
  o “Does City Structure Cause Unemployment? The Case Study of Cape Town,” by Sandrine Rospabe and Harris Selod (see http://www.saga.cornell.edu/images/selod.pdf)
  
  
  o “Internal Labour Migration and Household Poverty in Post-Apartheid South Africa,” by Dorrit Posel and Daniela Casale (see http://www.saga.cornell.edu/images/poselcasale.pdf)
  
  o “Crime and Local Inequality in South Africa,” by Gabriel Demombynes and Berk Özlter (see http://www.saga.cornell.edu/images/d-o-crime.pdf)
Second, selecting, refereeing and editing papers for the Cornell/DPRU/TIPS conference on Macro-Micro Linkages in African Growth and Development, for a special issue of the *Journal of African Economies*. The refereeing is complete and we are awaiting revised versions of the selected papers. The special issue will come out in 2006.

Third, we have been working with our colleagues on a study which focuses on Grade 12 pass rates across all Grade 12-offering schools in an attempt at providing some estimates on the determinants of these pass rates in the post-*apartheid* period – through relying conceptually and empirically on a production function approach. With co-financing for our South African colleagues from SISERA and AERC, this involved three South African collaborators from DPRU visiting Cornell in May with the objective of preparing a draft paper which has recently been completed and is now under review.

**Next Steps**

In Uganda, EPRC has leveraged SAGA support to fund a major conference on Uganda’s economic progress and prospects, to be held in early 2005, with co-financing from the Bank of Uganda and the World Bank. SAGA-funded research (discussed above) provides the basis for presentations on poverty reduction, vulnerability, and progress toward the MDGs.
From Madagascar

In Madagascar, we have been extensively involved with our major research partners, Institut National de la Statistique (INSTAT) and the Ministry of Education, in a wide range of capacity building activities. Highlights of this have included:

- Researchers at INSTAT visiting Cornell to prepare for the new small school and remote region survey, as well as several visits in 2005 to both prepare reports and clean the latest round of the survey data.

- Completion of the national education survey, as well as a re-survey of small remote schools. During the course of the year, we have had several Malagasy visitors working on the preparation of the data for analysis, as well as preparation of initial research papers. In addition, we have a PhD student from Madagascar, Jean Claude Randrianarisoa, working both with the Cornell and Malagasy teams on the preparation of various research papers using the data, and related training of colleagues from Madagascar.

Next steps

A series of collaborative and institutional strengthening efforts are planned for the year ahead. Most important, we are still engaged in discussions with the Ministry of Education to provide technical assistance and training directly to the Ministry under a direct contractual arrangement.

From Kenya

- Direct Cornell collaboration with IPAR, Tegemeo, Egerton University and the University of Nairobi on studies related to SAGA themes on empowering the rural poor and on reducing risk and vulnerability in rural Kenya. This has included extended field collaboration between Cornell graduate students and researchers at these institutions and substantive mentoring of SAGA research by these institutions, as well as extensive interaction over research design, methods and interpretation of findings.

From Uganda

- In late 2004, Uganda’s Ministry of Finance, Planning, and Economic Development (MOFPED) published a Poverty Research Guide, indicating areas of research that the Ministry views as critical for Uganda’s Poverty Eradication Action Plan (PEAP). (Incidentally, all of the SAGA-funded research to date falls under priority themes in this Guide.)
Next steps

- The Guide expressed interest in supporting Ugandan researchers who want to work on these topics. Cornell, MOFPED, and EPRC are now discussing possible ways in which SAGA could support such research activities.

- In the coming year, SAGA researchers at Cornell will provide support to researchers at EPRC who are preparing an analysis of the Northern Uganda Survey, a special household survey directed at Uganda’s poorest region, for the Ministry of Finance and the World Bank.

SISERA Research Support

- Even though SISERA will soon cease to exist, its funded research program continues. In July, Steve Younger attended a workshop and review session for SISERA-funded authors in Dakar as they presented their works in progress.

III.1. The Small Grants Program

As of date, the Small Grants Program (http://www.saga.cau.edu) of SAGA has awarded 26 individuals with research grants: seventeen (17) students (8 females) and 9 faculty (2 females). All the recipients of the grant are (were) based in one of the member research institutes of the Secretariat for Institutional Support for Economic Research in Africa (SISERA) during their field research period.

During this past round (3rd), we awarded five (5) individuals (Appendix II). Currently, we have seven (7) awardees in the field (i.e., conducting their field research with the SISERA institutions) and one (1) is preparing to depart.

The SISERA institutions participating in hosting these awardees include:

1. Economic Policy Research Center, Uganda;
2. Institute of Statistical, Social and Economic Research, Ghana;
3. Economic and Social Research Foundation, Tanzania;
4. Centre d’Etudes et de Recherches en Economie et Gestion, Cameroun;
5. Institute of Policy Analysis and Research, Kenya;
6. Centre de Recherche Economique Appliquéé, Senegal;
7. Institute of Economic and Social Research, Zambia;
8. National Institute of Economic Policy, South Africa;
9. Groupe de recherché en economie appliquéé et théorique, Mali;
10. African Institute of Applied Economics, Nigeria;
11. Botswana Institute for Developmental Policy Analysis, Botswana;

Progress/Activities

During this reporting period (October 1, 2004 – September 27, 2005), we are happy to report that we were able to attract a larger and more diverse pool of applicants. This was due to two factors: (1) the program has been publicized by previous recipients and SAGA members, and (2) our direct advertising through:

- Letter/Grant Announcement to Department Chairs and Graduate Coordinators to at least two universities in every state in the country. And, in some cases, to individuals that have been in contact with us in previous years;

- The Jan/February issue of the American Agricultural Economics Association Newsletter, “The Exchange.”

- Distribution of flyers at the Allied Social Sciences Association annual meeting (January 7-9, 2005) Philadelphia, PA by Christopher Barrett.

As a result, we received 30 proposals for funding.

- We screened/approved and reviewed 26 of the proposals using two anonymous reviewers (Appendix IV) and;

- Selected eleven (11) for further in-house review (Appendix III). Five (5) were approved for final support (Appendix II).

Tangible outputs from these collaborative research efforts include:

- Dissemination of research results through exit seminars at the host institutions, and papers/reports and publications.

- Continued collaboration/communication between the U.S.-based principal researcher and both senior and junior researchers at the host institution.
• Creating databases for the host institution.

• Completion of Ph.D. degrees and subsequent publications.

Follow ups/outputs

During this reporting period, awardees published 2 papers; presented papers at 6 conferences; one awardee received his PhD; and eleven (11) awardees provided a Summary-Policy Brief paper (Appendix V). These Policy-Briefs were disseminated to the host institutions.

Next steps (October 1, 2005 – October 1, 2006)

As in the past, in an effort to ensure a successful research experience for the awardees, we remain in contact with those still in the field as well as with those still completing their final reports on their projects. This requires us to not only be a backstop for all awardees who are either in the field or have returned in collaboration with the SISERA host institutions but also to follow up on deliverables and distribution of project outputs.

More specifically we plan to:

• Continue coordinating the field work of the awardees with the host research institutions;

• Process and coordinate the return of all awardees including completing any and all financial matters with the awardees;

• Follow up and assemble all final reports and other papers from all awardees;

• Hope to conduct/complete follow up surveys with the Awardees and their respective host institutions (i.e., using the survey instrument developed in previous years);

• Update the website appropriately;

IV. POLICY OUTREACH

The SAGA team believes that there are many channels through which high quality policy oriented research can flow into policy dialogue and have policy impact. Although we can cite examples of direct input to policy makers and the policy process, we believe that our greatest contribution to policy outreach is an indirect one, fostering a culture of evidence-based policy making in Africa.
IV.1. SAGA Website

We have witnessed a steady growth in web hits to the SAGA website in the past year. In the month of September, 2005, there were 21,164 hits on the website and 4,504 downloads of PDF files. In the period January-September, 2005 the SAGA website registered 225,516 hits. In this same period, there were 41,945 downloads of SAGA publications. This represents a more than four-fold increase in website hits as compared to the same period, January-September 2004, for which the total hits was 50,623. The number of downloads of SAGA publications has more than doubled for the same nine-month period of 2004 (17,146). See Appendix VI for a summary of website statistics.

IV.2. Conferences and Workshops

We are also actively engaged in organizing and hosting policy-oriented conferences and workshops. Examples include:

*From Senegal*

- SAGA, the Ministry of Education and CREA hosted a major regional education conference on November 1 and 2, 2005. This conference brought together various partners with a major focus on education, both on the policy side (policy-makers, international and local organizations,) and the research community (from universities and research centers), to share their mutual experiences and findings regarding the constraint and opportunities to improve educational outcomes in West Africa. Research topics of interest included: household and behavioral constraints to schooling demand; disparity issues (gender, spatial and other socio-economic factors); the role of the private sector; decentralization; public spending efficiency; secondary school transition; drop outs, repetition and schooling attainment; measurement and determinants of cognition outcomes; pedagogical practices and curriculum development; community schools; education-health linkages; and the impact of education on growth.

*From Uganda*

- SAGA sponsored a one day workshop at EPRC to present the results of our research to date to policy makers and academics ([http://www.saga.cornell.edu/saga/eprc0204/ug0204.html](http://www.saga.cornell.edu/saga/eprc0204/ug0204.html)). The presentations—on topics such as tax incidence, gender equity and time use burdens, infant mortality, and children’s health status—were followed by engaged and critical discussion. The workshop concluded with a roundtable discussion on the future of poverty research in Uganda. Approximately 45-50 participants attended, representing the public sector (Ministries of Finance and Health, members of Parliament, Bank of Uganda, Uganda Bureau of Statistics, and the Development Planning Agency); research institutions (EPRC, IFPRI, Makerere Institute of Social Research, private consultancies and NGOs); academia (Makerere University’s Departments of Economics, Agricultural Economics, and Applied Statistics), and donor agencies (USAID, World Bank, the IMF, and the European Union).
From Kenya

- The SAGA Kenya project hosted a national policy conference on “Empowering the Rural Poor and Reducing their Risk and Vulnerability” in February, 2005, in Nairobi. Hosted by IPAR, the event presented research by IPAR, KIPPRA, Tegemeo, the University of Nairobi and Cornell University. Several Members of Parliament and two former Permanent Secretaries were among the approximately 90 attendees, which included representatives from major international donor organizations, international and local NGOs, Kenyan universities and research institutions, as well as members of the SAGA team from Cornell, IPAR, KIPPRA, Tegemeo and the University of Nairobi.

From Madagascar

- SAGA organized a three-day workshop in Antsirabe, Madagascar on education analysis and survey design. Approximately ten officials and analysts from the education ministry (MENRS) and the statistics office (INSTAT) attended the sessions, which took place in January. The purpose of the workshop was (1) to highlight key issues in the education sector in Madagascar, (2) to discuss ways to collect data on them for policy analysis, (3) to foster collaboration between the education and statistical ministries, in particular through the design of the Progression through School and Academic Performance in Madagascar Study.

IV.3. Direct Engagement of Policy Makers

A third pillar of our outreach efforts to affect policy is a variety of more targeted efforts at engaging in policy-makers directly dialogue. Examples include:

- We conducted eight policy seminars at USAID last year as part of our effort to engage and have our research informed by interactions with technical specialists and policy-makers in Washington.

From South Africa

- The conferences held in Ghana and South Africa involved policy makers: Imraan Rasool, Premier of Western Cape, and Alan Hirsch of the President’s Office at the “Micro-Macro Linkages” conference, Cape Town, October 2004; Deputy Finance Minister, Chief Economist for Africa of the World Bank, and Head of USAID-Ghana at the “Shared Growth in Africa” conference, Accra, July 2005.

From Madagascar

- We have been actively working with the Ministry of Education and INSTAT on addressing pressing policy questions such as the impact of user fees on educational outcomes and the determinants of cognitive achievement. As part of this effort a policy
seminar hosted and run by the Director of Planning and Research reported on the results of our joint research collaboration. SAGA and the Ministry of Education (MENRS) made a presentation to policymakers, researchers, and the press on the findings of the Progression through School and Academic Performance in Madagascar Study. (http://www.saga.cornell.edu/images/wp166.pdf). The presentation took place in Antananarivo on March 30, 2005.

- The DGs of FOFIFA and INSTAT as well as donor representatives from USAID, World Bank, French Cooperation, UNDP, UNICEF, and others attended a policy conference hosted by FOFIFA for the end of the USAID BASIS CRSP project. Not a SAGA event per se, much of the work was co-sponsored by SAGA and segues into SAGA work. We are working with the USAID Mission in Madagascar who has been helpful and expressed interest.

**From Senegal**

- A high level policy conference was jointly hosted by the Ministry of Education, our partner institution CREA and Cornell University. It was attended by the Minister of Education, the Vice Rector of the University of Dakar, the Director of Planning and Research of the Ministry of Education, and other high level officials and scholars.

**From Kenya**

- The policy conference on “Empowering the Rural Poor and Reducing their Risk and Vulnerability” held in February 2005 in Nairobi was opened by the Hon. Peter Kaindi, Assistant Minister of Agriculture and Member of Parliament. Five other Members of Parliament were in attendance for most or all of the event, including the Hon. Franklin Bett, Chair of the Parliamentary Committee on Agriculture. Two former Permanent Secretaries, Prof. Harris Mule (Finance) and Prof. Shem Migot-Adholia (Agriculture) were also among the approximately 90 attendees. Correspondence has continued with these policymakers.

**Next Steps**

Over the next year, we anticipate continuing our efforts in terms of outreach, although in a rather limited fashion owing to the severe budget constraints.

**V. MONITORING AND EVALUATION**

Our monitoring and evaluation efforts focus on a set of yearly quantitative indicators, such as publications, workshops and, and small grants issued. In addition, we developed with USAID/Washington a series of instruments and conducted a survey of users and clients, distinguishing among four groups: USAID Missions, African research collaborators, stakeholders, and recipients of grant awards ever second year. This was the off-year, so such
surveys were not conducted. However, we did conduct surveys of those participating in SAGA sponsored workshops and conferences. Some highlights include:

- The results of surveys of participants of three workshops are included for 2005 (See Appendix VII, VIII, and IX): “Shared Growth in Africa” held in Accra, Ghana July 21-22, 2005; “Empowering the Rural Poor and Reducing Their Risk and Vulnerability” held in Nairobi, Kenya, February 10, 2005; and “Poverty in Uganda: Trends, Dimensions and Policy” held in Kampala, Uganda, February 4, 2005. Among all the participants who responded to the questions on a 1 to 5 scale about the organization, content and impact of the SAGA workshops, (where 5 is strongly agree, 4 is agree, 3 is neither agree nor disagree, etc.), averaging the results from the three conferences, 34% report 5s; 44%, 4s; 11%, 3s; 5%, 2s; and 2%, 1s. An additional 3% of the answers were either not known or considered not applicable by the respondents.

- Publications for this reporting period are shown in Appendix X. Since December, 2004, there have been 39 new and revised papers posted to the SAGA website. Of these, 22 have accepted for publication in journals and as chapters in books. For this reporting period, 39 conference papers have also been added to the website. Additionally available on the SAGA site is the volume of papers, *Qualitative and Quantitative Methods of Poverty Analysis*, proceedings from the SAGA Workshop held in Kenya in 2004. Appendix XI lists the 30 SAGA papers which have been accepted for publication in refereed journals and edited volumes.

- SAGA researchers made 12 visits to collaborate with African colleagues during this reporting period. Trips were made to the following countries: Senegal, 2; Ghana, 1; Kenya, 2; South Africa, 1; Madagascar, 2; and Uganda, 4. African colleagues have, in turn, visited SAGA researchers at Cornell on 10 occasions in 2005, including 3 from South Africa, 6 from Madagascar, and 1 from Kenya.

- As noted above in Section IV.1 above, the SAGA website has continued to be developed both in terms of papers published and conferences highlighted. The impact of the website is measured by the number of hits received and by an increasingly large number of visitors. In the period January-September, 2005 the SAGA website registered 225,516 hits, and a more than four-fold increase compared to the same period, January-September 2004. The total number of downloads of working and conference papers posted was 41,945 for the period January-September 2005. See Appendix VI for a summary of website statistics.

- Major conferences, as detailed in Section IV.2, totaled 4 for this reporting period – in Kenya, Uganda, Senegal and Ghana, as well as a 3-day workshop in Madagascar. Appendix XXII provides information on these conferences, as well as 6 presentations made by SAGA researchers during this reporting period.
Next Steps

During the next year we will continue our quantitative monitoring of output and activities, including:

1. Number of publications
2. Number of visits by SAGA researchers and small grants coordinator to collaborate with African colleagues and vice versa
3. Number of hits on SAGA websites
4. Number of workshops/conferences and presentations by SAGA

VI. LEVERAGE

Apart from the time and travel of its PIs, SAGA’s budget is relatively limited. It would not have been possible to achieve what we have to date, nor will it be possible to complete all that we have planned, without complementary funding from non-SAGA sources. Fortunately, we have been quite successful at leveraging SAGA funding with support from other institutions. The flexibility inherent in our cooperative agreement with USAID enables us to both create and respond to opportunities in a timely fashion, which is consistent with the demand-driven nature of our approach to defining research topics, providing technical assistance, and engaging in policy outreach. While we have mentioned many of these throughout the report, we highlight them again here:

- We have worked with our SISERA partner in Senegal, CREA, to receive around funding from various sources to support the education conference in Senegal.
- The Ministry of Education in Madagascar has already contributed $200,000 to INSTAT for the conduct of the survey and related data analysis, and we are finalizing negotiations for another $75,000 in the year ahead.
- The World Bank has continued to co-finance our work on health facilities in Madagascar in a collaborative effort with INSTAT, including covering the costs of visits to Cornell from INSTAT staff, and their collaborative efforts on our joint research.
- EPRC has received a $50,000 contract from the World Bank to analyze the Northern Uganda Survey, a special household survey of Uganda’s poorest region. Cornell researchers will provide technical support for this research.
- The second phase of Q-Squared was supported primarily by CIDA and DFID, and third phase of the Q-Squared is being supported primarily by IDRC and TH Lee Funds.
VII. USAID MISSIONS

The content of our collaborative research and training activities, as mentioned previously, are demand-driven, based on consultation with a wide range of stakeholders, inside and outside of government. Responding to the research interests of the USAID Missions is of great priority.

Specific examples of how our research supports Mission activities include:

- In Madagascar, the Mission has financed our work on analyzing the most recent DHS survey.

- In Senegal, we continue to work with the Mission in terms of being responsive to information needs for these important strategic objectives.

- On June 6, Sarah Ssewanyana, John Okidi, Ibrahim Kasirye, and Stephen Younger did a morning workshop at the USAID mission in Kampala highlighting the key results of SAGA research in Uganda. Also, on June 3, we held a meeting at USAID to discuss how EPRC and Cornell might support analysis of the Sero survey, a DHS-like survey carried out by Macro International that collected blood samples to identify HIV status. That analysis will take place hopefully in 2006, when Macro releases the data.

- With a team of Senegalese researchers, we will also pursue the study on community schools entitled: “Les écoles communautaires de base au Sénégal: Contribution à la scolarisation universelle, l’éradication de la pauvreté, et la mise en place d’un programme national pour le développement durable.” The data collection process will start in November 2005 targeting June 2006 for the production of the report. After the production of the final report, arrangements will be then made to prepare manuscripts for a book and articles for refereed journals.
APPENDIX

TO

SAGA REPORT 2005
APPENDIX I
Special issue for World Development (forthcoming 2006)

Q-Squared in Practice: Experiences of Combining Qualitative and Quantitative Approaches in Poverty Analysis

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Parker, B. and Kozel, V. “Understanding Poverty and Vulnerability in India’s Uttar Pradesh and Bihar: A Q-Squared Approach.”

Place, F., et. al. “Understanding Rural Poverty and Investment in Agriculture: An Assessment of Integrated Quantitative and Qualitative Research in Western Kenya”


## APPENDIX II

### Table 1: Strategies and Analysis for Growth and Access (SAGA)

**Final Awardees**

[2005 – 2006]

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<td>Improving the Performance of Integrated Conservation and Development Programs - Evidence from Botswana</td>
<td>BIDPA</td>
<td>Univ. of CA, Davis</td>
<td>$12,600.00</td>
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<td>Kazianga, Harounan(Post Doc)</td>
<td>Asset Accumulation in rural Burkina Faso: Risk Sharing Networks and Shocks</td>
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<td>Local Government Financing and Provision in an Institutionally Constrained Decentralized System: The Case of Agricultural Extension in Uganda</td>
<td>EPRC</td>
<td>Georgia State University</td>
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<td>Cichello, Paul(FM)</td>
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<td>Loyola College</td>
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<td>IPAR</td>
<td>University of Georgia</td>
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<td>Yiheyis, Zelealem(FM)</td>
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## APPENDIX IV

### Table 3: Strategies and Analysis for Growth and Access (SAGA)

Proposals submitted under the Competitive Research Grants Program

[2005 – 2006]

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<td>Students' Perspectives on Gender, Culture, Identity and Education: An Ethnographic Study of the Discontinuity of Secondary Schooling in Senegal West Africa</td>
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<td>Shobo, Yetty</td>
<td>Social Change, The Aids epidemic, and Nigerian Adolescents' Worldviews: Implications for African Families</td>
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<td>Clark Atlanta University</td>
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## APPENDIX V

### Table 4: Follow ups/Outputs

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<th>SEMINAR/PRESENTATION</th>
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<td>Forrest Policy and Administration in Zambia: Economic Instruments for Welfare and Revenue Recovery</td>
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**NOTE:** Y = YES; X = Completed Ph.D.
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### APPENDIX VI: SAGA WEBSITE STATISTICS

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## APPENDIX VI: SAGA WEBSITE STATISTICS

### 2005

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## APPENDIX VII

Institute of Statistical, Social and Economic Research (ISSER)  
Cornell University, World Bank, Department for International Development (DFID), United States Agency for International Development (USAID)  
**SHARED GROWTH IN AFRICA**  
Accra, Ghana  
July 21-22, 2005

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<tr>
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### APPENDIX VII continued

Institute of Statistical, Social and Economic Research (ISSER)  
Cornell University, World Bank, Department for International Development (DFID), United States Agency for International Development (USAID)  
**SHARED GROWTH IN AFRICA**  
Accra, Ghana  
July 21-22, 2005

5. This conference will help inform policy making and promote evidence-based policy making.

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<tr>
<th></th>
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<th>Other social scientist</th>
<th>Doctor/nurse</th>
<th>Journalist</th>
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<table>
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<th>Consultancy</th>
<th>Private firm</th>
<th>NGO</th>
<th>Donor/development partner</th>
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<td>7</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>11</td>
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<table>
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<th>3. My work consists mainly of:</th>
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## APPENDIX VIII

**Empowering the Rural Poor and Reducing Their Risk and Vulnerability**  
Nairobi, Kenya  
10-Feb-05

### Organization

1. The workshop offered an appropriate mixture of theory and practical applications.  
   ([Total responses by category])
   - Strongly Agree: 9  
   - Agree: 24  
   - Neither Agree Nor Disagree: 5  
   - Disagree: 4  
   - Strongly Disagree: 0  
   - Total: 43
   
   **Relative Distribution**
   - 0.21  
   - 0.56  
   - 0.12  
   - 0.09  
   - 0.00  
   - 0.02  

2. The workshop schedule allowed for sufficient time for questions and discussion.  
   ([Total responses by category])
   - Strongly Agree: 10  
   - Agree: 12  
   - Neither Agree Nor Disagree: 11  
   - Disagree: 8  
   - Strongly Disagree: 2  
   - Total: 43
   
   **Relative Distribution**
   - 0.23  
   - 0.28  
   - 0.26  
   - 0.19  
   - 0.05  
   - 0.00

### Content

1. The workshop generally addressed its topic in a comprehensive manner.
   - Strongly Agree: 13  
   - Agree: 22  
   - Neither Agree Nor Disagree: 3  
   - Disagree: 5  
   - Strongly Disagree: 0  
   - Total: 43
   
   **Relative Distribution**
   - 0.30  
   - 0.51  
   - 0.07  
   - 0.12  
   - 0.00  
   - 0.00

2. The speakers for the workshop were knowledgeable and clear in their presentations.
   - Strongly Agree: 19  
   - Agree: 18  
   - Neither Agree Nor Disagree: 1  
   - Disagree: 4  
   - Strongly Disagree: 0  
   - Total: 43
   
   **Relative Distribution**
   - 0.44  
   - 0.42  
   - 0.02  
   - 0.09  
   - 0.00  
   - 0.02

3. The instructors were adept at teaching hands-on applications of the material, and relating it to theory.
   - Strongly Agree: 4  
   - Agree: 10  
   - Neither Agree Nor Disagree: 13  
   - Disagree: 3  
   - Strongly Disagree: 0  
   - Total: 43
   
   **Relative Distribution**
   - 0.10  
   - 0.24  
   - 0.32  
   - 0.07  
   - 0.00  
   - 0.27

4. I found the content of the workshop to be interesting and relevant to my own work.
   - Strongly Agree: 2  
   - Agree: 10  
   - Neither Agree Nor Disagree: 13  
   - Disagree: 7  
   - Strongly Disagree: 0  
   - Total: 43
   
   **Relative Distribution**
   - 0.05  
   - 0.24  
   - 0.31  
   - 0.17  
   - 0.00  
   - 0.24

5. I felt that the workshop allowed enough time for hands-on applications.
   - Strongly Agree: 22  
   - Agree: 15  
   - Neither Agree Nor Disagree: 1  
   - Disagree: 3  
   - Strongly Disagree: 0  
   - Total: 43
   
   **Relative Distribution**
   - 0.51  
   - 0.35  
   - 0.02  
   - 0.07  
   - 0.00  
   - 0.10

6. The discussions of the topic generated questions for further study.
   - Strongly Agree: 23  
   - Agree: 14  
   - Neither Agree Nor Disagree: 1  
   - Disagree: 2  
   - Strongly Disagree: 1  
   - Total: 43
   
   **Relative Distribution**
   - 0.53  
   - 0.37  
   - 0.02  
   - 0.05  
   - 0.05  
   - 0.10

5. I would like to attend another workshop on this topic to learn more.
   - Strongly Agree: 21  
   - Agree: 15  
   - Neither Agree Nor Disagree: 2  
   - Disagree: 2  
   - Strongly Disagree: 1  
   - Total: 43
   
   **Relative Distribution**
   - 0.49  
   - 0.35  
   - 0.05  
   - 0.05  
   - 0.02  
   - 1.00

### Impact

1. Attending this workshop has enhanced my understanding of the research topics and issues covered.
   - Strongly Agree: 22  
   - Agree: 13  
   - Neither Agree Nor Disagree: 5  
   - Disagree: 1  
   - Strongly Disagree: 1  
   - Total: 43
   
   **Relative Distribution**
   - 0.51  
   - 0.30  
   - 0.12  
   - 0.02  
   - 0.02  
   - 1.00

2. Participation in this workshop will directly affect my own research strategies.
   - Strongly Agree: 18  
   - Agree: 11  
   - Neither Agree Nor Disagree: 8  
   - Disagree: 2  
   - Strongly Disagree: 0  
   - Total: 43
   
   **Relative Distribution**
   - 0.42  
   - 0.26  
   - 0.19  
   - 0.05  
   - 0.00  
   - 0.09

3. What I learned from this workshop will aid me in my work.
   - Strongly Agree: 10  
   - Agree: 14  
   - Neither Agree Nor Disagree: 8  
   - Disagree: 2  
   - Strongly Disagree: 1  
   - Total: 43
   
   **Relative Distribution**
   - 0.23  
   - 0.33  
   - 0.19  
   - 0.05  
   - 0.05  
   - 0.19

4. I made important contacts and/or met other possible collaborators at this workshop.
   - Strongly Agree: 16  
   - Agree: 18  
   - Neither Agree Nor Disagree: 8  
   - Disagree: 0  
   - Strongly Disagree: 1  
   - Total: 43
   
   **Relative Distribution**
   - 0.37  
   - 0.42  
   - 0.19  
   - 0.00  
   - 0.02  
   - 0.00

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52
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<th>Empowering the Rural Poor and Reducing Their Risk and Vulnerability Nairobi, Kenya 10-Feb-05</th>
<th>Strongly Agree</th>
<th>Agree</th>
<th>Neither Agree nor Disagree</th>
<th>Disagree</th>
<th>Strongly Disagree</th>
<th>Not Applicable/Do Not Know</th>
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### APPENDIX IX

**Economic Policy Research Centre**  
**Poverty in Uganda: Trends, Dimensions, and Policy**  
February 4, 2005  
Kampala, Uganda

#### Organization

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<th>1. The workshop offered an appropriate mixture of theory and practical applications. (Total responses by category)</th>
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<th>Agree</th>
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#### Content

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<th>Neither Agree Nor Disagree</th>
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<th>Agree</th>
<th>Neither Agree Nor Disagree</th>
<th>Disagree</th>
<th>Strongly Disagree</th>
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<th>3. I found the content of the workshop to be interesting and relevant to my own work.</th>
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<th>Agree</th>
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<th>Disagree</th>
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<th>5. I would like to attend another workshop on this topic to learn more.</th>
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<th>Agree</th>
<th>Neither Agree Nor Disagree</th>
<th>Disagree</th>
<th>Strongly Disagree</th>
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#### Impact

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<tr>
<th>1. Attending this workshop has enhanced my understanding of the research topics and issues covered.</th>
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<th>Agree</th>
<th>Neither Agree Nor Disagree</th>
<th>Disagree</th>
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<th>2. Participation in this workshop will directly affect my own research strategies.</th>
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#### Total Responses

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Percentage of Total Responses (312): 32.05 48.40 8.33 5.77 5.13 0.32 100.00
## About the Survey Participants

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<th>Other social scientist</th>
<th>Doctor/nurse</th>
<th>Journalist</th>
<th>Adminis-trator</th>
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<th>NGO</th>
<th>Donor/development partner</th>
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Published and Working Papers:

1. **Rice Price Stabilization in Madagascar: Price and Welfare Implications of Variable Tariffs**
   November 2005
   **Dorosh, Paul and Bart Minten**
   Given the large share of major staples in the budgets of the poor, governments in many developing countries intervene in food markets to limit variation in the prices of staple foods. This paper examines the recent experience of Madagascar in stabilizing prices through international trade and the implications of adjustments in tariff rates. Using a partial equilibrium model, we quantify the overall costs and benefits of a change in import duties for various household groups, and compare this intervention to a policy of targeted food transfers or security stocks.

2. **Cognitive Skills among Children in Senegal: Disentangling the Roles of Schooling and Family Background**
   October 2005
   **Glick, Peter and David E. Sahn**
   We use unique data to estimate the determinants of cognitive ability among 14 to 17 year olds in Senegal. Unlike standard school-based samples, tests were administered to current students as well as to children no longer—or never—enrolled. Years of schooling strongly affects cognitive skills, but conditional on years of school, parental education and household wealth, as well as local public school quality, have only modest effects on test performance. Instead, family background primarily affects skills indirectly through the duration of schooling. Therefore closing the schooling gaps between poor and wealthy children will also close most of the gap in cognitive skills between these groups.

3. **Changes in HIV/AIDS Knowledge and Testing Behavior in Africa: How Much and for Whom?**
   October 2005
   **Glick, Peter and David E. Sahn**
   Demographic and Health Survey data from six African countries indicate that HIV prevention knowledge is improving and that more Africans are getting tested. Still, in many cases fewer than half of adult respondents can identify specific prevention behaviors; knowledge appears particularly inadequate in countries not yet fully gripped by the epidemic. Schooling and wealth impacts on prevention knowledge generally have either not changed or have increased, meaning that initial disparities in knowledge by education and wealth levels have persisted or widened. HIV messages therefore need to be made more accessible to and/or better understood by the poor and less educated.
4. **Measuring Recent Changes in South African Inequality and Poverty Using 1996 and 2001 Census Data**

October 2005

Leibbrandt, Murray, Laura Poswell, Pranushka Naidoo, Matthew Welch and Ingrid Woolard

The paper analyses poverty and inequality changes in South Africa for the period 1996 to 2001 using Census data. To gain a broader picture of wellbeing in South Africa, both income-based and access-based measurement approaches are employed. At the national level, findings from the income-based approach show that inequality has unambiguously increased from 1996 to 2001. As regards population group inequality, within-group inequality has increased; while between-group inequality has decreased (inequality has also increased in each province and across the rural/urban divide). The poverty analysis reveals that poverty has worsened in the nation, particularly for Africans. Provincialy, the Eastern Cape and Limpopo have the highest poverty rates while the Western Cape and Gauteng have the lowest poverty rates. Poverty differs across the urban-rural divide with rural areas being relatively worse off than urban areas. However, due to the large extent of rural-urban migration, the proportion of the poor in rural areas is declining. The access-based approach focuses on type of dwelling, access to water, energy for lighting, energy for cooking, sanitation and refuse removal. The data reveal significant improvements in these access measures between 1996 and 2001. The proportion of households occupying traditional dwellings has decreased while the proportion of households occupying formal dwellings has risen slightly (approximately two-thirds of households occupy formal dwellings). Access to basic services has improved, especially with regard to access to electricity for lighting and access to telephones. On a provincial level, Limpopo and the Eastern Cape display the poorest performance in terms of access to basic services. The paper concludes by contrasting the measured changes in well being that emerge from the income and access approaches. While income measures show worsening well being via increases in income poverty and inequality, access measures show that well being in South Africa has improved in a number of important dimensions. *Forthcoming in Poverty and Policy in Post Apartheid South Africa*, edited by Haroon Bhorat and Ravi Kanbur. Cape Town, South Africa: HSRC Press, 2006.

5. **Does City Structure Cause Unemployment? The Case Study of Cape Town**

October 2005

Rospabe, Sandrine and Harris Selod

Several theoretical and empirical findings suggest that the spatial organization of cities can be a source of unemployment among unskilled workers and ethnic minorities, stressing either the role of residential segregation or that of the physical disconnection between work and residence. The present paper investigates this issue in South Africa by focusing on the example of Cape Town, a sprawling and highly segregated city. Using the dataset of the 1998 study on the Migration and Settlement in the Cape Metropolitan Area complemented by local population statistics extracted from the 1996 Census and local employment statistics extracted from the City of Cape Town’s 2000 RSC Levy database, we regress the unemployment probability of a selection of workers in 24 different areas of the city on their individual and household attributes as well as on the characteristics of their locations. Results obtained so far suggest that (i) distance to jobs,
(ii) rural origin (especially for women) and (iii) the length of time spent in their present
dwelling reduce the employment probability of workers.

Forthcoming in Poverty and Policy in Post Apartheid South Africa, edited by Haroon

6. **Half Measures: The ANC’s Unemployment and Poverty Reduction Targets**
   October 2005
   Meth, Charles
   This paper looks behind the [ANC’s 2004 election] manifesto at policy and other
documents in an attempt to discover what the ANC in government understands by these
commitments. Finding little evidence of a coherent view there, the paper delves into
unemployment and poverty statistics in South Africa in an attempt to see whether or not
greater precision than that displayed so far in specifying each of these targets, is possible.
In each case, the search for precision opens a window overlooking an impressively wide
plain of ignorance. In view of this, the paper ends with some recommendations about
what to do about the two commitments.

Forthcoming in Poverty and Policy in Post Apartheid South Africa, edited by Haroon

7. **Internal Labour Migration and Household Poverty in Post-Apartheid South
   Africa**
   October 2005
   Posel, Dorrit and Daniela Casale
   The first objective of this chapter is to briefly describe and discuss trends in labour
migration over the period 1993 to 2002 using these household survey data. We show that
a growing number of rural African households report labour migrants as (non-resident)
household members and we discuss possible reasons why individuals may continue to
migrate temporarily to places of employment. Our second objective is to explore the
economic status of those who remain behind in the household of origin. We find that total
household income on average is significantly and consistently lower in migrant, than in
non-migrant, households. Remittance transfers are a more important source of income
than the earnings of employed resident members in migrant households. Since 1993,
however, both the receipt and the average real value of remittance income have fallen.
We conclude our study with a discussion of factors that may account for this trend and
the possible development implications of migration for rural African households.

Forthcoming in Poverty and Policy in Post Apartheid South Africa, edited by Haroon

8. **Crime and Local Inequality in South Africa**
   October 2005
   Demombynes, Gabriel and Berk Özler
   We examine the effects of local inequality on property and violent crime in South Africa.
The findings are consistent with economic theories relating local inequality to property
crime and also with sociological theories that imply that inequality leads to crime in
general. Burglary rates are 25-43% higher in police precincts that are the wealthiest
among their neighbors, suggesting that criminals travel to neighborhoods where the expected returns from burglary are highest. Finally, while we find little evidence that inequality between racial groups fosters interpersonal conflict at the local level, racial heterogeneity itself is highly correlated with crime.


9. Public Spending and the Poor Since the Transition to Democracy
   October 2005
   van der Berg, Servaas

Fiscal expenditure analysis, or benefit incidence analysis, as it is often referred to, deals with the distribution of the statutory incidence of public expenditure, usually by income group, although some studies incorporate geographic or even gender dimensions. (Demery n.d.) This is the topic dealt with in this chapter, although the South African situation requires that incidence analysis along racial grounds should also be considered. The chapter addresses a number of interrelated questions, relating to targeting of, and shifts in, public social spending, but also to the capacity to transform social spending into social outcomes.


10. Not Separate, Not Equal: Poverty and Inequality in Post-Apartheid South Africa
    October 2005
    Hoogeveen, Johannes G. and Berk Özler

As South Africa conducts a review of the first ten years of its new democracy, the question remains as to whether the economic inequalities of the apartheid era are beginning to fade. Using new, comparable consumption aggregates for 1995 and 2000, this paper finds that real per capita household expenditures declined for those at the bottom end of the expenditure distribution during this period of low GDP growth. As a result, poverty, especially extreme poverty, increased. Inequality also increased, mainly due to a jump in inequality among the African population. Even among subgroups of the population that experienced healthy consumption growth, such as the Coloureds, the rate of poverty reduction was low because the distributional shifts were not pro-poor.


    October 2005
    May, Julian

Although their use has become widespread, approaches to poverty measurement such as the FGT class of measures discussed by Woolard and Leibbrandt et al (2000:60-67) for South Africa are necessarily static in nature. Such measurement regards poverty as a
deficiency, measured in terms of the proportion of the population who are categorised as poor, or perhaps more usefully, in terms of the distance that separates those that are poor from the least well-off of the non-poor: the individual or household whose income is exactly equal to the poverty line. From the perspective of policy, poverty becomes a circumstance to be resolved by appropriately targeted transfers rather than the outcome of social and economic structures: a poverty that is ‘produced’ or in the language of some analysts, a poverty that is ‘perpetrated’ (Øyen, 2002). Beyond the identification of possible target groups and some of the ways in which poverty is experienced, those factors which lead to the production, reproduction and persistence of poverty are concealed. As a result, little can be offered in the way of concrete issues for strategy in a country such as South Africa where the legacy of past policies continues to burden efforts to reduce poverty. While a comparatively new literature on poverty transitions offers some solutions to this shortcoming through its focus on chronic versus transitory poverty, such analysis still does not identify those who are structurally mobile from those who may be in poverty trap. However, merging elements of Sen’s entitlement approach with the economic theory of the household in imperfect market environments, Carter and May (2001) present non-parametric estimates of the mapping between household assets and poverty. This paper builds on their analysis of to identify an alternative categorisation of poverty using panel data collected in 1993 and again in 1998 in KwaZulu-Natal. The paper goes further to describe the shocks that result in persistent poverty and the characteristics of those in different dynamic poverty categories in terms of the assets that might eventually lead to their mobility. This draws out some important themes for poverty reduction including redistributive strategies and microeconomic reform.


12. Trade Liberalisation and Labour Demand in South Africa during the 1990s
October 2005
Edwards, Lawrence

The 1990s heralded a period of increased globalization of the South African economy. The new democratically elected government in 1994 initiated a range of new policy reforms that were designed to encourage economic growth as well as uplift the standard of living of the previously disenfranchised majority. These reforms included significant tariff reductions in accordance with the government’s 1995 Offer to the WTO. A new macroeconomic policy (GEAR) was also implemented with the aim of transforming South Africa into a “competitive, outward orientated economy” (GEAR, 1996).


October 2005
Bhorat, Haroon and Oosthuizen, Morné

Much work has been done in South Africa on the relationship between the labour market and household poverty, as well as more generally the association of differentially sourced incomes to household poverty and inequality. The notion is that it is access to incomes, or
lack thereof, which lies at the heart of characterising inequality and poverty in the society. Clearly though, a critical intermediary to income access remains the fluctuations in the real values of these incomes, despite controlling for access to income. This line of enquiry – namely the role of relative final price movements in affecting households across the income distribution – is a new one for the post-apartheid period, with its local intellectual origins lying in Kahn (1985). At one level the study aims to identify and quantify the impact of relative price movements on household poverty levels, with a key aim being to identify those products that are critical to indigent households’ vulnerability. At a more generic level, the paper is implicitly a representation of how the macroeconomic environment is able to, and indeed does, impact on household welfare. Ultimately, the paper hopes to deliver a detailed analysis not only of the construction of an appropriate consumer price index for South Africa, but also, through the use of income and expenditure survey data, the impact of reported price movements on inflation for households at different points in the national income distribution. Specifically, this study’s two main objectives are, firstly, to derive inflation rates for urban households grouped according to expenditure deciles and, secondly, to identify some of the key product categories responsible for the largest shares of inflation of the poorest 40% of urban households.


14. From Chimera to Prospect: Toward an Understanding of the South African Growth Absence
October 2005
Fedderke, Johannes
In this paper we consider the implications of evidence that has emerged over the past six years that carries insight into the growth and employment creation performance of the South African economy. The emphasis is explicitly on why limitation in the growth performance of the South African economy may have emerged.

15. Decentralization and Access to Agricultural Extension Services in Kenya
October 2005
Nambiro, Elizabeth, John Omiti, and Lawrence Mugunieri
The form and content of decentralization has dominated development discourse and public sector reform agenda in Kenya in the last two decades. The case of agricultural extension service presents decentralization in a difficult context partly due to lack of information on its possible diverse impacts especially on resource poor farmers. This paper explores the effect of decentralization of agricultural extension on access, accountability and empowerment, and efficiency of delivering services to farmers. Secondary data, participatory research methods and primary data from a random sample of 250 farmers were used. Data was analyzed using descriptive statistics, multivariate analysis and logistic regression. The results show that there is improved access to extension services with increasing level of decentralization. Farmers from areas with
higher decentralized extension also showed enhanced level of awareness of different channels for delivery of extension services. This improved knowledge, being an important component of empowerment of the farming community, resulted from the increase of service providers, who displayed synergy in their multiple methods of operation. Public delivery channels were the most affordable and were also ranked first for quality. Income, literacy levels, distance from towns and access to telephone significantly influenced access to extension services. Gender of the household-head was a key determinant for seeking out extension services in areas with high concentration of agricultural activities. For a pluralistic system to work, there is need to for better coordination between the various groups. Although there is evidence of partnership and synergy between service providers, there appeared to be little effective co-ordination of the groups involved. The government, and other stakeholders should work towards developing a strong institutional framework that will guide and enhance this mutually beneficial partnership.

16. **Supermarkets, International Trade and Farmers in Developing Countries: Evidence from Madagascar**  
September 2005  
*Minten, Bart, Lalaina Randrianarison, and Johan F. M. Swinnen*  
Global retail companies (“supermarkets”) have an increasing influence on developing countries, through foreign investments and/or through the imposition of their private standards. The impact on developing countries and poverty is often assessed as negative. In this paper we show the opposite, based on an analysis of primary data collected to measure the impact of supermarkets on small contract farmers in Madagascar, one of the poorest countries in the world. Almost 10,000 farmers in the Highlands of Madagascar produce vegetables for supermarkets in Europe. In this global supply chain, small farmers’ micro-contracts are combined with extensive farm assistance and supervision programs to fulfill complex quality requirements and phyto-sanitary standards of supermarkets. Small farmers that participate in these contracts have higher welfare, more income stability and shorter lean periods. We also find significant effects on improved technology adoption, better resource management and spillovers on the productivity of the staple crop rice. The small but emerging modern retail sector in Madagascar does not (yet) deliver these benefits as they do not (yet) request the same high standards for their supplies.

17. **Improvements in Children’s Health: Does Inequality Matter?**  
August 2005  
*Sahn, David E. and Stephen D. Younger*  
The literature on the contributions to poverty reduction of average improvements in living standards vs. distributional changes uses only one measure of well-being – income or expenditure. Given that poverty is defined by deprivation over different dimensions, we explore the role of average improvements and distributional changes in children’s health and nutrition using the height of young children as our measure of well-being. Similar to the income literature, we find that shifts in the mean level of heights, not changes in distribution, account for most improvements in heights. Unlike the literature
on income inequality, however, there is a positive association between improvements in average heights and reduced dispersion of those heights. 


18. Children’s Health Status in Uganda
July 2005
Bahiigwa, Godfrey and Stephen D. Younger
This paper studies trends and determinants of children's standardized heights, a good overall measure of children's health status, in Uganda over the 1990s. During this period, Uganda made impressive strides in economic growth and poverty reduction (Appleton, 2001). However, there is concern that improvements in other dimensions of well-being, especially health, has been much weaker.
We find that several policy variables are important determinants of children's heights. Most importantly, a broad package of basic health care services has a large statistically significant effect. Provision of some of these services, especially vaccinations, appears to have faltered in the late 1990s, which may help to explain the lackluster performance on stunting during that period. We also find that civil conflict, a persistent problem in some areas of the country, has an important (negative) impact on children's heights. Better educated mothers have taller children, but the only substantial impact is for children of mothers who have completed secondary school. Finally, we find that households that rely more on own-production sources of income tend to have more malnourished children, even after controlling for their overall level of income and a host of other factors. This latter conclusion is supportive of the Plan for Modernization of Agriculture, which aims to shift farmers from subsistence to commercial agriculture or other more productive activities.

19. Export Processing Zone Expansion in Madagascar: What are the Labor Market and Gender Impacts?
July 2005
Glick, Peter and François Roubaud
This paper analyzes part of the controversy over export processing zones—the labor market and gender impacts—using unique time-series labor force survey data from an African setting: urban Madagascar, in which EPZs (the Zone Franche) grew very rapidly during the 1990s. Employment in the EPZs exhibits some basic patterns seen elsewhere in export processing industries of the developing world, such as the predominance of young, semi-skilled female workers. Taking advantage of microdata availability, we estimate earnings regressions to assess sector and gender wage premia. Zone Franche employment is found to represents a significant step up in pay for women who would otherwise be found in poorly remunerated informal sector work. EPZs may have significant impacts on poverty because they provide relatively high wage opportunities for those with relatively low levels of schooling. Further, by disproportionately drawing women from the low wage sector informal sector (where the gender pay gap is very large) to the relatively well paid export processing jobs (where pay is not only higher but also similar for men and women with similar qualifications), EPZs have the potential to contribute to improved overall gender equity in earnings in the urban economy. Along many non-wage dimensions, jobs in the export processing zone are comparable to or even
superior to other parts of the formal sector. However, the sector is also marked by very long working hours and high turnover, which may work to prevent it from being a source of long-term employment and economic advancement for women.


20. **Risk and Asset Management in the Presence of Poverty Traps: Implications for Growth and Social Protection**
June 2005
Barrett, Christopher B. and Michael R. Carter

21. **Robust Multidimensional Spatial Poverty Comparisons in Ghana, Madagascar, and Uganda**
May 2005
Duclos, Jean-Yves, David E. Sahn, and Stephen D. Younger

We investigate spatial poverty comparisons in three African countries using multidimensional indicators of well-being. The work is analogous to the univariate stochastic dominance literature in that we seek poverty orderings that are robust to the choice of multidimensional poverty lines and indices. In addition, we wish to ensure that our comparisons are robust to aggregation procedures for multiple welfare variables. In contrast to earlier work, our methodology applies equally well to what can be defined as "union", "intersection," or "intermediate" approaches to dealing with multidimensional indicators of well-being. Further, unlike much of the stochastic dominance literature, we compute the sampling distributions of our poverty estimators in order to perform statistical tests of the difference in poverty measures. We apply our methods to two measures of well-being, the log of household expenditures per capita and children’s height-for-age z-scores, using data from the 1988 Ghana Living Standards Survey, the 1993 *Enquête Permanente auprès des Ménages in Madagascar*, and the 1999 National Household Survey in Uganda. Bivariate poverty comparisons are at odds with univariate comparisons in several interesting ways. Most importantly, we cannot always conclude that poverty is lower in urban areas from one region compared to rural areas in another, even though univariate comparisons based on household expenditures per capita almost always lead to that conclusion.

*Forthcoming in World Bank Economic Review*

22. **Poverty Traps and Safety Nets**
April 2005
Barrett, Christopher B. and John G. McPeak

This paper uses data from northern Kenya to argue that the concept of poverty traps needs to be taken seriously, and that if poverty traps indeed exist, then safety nets become all the more important. However, as presently practiced, safety nets based on food aid appear to be failing in northern Kenya.

23. **Costs and Financing of Basic Education and Participation of Rural Families and Communities in Third-World Countries**

April 2005

**Assié-Lumumba, N'Dri**

This paper focuses on the various types of educational costs, expenses, and financing and the roles of families and communities. It presents a case study of educational costs and financing in rural communities in countries around the world, then focuses on the case of Côte d'Ivoire before the December 1999 Military coup followed by armed conflicts that started in 2002 leading to the de facto division of the country. The paper considers the substantive and more general family and community participation in the educational process beyond material support. The conclusion summarizes the main findings and points to new areas of research using comparative approach. It is however likely that, while the political configuration may change, the administrative structure that constitutes the framework for educational policy will remain the same. Therefore this analysis has relevance even for the post-conflict reconstruction and implementation of education policy implementation including past and new types of community schools.

24. **Les écoles communautaires de base au Sénégal: Contribution à la scolarisation universelle, l’éradication de la pauvreté, et la mise en place d’un programme national pour le développement durable**

April 2005

**Assié-Lumumba, N'Dri, Mamadou Mara, and Marieme Lo**

25. **The Progression through School and Academic Performance in Madagascar Study: Preliminary Descriptive Results**

March 2005

**Glick, Peter, Harivelô Rajemison, Arsène Ravelo, Yolande Raveloarison, Mamisoa Razakamanantsoa, and David E. Sahn**

This paper is a preliminary analysis of the *Étude sur la Progression Scolaire et la Performance Académique en Madagascar (EPSPAM)*. The study is based on a nationwide household survey with a special focus on schooling, complimented by academic and life skills tests and additional surveys of local schools and communities. The survey was designed to investigate the household, community, and school-level determinants of a range of education outcomes in Madagascar: primary and secondary enrollment, grade repetition and dropout during primary and lower secondary school cycles, transitions from primary to secondary school, and learning — both academic (math and French test scores) and non-academic ('life-skills'). It also seeks to understand the association of early academic performance, on the one hand, and subsequent school progression and scholastic attainment, on the other. The study also investigates the knowledge and perceptions of parents about the schools in their communities. In addition, the policy environment in education in Madagascar has been very dynamic in the last several years. Therefore the study also evaluates the implementation and impacts of several important recent policies in education, including the elimination of public primary school fees and the provision of books and supplies, as well as a series of administrative reforms such as the professionalization of the chefs CISCO and efforts to make school finances more transparent.
26. **Rural Poverty Dynamics: Development Policy Implications**  
March 2005  
**Barrett, Christopher B.**  
This paper summarizes a few key findings from a rich and growing body of research on the nature of rural poverty and, especially, the development policy implications of relatively recent findings and ongoing work. Perhaps the most fundamental lesson of recent research on rural poverty is the need to distinguish transitory from chronic poverty. The existence of widespread chronic poverty also raises the possibility of poverty traps. I discuss some of the empirical and theoretical challenges of identifying and explaining poverty traps. In policy terms, the distinction between transitory and chronic poverty implies a need to distinguish between "cargo net" and "safety net" interventions and a central role for effective targeting of interventions. *Prepared for invited presentation to the 25th International Conference of Agricultural Economists, August 17, 2003, Durban, South Africa.*  
*In Reshaping Agriculture’s Contributions to Society*, David Colman and Nick Vink (eds.), Oxford: Blackwell, 2005

27. **Fractal Poverty Traps**  
March 2005  
**Barrett, Christopher B. and Brent M. Swallow**  
This paper offers an informal theory of a special sort of poverty trap, one in which multiple dynamic equilibria exist simultaneously at multiple (micro, meso and/or macro) scales of analysis and are self-reinforcing through feedback effects. Small adjustments at any one of these levels are unlikely to move the system away from its dominant, stable dynamic equilibrium. Governments, markets and communities s are simultaneously weak in places characterized by fractal poverty traps. No unit operates at a high-level equilibrium in such a system. All seem simultaneously trapped in low-level equilibria. The fractal poverty traps formulation suggests four interrelated strategic emphases for poverty reduction strategies.  
*Forthcoming in World Development*

March 2005  
**Glick, Peter**  
Although there is a widespread belief that scaling up HIV voluntary testing and counseling (VCT) programs in Africa will have large prevention benefits through reductions in risk behaviors, these claims are difficult to establish from existing evaluations of VCT. Considerations from behavioral models and the available data suggest that as VCT coverage expands marginal program effects are likely to decline due to changes in the degree of client selectivity, and that potential uptake among those at highest risk is uncertain. The paper also assesses two other common perceptions about VCT in Africa: that a policy of promoting couples-oriented VCT would be more successful than one emphasizing individual testing, and that VCT demand and prevention
impacts will be enhanced where scaling up is accompanied by the provision of anti-retroviral drugs.  
In Evaluation Review 29(4): 331-357, August 2005

March 2005
Bellemare, Marc F. and Barrett, Christopher B.
Do rural households in developing countries make market participation and volume decisions simultaneously or sequentially? This article develops a two-stage econometric model that allows testing between these two competing hypotheses regarding household-level market behavior. The first stage models the household’s choice of whether to be a net buyer, autarkic, or a net seller in the market. The second stage models the quantity bought (sold) for net buyers (sellers) based on observable household characteristics. Using household data from Kenya and Ethiopia on livestock markets, we find evidence in favor of sequential decision-making, the welfare implications of which we discuss.  
Forthcoming in American Journal of Agricultural Economics

30. Infant Mortality in Uganda: Determinants, Trends, and the Millennium Development Goals
January 2005
Ssewanyana, Sarah and Stephen D. Younger
Unusually for an African economy, Uganda’s growth has been rapid and sustained for an extended period of time. Further, this growth has clearly translated into substantial declines in poverty for all socio-economic groups and in all regions of the country. Despite this, there is concern in the country that other indicators of well-being are not improving at the same rate as incomes. This paper studies one such indicator, infant mortality. We use three rounds of the Uganda Demographic and Health Surveys to construct a national time series for infant mortality over a long period of time, 1974-1999. We also use these survey data to model the determinants of infant mortality and, based on those results, to examine the likelihood that Uganda will meet the Millennium Development Goal of halving infant mortality by 2015.  

31. On the Relevance of Identities, Communities, Groups and Networks to the Economics of Poverty Alleviation
January 2005
Barrett, Christopher B.
Forthcoming in The Social Economics of Poverty: Identities, Groups, Communities and Networks, Christopher B. Barrett (ed.), London: Routledge, 2005: This book aims to advance economists’ understanding of such questions by exploring how individuals’ social and moral identities affect their membership in communities, groups, and
networks, how those identities and social affiliations affect microeconomic behavior, and how the resulting behaviors affect poverty. Humans do not live in isolation: their behavior depends on the relations that shape their world. Variation in relationships can perhaps lead to predictable variation in behaviors and economic outcomes, which, in turn, affect social relationships through subtle feedback mechanisms. Partly as a consequence, the dynamics of human social interactions and the effects on persistent poverty have become a very active area of economic research.

32. **Pareto’s Revenge**  
January 2005  
**Kanbur, Ravi**

Consider a project or a policy reform. In general, this change will create winners and losers. Some people will be better off, others will be worse off. Making an overall judgment on social welfare depends on weighing up the gains and losses across individuals. How can we make these comparisons? In the 1930s, a strong school of economic thought led by Lionel Robbins held that economists qua economists have no business making such judgments. They only have a basis for declaring an improvement when no such interpersonal comparisons of gains and losses are involved. Only a change which makes nobody worse off and at least one person better off, can be declared an improvement. Such a change is called a Pareto Improvement (PI). If no such changes are possible, the state of affairs is described as being Pareto Efficient (PE), a Pareto Optimum, or Pareto Optimal (PO). Named after Vilfredo Pareto, PI and PE are central to post 1945 high economic theory. After all, PE makes an appearance in the two fundamental theorems of Welfare Economics. These are that every competitive equilibrium (CE) is PE, and every PE allocation can be achieved as a CE, under certain conditions. Through these theorems, the post second world war economic theory of Kenneth Arrow and Gerard Debreu links back to Lionel Robbins and Vilfredo Pareto, and thence to Adam Smith’s Invisible Hand of competitive markets. From there the links come full circle back to stances taken in current policy debates on the role of markets and government.

33. **Reforming the Formula: A Modest Proposal for Introducing Development Outcomes in IDA Allocation Procedures**  
January 2005  
**Kanbur, Ravi**

This paper develops a modest proposal for introducing final outcome indicators in the IDA aid allocation formula. It starts with a review of the current formula and the rationale for it. It is argued that this formula, and in particular the Country Policy and Institutional Assessment (CPIA) part of it, implicitly relies too heavily on a uniform model of what works in development policy. Even if this model were valid "on average", the variations around the average make it an unreliable sole guide to the country-specific productivity of aid in achieving the final objectives of development. Rather, it is argued that changes in the actual outcomes on these final objectives could also be used as part of the allocation formula. A number of conceptual and operational objections to this position are considered and debated. The paper concludes that there is much to be gained by
taking small steps in the direction of introducing outcome variables in the IDA formula, and assessing the experience of doing so in a few years’ time.

34. **Missed Opportunities and Missing Markets: Spatio-temporal Arbitrage of Rice in Madagascar**  
   January 2005  
   **Moser, Christine, Christopher B. Barrett, and Bart Minten**  
   This paper uses an exceptionally rich data set to test the extent to which markets in Madagascar are integrated across space, time, and form (in converting from paddy to rice) and to explain some of the factors that limit arbitrage and price equalization within a single country. In particular, we use rice price data across four quarters of 2000-2001 along with data on transportation costs and infrastructure availability for nearly 1400 communes in Madagascar to examine the extent of market integration at three different spatial scales—sub-regional, regional, and national—and determine whether nonintegration is due to high transfer costs or lack of competition. The results indicate that markets are fairly well integrated at the sub-regional level and that factors such as high crime, remoteness, and lack of information are among the factors limiting competition. A lack of competition persists at the regional level and high transfer costs impede spatial market integration at the national level. Only six percent of rural communes appear to be intertemporally integrated and there appear to be significant untapped opportunities for interseasonal arbitrage. Income is directly and strongly related to the probability of a commune being in interseasonal competitive equilibrium.

35. **Agricultural Technology, Productivity, Poverty and Food Security in Madagascar**  
   January 2005  
   **Minten, Bart and Christopher B. Barrett**  
   This paper uses a unique, spatially-explicit dataset to study the link between agricultural performance and rural poverty in Madagascar. We show that, controlling for geographical and physical characteristics, communes that have higher rates of adoption of improved agricultural technologies and, consequently, higher crop yields enjoy lower food prices, higher real wages for unskilled workers and better welfare indicators. The empirical evidence strongly favors support for improved agricultural production as an important part of any strategy to reduce the high poverty rates currently prevalent in rural Madagascar.

36. **The Economics of Poverty Traps and Persistent Poverty: An Asset-Based Approach**  
   January 2005  
   **Carter, Michael R. and Christopher B. Barrett**  
   Longitudinal data on household living standards open the way to a deeper analysis of the nature and extent of poverty. While a number of studies have exploited this type of data to distinguish transitory from more chronic forms of income or expenditure poverty, this paper develops an asset-based approach to poverty analysis that makes it possible to distinguish deep-rooted, persistent structural poverty from poverty that passes naturally with time due to systemic growth processes. Drawing on the economic theory of poverty
traps and bifurcated accumulation strategies, this paper briefly discusses some feasible estimation strategies for empirically identifying poverty traps and long term, persistent structural poverty. We also propose an extension of the Foster-Greer-Thorbecke class of poverty measures to provide a natural measure of long-term welfare status. The paper closes with reflections on how asset-based poverty can be used to underwrite the design of persistent poverty reduction strategies.

Forthcoming in *Journal of Development Studies*

37. **The Post-Apartheid South African Labour Market**
December 2004

*Oosthuizen, Morné and Haroon Bhorat*

Since 1994, the South African economy has undergone significant changes with the government implementing various policies aimed at redressing the injustices of the past, fleshing out the welfare system and improving competitiveness as South Africa becomes increasingly integrated into the global economy. These policies have, directly or indirectly, impacted on the labour market and, consequently, on the lives of millions of South Africans. This paper’s chief objective is the analysis of some of the changes in the South African labour market in the post-apartheid era. The period, between 1995 and 2002, began with much promise and many challenges as the economy liberalised and normal trade relations were resumed with the rest of the world. Soon after the African National Congress came into power, the macro-economic strategy named “Growth, Employment and Redistribution” (or GEAR) was unveiled in 1996. This strategy predicted, amongst other things, employment growth averaging 270,000 jobs per annum from 1996 to 2000, with the number of new jobs created rising over time from 126,000 in 1996 to 409,000 in 2000 (GEAR 1996). Unfortunately, for a variety of reasons, these projections were not realised. In fact, in terms of the labour market, the experience of the second half of the 1990s appears to have fallen short of even the baseline scenario contained in the GEAR document, which projected a net increase in (non-agricultural formal) employment of slightly more than 100,000 jobs per annum.


38. **Buffering Inequalities: The Safety Net of Extended Families in Cameroon**
December 2004

*Eloundou-Enyegue, Parfait M. and David Shapiro*

Extended family systems play an important role in buffering socioeconomic inequality in African societies, notably through fosterage of children across nuclear family units. Yet, there is concern that this support system would break down under the influence of globalization and recent economic crises. Whereas previous scholarship to address this concern has focused on trends in rates of family extension/fosterage, we argue in this paper that a full account of trends in the buffering influence of extended families requires simultaneous attention to trends in (a) fosterage rates, (b) the distribution of fosterage opportunities, (c) the ameliorative effects of fosterage. This study focuses on the buffering influence of fosterage on schooling inequalities. Taking Cameroon as a case study and using the retrospective fosterage and schooling histories of 2,257 children, we examine the historical trends in these three proximate determinants of the buffering
influence of extended families. Findings suggest that while the ameliorative effects of fosterage (once children are fostered) have not changed over time, both the rates and the distribution of fosterage opportunities have changed in ways that raise concern for children at the bottom quintile of the resource distribution.

39. Welfare Dynamics in Rural Kenya and Madagascar

Barrett, Christopher B., Paswel Phiri Marenya, John McPeak, Bart Minten, Festus Murithi, Willis Oluoch-Kosura, Frank Place, Jean Claude Randrianarisoa, Jhon Rasambainarivo and Justine Wangila

This paper presents comparative qualitative and quantitative evidence from rural Kenya and Madagascar in an attempt to untangle the causality behind persistent poverty. We find striking differences in welfare dynamics depending on whether one uses total income, including stochastic terms and inevitable measurement error, or the predictable, structural component of income based on a household’s asset holdings. Our results suggest the existence of multiple dynamic asset and structural income equilibria, consistent with the poverty traps hypothesis. Furthermore, we find supporting evidence of locally increasing returns to assets and of risk management behavior consistent with poor households’ defense of a critical asset threshold through asset smoothing.

Forthcoming in Journal of Development Studies
Conference Papers:

1. From the International Conference on
   **Shared Growth in Africa**
   sponsored by Cornell University, The Institute of Statistical, Social and Economic
   Research (ISSER-University of Ghana), and The Africa Region of the World Bank
   July 21-22, 2005
   Accra, Ghana

     January 2005
     **Geeta Kingdon and John Knight**
     It is our view that developments in the labour market hold the key to South African
     prosperity or penury. It is from the labour market that the income benefits from
     growing labour scarcity, or the threat to social and political stability from growing
     unemployment and underemployment, could emerge. The government response
     should be to keep this issue at the forefront and to pursue whatever policies will
     improve labour market outcomes. Our primary concern in this paper is with
     unemployment and the informal employment that often disguises unemployment.
     However, in order to understand these phenomena it is necessary to consider a range
     of related indicators such as the adult population, the labour force, labour force
     participation, employment, distinguishing here between formal and informal
     employment, or between wage- and self-employment, and real wages and incomes.

   - **Analysis of farmers’ preferences for development intervention programs: A case study of subsistence farmers from Eastern Ethiopian Highlands.**
     July 2005
     **Wagayehu Bekele**
     The aim of this paper is to better understand farmers’ perception of the relevance of
different development intervention programs. Farmers’ subjective ranking of
agricultural problems and their preference for development intervention are elicited
using a stated preference method. The factors influencing these preferences are
determined using a random utility model. The study is based on a survey conducted in
the Hunde-Lafto area of the Eastern Ethiopian Highlands. Individual interviews were
conducted with 145 randomly selected farm households using semi-structured
questionnaires. The study suggests that drought, soil erosion and, shortage of
cultivable land are high priority agricultural production problems for farmers. Low
market prices for farm products and high prices of purchased inputs also came out as
major problems for the majority of farmers. Farmers’ preferences for development
intervention fall into four major categories, market, irrigation, resettlement, and soil
and water conservation. Multinomial logit analysis of the factors influencing these
preferences revealed that farmer’s specific socio-economic circumstances, and
subjective ranking of agricultural problems play a major role. It is also shown that
preferences for some interventions are complimentary and need to be addressed
simultaneously. Recognition and understanding of these factors, affecting the acceptability of development policies for micro level implementation, will have significant contribution to improve macro level policy formulation.

- **Socioeconomic Impact of Export Oriented Agricultural Production on Farmers, in Eastern Ethiopia**  
  July 2005  
  **Adem Kedir**  
  This study was undertaken to assess the socio-economic impact of producing export oriented agricultural crops on the livelihoods of the farmers in eastern Ethiopia. A random sample of 305 farmers was studied. Comparisons were made between producers and non-producers using the Z-test and regression analysis. It was found that producers of export oriented crops are better off than the non-producers in terms of sending their children to school, housing conditions and ability to finance their families’ food requirements. The impact of father’s education, number of children and livestock ownership on the improvements in the livelihoods of the farmers and the problems facing the farmers were also emphasized. The implications of the findings for the policy makers were also pointed out.

- **Is Sub-Saharan Africa a Convergence Club?**  
  July 2005  
  **Johnson P. Asiama and Maurice Kugler**  
  The African growth effect has been found to be significant in many empirical growth research papers — suggesting that even after controlling for a wide range of variables that potentially affect growth, the Sub-Saharan African dummy has an adverse impact on economic growth. This has thus remained one of the unexplained empirical puzzles in the growth literature. Earlier studies have attributed this growth tragedy to factors such as macroeconomic instability; external shocks; human capital inadequacies, institutional and political uncertainty, geography, ethnic fractionalisation, etc. Moreover, the recent perspective about the effect of colonial, geographical and disease factors in previously colonised regions such as Africa, also offers significant insights about the growth situation in Sub-Saharan Africa. On the other hand, some have suggested that Sub-Sahara Africa could simply be an example of club convergence from the lower end. We evaluate the latter view, and provide some new evidence on long run growth dynamics in Sub- Saharan Africa. We make use of the dynamic panel GMM methodology, which by construction controls for such country-specific and time-invariant effects due to history, disease or geographic factors. Our findings suggest that Sub-Saharan Africa is not an example of a convergence club. Rather, countries conditionally converge to their own steady states, and this could explain the increasing heterogeneity in economic conditions across the sub-region. In addition, we found openness, the extent of financial development, and foreign direct investment provide beneficial marginal effects on the steady state growth path of each country in the region. By contrast, government consumption, inflation, and excessive monetization have a negative effect on growth.
• **An Inquiry into the role of personal wealth in the pastoralist-agropastoralist conflict resolution in Yerer and Daketa Valleys, Eastern Ethiopia**
  May 2005
  **Ayalneh Bogale and Benedikt Korf**
  Capitalizing on the mobility of livestock is one of the major ways in which pastoralists have managed ecological uncertainties and risks, as it enables them the opportunistic use of the resources. However, agricultural encroachment onto rangelands by nearby agro-pastoralists has led to a shortage in grazing area and threatened the mobility of the pastoralists. As this process leads to a significant disruption and weakening of the risk-management systems of pastoralists, they seek for various institutional arrangements with agropastoralists to enable them access to common grazing land. Based on an exploratory survey and data derived from interview of 146 households in eastern Ethiopia, this paper uses an adaptation of the sequential rationality game theoretical model and institutional analysis to discrete choice models. The analytical framework, in its entirety, presents a simple model of household and community level decision-making, in which they are concerned about their welfare along many different dimensions. Choice of institutional arrangement, namely no opinion, reciprocal, sharing milk and the right to use milk, is modelled using multinomial logit discrete choice procedure. The model chi-squared statistic is significant at the 1% level of probability. For all arrangements, there are three to five observable characteristics of household that provide statistically significant predictive power for practicing a given arrangement. The paper argues resource scarcity may enhance the bargaining position of asset-poor members of an agro-pastoral society and urges the wealthier agropastoralists to comply with a nonviolent resolution of competing claims towards a resource sharing arrangement.

• **Stochastic Technology and Crop Production Risk: The Case of Small-Scale Farmers in East Hararghe Zone of Oromiya Regional State in Ethiopia**
  July 2005
  **Bekabil Fufa and R. M. Hassan**
  This study used the Just and Pope stochastic production technology specification to analyse the crop production and supply response behaviour of farmers in East Hararghe zone of Ethiopia under production risk. The results showed that improved seed, human labour, oxen labour and planting date were the most important determinants of yield levels of the crops grown in the area. On the other hand, the use of improved seed and fertilizer were yield risk increasing inputs in the production of maize and sorghum crops. However, early planting for all the annual crops grown, use of human labour for the package crops and oxen labour for all food crops grown in Faddis district were found to have yield risk reducing effects. The results have important implications for agricultural technology development and transfer in the study area. To reduce the yield risk increasing effect of fertilizer, the development and promotion of new crop varieties should consider fertilizer application trails for different levels across different agro-ecologies and farmers’ conditions. Also, farmers need to be provided with adequate advice and information on the use and application of fertilizer. Moreover, to overcome the yield risk increasing effect of improved seed,
varieties should be tested for their suitability to varying agro-ecologies and management conditions of the farmers in the area. Extension advice and information on the management of the improved crop varieties need to be provided to the farmers to improve the yield stability of the crops. In addition, extension advice on early planting, provision of meteorological information to farmers to aid them in planting date decisions and development of short period maturing varieties could help to reduce variability in the yield levels of crops grown in the area. Finally, improving the small-scale farmers' access to oxen would also enable the farmers to achieve stable yields from crop production.

- **Can Africa Reduce Poverty by Half by 2015? The Case for a Pro-Poor Growth Strategy**
  June 2005  
  *Arne Bigsten and Abebe Shimeles*  
  This study uses simulations to explore the possibility of achieving the target of halving the percentage of people living in extreme poverty in Africa by 2015. A pro-poor growth scenario and a constant inequality scenario are compared. It is shown how initial levels of inequality and mean per capita income determine the cumulative growth and inequality reduction required to achieve the target. The simulations show that small changes in income distribution have a large impact on the possibility of halving poverty. It is shown that the trade-off between growth and inequality varies greatly among countries and that their policy choices thus are quite different. In some cases small changes in income distribution can have a large effect on poverty, while in others a strong focus on growth is the only viable option.

- **Shared Sectoral Growth: Evidence from Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, and Zimbabwe**  
  June 2005  
  *Niels-Hugo Blunch and Dorte Verner*  
  This paper examines agriculture, industry and service sector growth in Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, and Zimbabwe over more than three decades. The analyses find at least one long-run sectoral relationship in each country. This indicates the existence of a large degree of interdependence in long-run sectoral growth, implying that the sectors “grow together” or, similarly, that there are externalities or spillovers between sectors. This also provides evidence against the basic dual economy model, which implies that a long-run relation cannot exist between agricultural and industrial output. The impulse response and short-run sectoral growth analyses support these results, as both imply the existence of a positive link between growth in industry and growth in agriculture. Policy implications are also discussed; these include directing more attention towards the interdependencies in sectoral growth broadly defined. In particular, our findings have implications for the design of education and health programs, as well. This improved understanding of intersectoral dynamics at all levels may facilitate policy implementation aimed at increasing economic growth—and thereby ultimately improving peoples’ livelihoods—in Africa.
• **Why Has Burundi Grown So Slowly? The Political Economy of Redistribution**  
  June 2005  
  Janvier D. Nkurunziza and Floribert Ngaruko  
  This study analyses Burundi’s economic performance over the period 1960-2000 and finds that it has been catastrophic. The usual economic factors determining growth are endogenous to political objectives, suggesting that politics explains the dismal performance. This finding limits the relevance of textbook models of growth relying on the assumption of a competitive resource allocation environment. When cronies rather than qualified managers are running the economy, when priority is given to investment projects in function of their location rather than the objective needs of the economy, economic models lose their explanatory power. Economic performance has been shaped by the occurrence of violent conflicts caused by factions fighting for the control of the state and its rents. The capture of rents by a small group has become the overarching objective of the governments that have ruled the country since the mid-1960s. In this regard, economic performance will not improve unless the political system is modernised from a dictatorial regime playing a zero-sum game to a more democratic and accountable regime. It would be naïve to advocate economic reforms as a way of boosting the country’s economy if they are not preceded or at least accompanied by political reforms. One central message of this study is that Burundi’s growth failure is the result of specific identifiable factors evolving around governance. There is nothing fundamentally wrong with Burundi: Development failure may be reversed if the problems identified in this study are properly addressed.

• **Organizational Culture, Performance and Public Sector Reforms in Africa: The Ghanaian Case**  
  July 2005  
  Francis Owusu  
  Public sector reform programs implemented across Africa, including the World Bank’s “first” and “second” generation reforms, are based on the assumption that all public organizations are inefficient. This paper argues that this assumption is problematic and has had significant implications for policy. By failing to recognize that not all public organizations perform poorly, we ignore any potential lessons that could have been learnt from the experiences of organizations that have managed to perform effectively under the same social, political, economic and institutional environment. The study is based on the premise that the performance of an organization is influenced by the culture within the organization—which results from the ways in which organizations adapts to the external environment and the ways they ensure internal integration. Some organizations develop cultures that support, encourage and reward high performance; whereas others adopt a culture that perpetuates poor performance. Thus, public-sector reforms must be viewed as changing, or in some cases sustaining, organizational culture. Using Ghana as a case study, the study highlights lessons that can be learnt from studying differences in the performances of public organizations. It focuses on three-related issues. First, it addresses one major flaw of past reform policies—the assumption that all public
organizations are ineffective. Second, it explores the relationship between organizational culture and performance. Third, it provides broad outlines of a comprehensive public sector reform strategy, centered on changing organizational cultures.

- **Local Governance and Resource Allocation**  
  *July 2005*  
  **Sagre Bambangi and Al-hassan Seidu**  
  An important function of District Assemblies in Ghana is to ensure that the benefits of growth are shared equitably and fairly. One way of achieving this is to promote efficiency in resource allocation at both individual and community levels. This paper utilizes the case study approach to assess efficiency of resource distribution in four Districts in the Northern and Upper East regions of Ghana with emphasis on infrastructure, micro-credit, human and information resources. The conclusion is that the Medium Term Development plan prepared within the framework of the themes of the Ghana Poverty Reduction Strategy (GPRS) is an important guiding document in resource allocation. The allocation of community facilities such as schools, health and administrative infrastructure have been found generally to conform to the plan in spite of occasional erratic influences and decisions of some personalities. However, in terms of resources that are allocated to individuals such as the Poverty Alleviation Fund (PAF) the guidelines are often circumvented. It is recommended that Government policy of zero tolerance for corruption needs to be demonstrated at the local level in terms of the disbursement of the PAF. Priority must be given to development considerations instead of partisan party loyalty in appointing DCEs in order to check politicisation of resource allocation. A serious consideration must be given to the full implementation of the sub-district structures to facilitate information dissemination. For the people to “feel the growth in their pockets” resource allocation at the local level needs to be closely monitored to ensure compliance with guidelines.

- **An Analysis of the Impact of HIPC Initiative on Poverty Alleviation in Developing Countries: Evidence from Cameroon**  
  *June 2005*  
  **Arsene Honore Gideon Nkama**  
  After independence in 1960, Cameroon’s real economic growth was optimistic. Growth averaged 6 per cent during the 65-86 with agriculture being the main source of growth. When oil production started by the end of the 70s, Cameroon experienced a boom period. Its external resources balance that was negative in 1977 became positive. Gross domestic investment increased from 21% of GDP in 1977 to more than 30% in 1986. GDP per capita increased at about 4 percent during the 65-86. The boom period led to traditional growth sectors carelessness so their productivity declined. Public enterprises created during this period were highly inefficient. The banking system became very dependent on oil revenue as well as on government deposits.
Economic Success or Human Development Failure? Development Partners or Development Parasites? The truth behind the truth: Evidence from Uganda
July 2005
Diego Angemi
During the 1990s, and especially over the second half of the decade, Uganda experienced high economic growth, falling income poverty, and relative political stability. In addition, while it’s still too early to assess properly the medium term impact of direct budget support (DBS) on the lives of poor people, Uganda features among the few countries where real gains have been made in terms of scaling up the delivery of basic health and education services, increasing the focus of the budget, and giving people confidence to claim their rights (DFID, 2004). There is evidence to support the claim that the period between 1992 and 2000 may mark the transition of Uganda from recovery to fresh growth. Recovery has necessitated the rehabilitation of traditional export crops, the restoration of the public sector and a reversal of the retreat to subsistence. In this economic environment, the percentage of Ugandans who were poor decreased sharply from 56% in 1992 to 34% in 2000.

Public Expenditure and Human Capital in Nigeria: An Autoregressive Model
July 2005
Michael Adebayo Adebiyi
In this study, we set out to empirically investigate the direction of causality between human capital (i.e. education and health) expenditures and defence spending including debt service obligations in Nigeria, using annual time series data from 1970 to 2000. Some statistical tools are employed to explore the relationship among these variables. The study examines stochastic characteristics of each time series by testing their stationarity using Augmented Dickey Fuller (ADF) and Phillip Perron (PP) tests. Then, the effects of stochastic shocks of each of the endogenous variables are explored, using vector autoregressive (VAR) model. The evidence from the Granger causality tests shows that, in Nigeria, debt service obligations determine human capital expenditure such as education. Also, from impulse response analysis, the result shows that unanticipated effect of debt service obligations or defence spending on human capital expenditure is ambiguous in Nigeria.

Operationalizing Pro-Poor Growth: A Country Case Study of Ghana
October 2004
Andrew McKay and Ernest Aryeetey
This paper is prepared as part of the multi-donor Operationalising Pro-Poor Growth study, which is focusing on aiming to provide advice to governments on how to facilitate the involvement of poor people in the growth process. It is prepared as one of 14 case studies prepared as part of this project, and following a common outline structure and analytic approach. The case study papers are prepared to assess country-level evidence on the relationships between growth performance and trends in poverty, and on how this can be enhanced. This implies therefore an analysis which combines macro and sectoral analysis of the determinants of growth and its distributional pattern, with more micro-level poverty analysis. While much of the
analysis investigating the links between patterns of growth and changes in poverty is historical, assessing past evidence, there is also an important forward looking component on how poverty-reducing growth can be initiated, sustained or enhanced.

• **Characteristics and Determinants of Urban Youth Unemployment in Umuahia, Nigeria: Implications for Rural Development and Alternative Labour Market Variables**
  June 2005
  Raphael N. Echebiri
  Umuahia metropolis typifies a fast growing capital city in terms of population growth rate. Its population grew from less than 20,000 residents in 1991 to an estimated excess over a million at present. This astronomical growth in population followed the creation of Abia State in 1991 and the subsequent change in the status of Umuahia as a state capital territory. Following this tremendous rise in population, Umuahia North metropolis which is the core capital city now has a teeming population of youths, most of whom are unemployed. This study was conceptualized against the backdrop of the increasing social and economic problems associated with youth unemployment in the metropolis. Some effort was made to characterize youth unemployment in the city from the perspective of the socio-economic and labour market perceptions of a sample of 220 youths drawn from areas with varying residential configurations. The sample randomly included youths, unemployed and employed in order to provide some basic counterbalancing assessment of the situation. It was found that youth unemployment in the town shared common characteristics with that observed in several other cities in the developing world. In particular, age of respondent was found to be inversely related to level of unemployment, hence suggesting that unemployment in the city was most pronounced among youths. Educational attainment and job preference were interrelated variables which had direct relationship with unemployment level. It was particularly noted that majority of the unemployed and first-time job seekers preferred salaried employment to self-employment. This orientation, although deriving from the economic and human capital development realities of the country, could be retrogressive in a liberalized market-driven economy. The youths showed strong aversion to rural-residency for several reasons prominent among which were lack of employment opportunities and poor social and physical infrastructures. Some policy issues were raised to provide a basis for a stronger community-driven rural and agricultural development strategy and alternative labour market variables.

• **Structure of Sectoral Decomposition of Aggregate Poverty Changes in Cameroon**
  July 2005
  Francis Menjo Baye
  This paper defines an exact decomposition rule based on the Shapley Value for assigning entitlements in distributive analysis and assesses the within- and between-sector contributions to changes in aggregate poverty. Between 1984 and 1996 poverty remained a rural phenomenon in Cameroon. It became more widespread, deeper and severer in both rural and urban areas, but more so in urban than rural areas. While the
within sector effects disproportionately accounted for the increase in poverty in the period 1984-1996, the between-sector contributions in both rural and semi-urban areas played a mitigating role on the worse effects of the increase in poverty. These findings indicate the potential positive feedback effects of migration and the associated remittances as an effective strategy used by migrants to left their families and villages out of the worse effects of poverty. The implication of this interpretation is that decision-makers need to better understand the factors that push or pull potential migrants. Rural-urban mobility could, therefore, be viewed as a strategy used by households to moderate the worse effects of poverty and a vector of shared growth. The implications for public policy, in terms of open unemployment and associated social and insecurity problems at the receiving end, point to the wisdom of addressing the push-factors via targeting more in favour of rural areas.

- **Gender Inequalities and Economic Growth: New Evidence from Cassava-based Farm Holdings in Rural South-Western Nigeria**
  July 2005
  **Awoyemi Taiwo Timothy**

  It is a widely accepted fact that persistent inequality between men and women constraints a society’s productivity and ultimately slows its rate of economic growth. The economy pays for this inequality in reduced labour productivity today and diminished national output tomorrow. Motivated by this the study aim is to assess the possibilities of enhancing productivity gains by improving the efficiency of small-scale agriculture through gender-responsive intra-household allocation of resources in South-Western Nigeria. It adopts a stochastic parametric decomposition method which yields efficiency measures that are not distorted by statistical noise to estimate the efficiency level of resource allocation by small-scale cassava producers. The results indicate that average overall productive efficiency in the sample was 75.78 per cent implying that small scale cassava farmers in the sample could reduce total variable cost by 24.22 per cent if they reduce labour, fertilizer, land and capital applications to levels observed in the changing input mix (technical efficiency) and then obtain optimal input mix for the given input prices and technology (allocative efficiency). The average technical efficiency and allocative efficiency indexes for the sample were 82.2 per cent and 92.2 per cent respectively. Also, evidence from empirical analysis of data from the male respondents showed that the average economic, technical and allocative efficiency indexes were 88.06 per cent, 89.34 per cent and 78.67 per cent respectively while the same computed for the female sample were 94.9 per cent 74.85 per cent and 71.03 per cent respectively. Labour was the most limiting factor in cassava production suggesting that the technologies that enhance the productivity of labour are likely to achieve significant positive effects on cassava production. The paper shares the notion that producers control over the means of production and impact of development are related and has influence on the economic efficiency and growth of society. Again, technical inefficiency constituted a more serious problem than allocative inefficiency thus most cost savings will accrue to improvement in technical efficiency.
• **Labor Market Flexibility, Wages and Incomes in sub-Saharan Africa in the 1990s**
  June 2005
  **Geeta Kingdon, Justin Sandefur and Francis Teal**
  This paper provides an overview of how African labor markets have performed in the 1990s. It is argued that the failure of African labor markets to create good paying jobs has resulted in excess labor supply in the form of either open unemployment or a growing self-employment sector. One explanation for this outcome is a lack of labor market ‘flexibility’ keeping formal sector wages above their equilibrium level and restricting job creation. We identify three attributes of labor market flexibility. First whether real wages decline over time, secondly the tendency for wages to adjust in the face of unemployment, and thirdly the extent of wage differentials between sectors and/or firms of various size. Recent research shows that real wages in Africa during the 1990s may have been more downwardly flexible than previously thought and have been surprisingly responsive to unemployment rates, yet large wage differentials between formal and informal sector firms remain. This third sense of the term inflexibility can explain a common factor across diverse African economies - the high income divide between those working in large firms and those not. Those working in the thriving self-employment sector in Ghana have something in common with the unemployed in South Africa - both have very low income opportunities relative to those in large firms.

• **Institutional Foundations for Shared Growth in Sub-Saharan Africa**
  July 2005
  **Machiko Nissanke and Alice Sindzingre**
  The paper examines the dynamically evolving triangular relationships between institutions, growth and inequality in the process of economic development, in order to deepen the understanding on institutional conditions for pro-poor growth and shared growth. In this specific context, the paper discusses the institutional conditions found in Sub-Saharan Africa, which may have produced the growth pattern that are unequal and against the poor. The analysis shows that Sub-Saharan African countries require transforming institutions for embarking upon and sustaining a development path which would ensure shared growth in years to come. The paper first evaluates the growth-inequality-poverty nexus, as found in the recent literature, which increasingly challenges the trade-off between growth and equity, as postulated in the traditional theories. Various definitions of pro-poor growth are discussed and a sharper definition of the concept of ‘shared’ growth is provided. Definitions of institutions are then examined, as well as the triangular interrelationships between institutions, inequality and poverty. The paper finally analyses specific institutional conditions found in Sub-Saharan Africa that prevent economies from emerging out of low-equilibrium poverty traps that are characterised by low economic growth, unequal distribution of income and wealth as well as unequal access to resources and power.
• Market Structure and Productivity Growth in Ghanaian Cocoa Production
June 2005
Andrew Zeitlin
This paper argues that market structure, and in particular the degree of competition among Licensed Buying Companies, is an important determinant of productivity in the Ghanaian cocoa industry. This issue is studied in the context of a two-year doubling of cocoa output at the national level. Evidence from microeconomic data confirms a significant increase among existing farmers, although this rate of increase is smaller than that observed at the national level. Analysis of production reveals an economically significant and statistically robust relationship between village-level Licensed Buying Company competition and the level and growth rate of total factor.

• Can Africa Achieve Millennium Development Growth Targets Through Effective Negotiations of the Doha Development Mandate?
June 2005
William A. Amponsah
The general consensus of opinion in international economic development circles is that Africa is lagging far behind in global efforts to meet the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) by its target date of 2015. Africa is still far from reaching the targeted goal of an annual growth rate above 7 percent a year required to achieve economic convergence with other developing countries and to maintain similar quality of life. In particular, sub-Saharan Africa (SSA) has seen poverty rise and life expectancy decline in the five years since the Goals were declared in 2000 (United Nations Economic Commission for Africa, 2005). But achieving the MDGs would provide a unique opportunity for Africa and its development partners to seriously tackle the important issue of reducing endemic poverty for the continent.

• Social Exclusion and Insurance Failure for the Poorest: On Informal Finance through Social Networks in Kenya’s Smallholder Sector
April 2005
Heidi Hogset
This study looks at informal finance through social networks among smallholder farmers in Kenya. This paper explores the patterns of economic transfers within networks, and characterizes recipients and providers of informal credit and insurance, as well as the relationship between them and the purposes such transfers serve. Participation in transfer networks depends on one’s resources. The poor engage in frequent, low-value transfers in kind and in exchange labor. The poorest do not engage in cash transfers. Those of intermediate wealth engage more actively in transfers in kind, but not cash. The rich (or non-poor) are also active in transfer networks, and it is they who are able to raise large cash amounts through social networks, either as loans or gifts. As people get wealthier, they engage more in cash transfers and less in transfers in kind. People who have access to formal financial services, i.e., formal banks or Savings and Credit Cooperatives (SACCOs) participate less in transfers through networks. Those who are able to save in banks are less vulnerable to shocks. Women are more active than men in Rotating Savings and
Credit Associations (ROSCAs), and they also engage more frequently in bilateral transactions within networks, especially for transfers in kind. Transfer networks are correctly perceived as kinship-based and family members are important sources of unearned income (remittances). Transfers through networks are important for consumption smoothing, in addition to investments in income-generating activities and payment of school fees, but not for assistance when a household member is seriously ill. The failure of social networks to provide support during sickness and death is particularly disturbing viewed in light of the ongoing AIDS crisis which is keenly felt in the villages where the study took place.

- Ghana: Recent Trends in Growth and Poverty Reduction
  July 2005

Carlos B. Cavalcanti

The received wisdom about poverty and growth in Ghana is that poverty is mostly rural and that its economic structure has changed little since independence. As a result, the country’s poverty reduction record has been mixed, with growth benefiting primarily urban and export producing regions, leaving behind deep poverty in regions of subsistence agriculture, especially in Northern Ghana. Recent evidenced indicates, however, that poverty continuous declining, especially in rural areas, with slight increases in urban areas, albeit from much lower levels. This development reflects the fact that the structure of employment in the Ghanaian economy has changed quite significantly, with a shift away from agriculture and toward urban activities linked to trade and other services, as well as to manufacturing and construction. These labor market transitions are even more pronounced among younger workers, reflecting rapid urbanization and rising rates of educational attainment. While this virtuous cycle of urbanization has lead to progress in poverty reduction, sustaining the progress achieved so far will depend on maintaining the current economic expansion and raising the rate of job creation. The economic expansion of the last three years has been driven by the exceptional combination of record cocoa crops and historically high world market prices for cocoa and gold. Export growth, combined with rising workers remittances from abroad and continuous aid flows, have allowed the urban economy to expand and workers to move from rural to urban areas. This transition is still unfinished, however, as most of the new jobs are being created in the informal sector, meaning lower wages, greater job insecurity and lower productivity. Lower productivity, in turn, means less scope for raising real wages, and is a reminder that removing obstacles for the growth of private sector firms is essential for the sustainability of poverty reduction and the economic expansion. The rest of this paper elaborates on these points. It begins with a quick overview of changes in Ghana’s poverty profile. It considers next the transitions in the labor market, and how these reflect broader changes in the economy. It proceeds then to investigate the factors driving or hindering these labor market transitions. The last section concludes with a summary of the main findings.
Women Education and Economic Empowerment in Tanzania: A Women Business Survival Model Analysis
July 2005
Aurelia N. Kamuzora
This paper examines the survival analysis of credit supported women businesses in Tanzania using various survival models. Survival models have been used in studies of lifetime bonds, labour strikes, market preferences, and business survival. By examining several predictor variables, the analysis demonstrates some variables can be used to business mortality. We use Product limit estimators, life table method, Cox Product Hazard Models to investigate women businesses over 22 years period. The median (half-life) of all businesses is exact 3.6 years. It was found, however, that level training and level of education before credit provision to have an impact on business survival. In this paper, the dataset of women businesses in Kagera region-Tanzania was analyzed by employing Survival models. Through applied non-nested econometric model that was conceptualized in order to determine the women business survival, we have found out that there many variables that can predict women business survival in Tanzania. Two of them were found to be the level of profit and training. The baseline hazard ration was estimated. It was found out that after receiving credits so as to start businesses, the women in Tanzania the median (half-life) survival time of all women business in Kagera region were found to be 3.06 years. The methods used in estimating survival function are no-parametric univariate model (KM), parametric (Weibull distribution), and semi parametric multivariate models. Then the product limit estimator (Kaplan-Meyer), life table method, and Cox proportional hazards model was used. They’re several types of Cox hazard models. In this study, Weibull distribution function was used. Weibull distribution is the commonly used in econometric (Greene, 2003). This paper examines the survival analysis of women businesses in Tanzania, using various survival models. Survival analysis have been used to study life unemployment spell, labor strike, household of durable goods, number of women worked in the labourforce, vocational expenditure (Greene, 2003), market preferences, life time bonds and many other areas (Gregoriouou, 2002). During recent years there has been a great deal of interest in the analysis of clustered data. Observations from the same cluster usually share certain unobserved characteristics and as a result tend to be correlated (Hung, et.al. 2004). Data are analyzed based on index function and latent regression function of duration models based on survival and hazard functions.

The Road to Pro-Poor Growth in Zambia: Past Lessons and Future Challenges
December 2004
James Thurlow and Peter Wobst
Zambia is one of the poorest countries in Sub-Saharan Africa. Almost three-quarters of the population were considered poor at the start of the 1990s, with a vast majority of these people concentrated in rural and remote areas. This extreme poverty arose in spite of Zambia’s seemingly promising prospects following independence. To better understand the failure of growth and poverty-reduction this paper first considers the relationship between the structure of growth and Zambia’s evolving political economy. A strong urban-bias has shaped the country’s growth path leading to a
economy both artificially and unsustainably distorted in favor of manufacturing and mining at the expense of rural areas. For agriculture it was the maize-bias of public policies that undermined export and growth potential within this sector. A series of poverty profiles are developed and compared to the structure of growth during the structural adjustment period. Substantial policy-changes led to rapidly rising poverty, especially in urban areas. The costs of adjustment were particularly pronounced given the big bang approach to reform. Concurrent trade liberalization and privatization collapsed the formal sector with persistent macro-economic instability undermining necessary private investment. Middle income urban households were hardest hit, with more-educated workers moving into informal activities and the less educated migrating to rural areas. Agricultural liberalization prompted changes in the structure of rural production, with a general shift away from maize towards export-crops for medium-scale farmers and more sustainable staples crops for small-scale farmers.

While overall rural poverty increased during the 1990s, its depth has declined considerably. Poor market access and low agricultural productivity were key constraints facing small-scale and more remote rural households. The urban core of the economy therefore collapsed under structural adjustment but agriculture and rural areas have continued to grow. Since this growth has occurred at the lowest end of the income distribution, there is some evidence of ‘pro-poor’ growth in Zambia under structural adjustment despite national stagnation. Sustained investment and economic growth during recent years suggest a possible change of fortune for Zambia. In light of this renewed growth, the paper uses a dynamic and spatially-disaggregated economy-wide model linked to a household survey to examine the potential for future poverty-reduction. The findings indicate that the current growth path, while positive, will be insufficient to substantially alleviate poverty. The large increases in growth that would be required suggest that finding a more pro-poor growth path should be a priority for public policy. The paper examines alternative growth paths and finds that diversification through an agriculture-led development strategy is likely to prove the most pro-poor. This is particularly pronounced for staples-led growth, although this option is contingent on improving productivity and market access, especially in remoter rural areas. Although agricultural growth is essential for substantial poverty-reduction, the country’s large poor urban population necessitates growth in non-agriculture. The findings suggest that returning to a copper-led growth path is not pro-poor and that non-mining urban growth, although undermined by foreign exchange shortages and inadequate private investment, is likely to be preferable for reducing poverty.

- **The role of local organizations in risk management: Some evidence from rural Chad**
  July 2005
  Katinka Weinberger and Johannes P. Jütting

This paper analyses the role of local organizations in Southern Chad in helping poor people to deal with risk. Different categories of risks are identified and set into relation to response strategies at the community level. Membership in local organizations is mainly motivated by the desire to reduce the occurrence of risks, however the actual impact of membership is risk mitigation. Using regression analysis we establish that while local organizations help people to mitigate risks via
access to information, saving and credit and social networks, a “middle class effect” of participation materializes. The exclusion of the poorest parts of the population should seriously be taken into account when donors set up or support local organizations.

- **Shared Growth in Ghana: Do migrant remittances have a role?**  
  July 2005  
  Peter Quartey  
The economy of Ghana has recorded modest net growth rates over the past decade. However, the current growth rates are inadequate to move the economy to a middle income status by 2015. Besides, not all benefited from the growth recorded so far and there is no doubt that the level of growth necessary to propel the country towards middle-income status cannot be achieved with the current levels of savings and investments within the domestic economy. The obvious issues are: how do we fill the savings gap and ensure shared growth? And how do we ensure that growth trickles down to the poor? The study believes that migrant remittances can serve the dual purpose; fill the savings gap, ensure shared growth and poverty reduction.

- **Agricultural subsidies removal in North countries: what about the effects in Senegal?**  
  July 2005  
  François Joseph Cabral  
In this paper, experiments of the impact north countries subsidies removal on Senegal is performed based on a general equilibrium framework. The model that we suggest includes 19 sectors and four factors: capital, labour, land and water. In agriculture, we distinguish two sub-sectors: the set of the irrigated sectors and that of the non-irrigated sectors. An export demand function unable us take into account constraints facing local producers on international markets. A simulation is performed based on ICAC, IFPRI, IADB and Iowa state university predictions on the impact of subsidies removal on world prices. It appears from the experiments carried out that the elimination of agricultural subsidies in developed countries will result in a shift of agricultural supply toward external markets. However, this will induce an increase in the cost of imported cereals, in particular rice and will have an adverse effect on households, worsening their well-being, except those of Delta rural households.

  October 2005  
  Bhorat, Haroon and Morné J. Oosthuizen  
Much work has been done in South Africa on the relationship between the labour market and household poverty, as well as more generally the association of differentially sourced incomes to household poverty and inequality. The notion is that it is access to incomes, or lack thereof, which lies at the heart of characterising inequality and poverty in the society. Clearly though, a critical intermediary to income access remains the fluctuations in the real values of these incomes, despite controlling for access to income. This line of enquiry – namely the role of relative final price movements in affecting households across the income distribution –is a
new one for the post-apartheid period, with its local intellectual origins lying in Kahn (1985). At one level the study aims to identify and quantify the impact of relative price movements on household poverty levels, with a key aim being to identify those products that are critical to indigent households’ vulnerability. At a more generic level, the paper is implicitly a representation of how the macroeconomic environment is able to, and indeed does, impact on household welfare. Ultimately, the paper hopes to deliver a detailed analysis not only of the construction of an appropriate consumer price index for South Africa, but also, through the use of income and expenditure survey data, the impact of reported price movements on inflation for households at different points in the national income distribution. Specifically, this study’s two main objectives are, firstly, to derive inflation rates for urban households grouped according to expenditure deciles and, secondly, to identify some of the key product categories responsible for the largest shares of inflation of the poorest 40% of urban households.

2. From the SAGA Conference on
Empowering the Rural Poor and Reducing Their Risk and Vulnerability
February 10, 2005
Nairobi, Kenya
An International Conference sponsored by
Cornell University and
Institute of Policy Analysis and Research (IPAR)

Policy Briefs (available as PDF):

- Enhancing Access, Accountability and Empowerment for the Poor Through Decentralization and Participation: A Case for Agricultural Extension Service in Eastern Kenya
  (Godiah L. Mugunieri and John M. Omiti—IPAR )

- Enhancing Access, Accountability and Empowerment Through Decentralization and Participation: Agricultural Extension Service in Western Kenya
  (Elizabeth Nambiro and John M. Omiti—IPAR )

- Exploring the Effects of Farmer Community Group Participation on Rural Livelihoods
  (David M. Amudavi, Cornell University)

- An Analysis of Success, Failure and Demand Factors of Agricultural Cooperatives in Kenya
  (James Nyoro and Isaac Komo, Tegemeo Institute)

- Imperfections in Membership Based Organizations for the Poor: An Explanation for the Dismal Performance of Kenya’s Coffee Cooperatives
  (Andrew Mude, Cornell University)
The Role of Rural Factor Markets in Reducing Poverty, Risks and Vulnerability in Rural Kenya: Evidence from Kakamega and Vihiga Districts
(Joseph Karugia, Willis Oluoch-Kosura, Rose Nyikal, Michael Odumbe and Paswell Marenya, University of Nairobi)

Economic Transfers Through Social Networks and Financial Trickle Down in Kenya’s Smallholder Sector
(Heidi Hogset, Cornell University)

Effects of Market Price Volatility on Production Patterns and Apparent Retreat into Subsistence Farming by Kenyan Smallholders
(Hezron Nyangito, Walter Odhiambo, Samuel Mwakubo and Lydia Ndirangu, KIPPRA)

Decomposing Producer Price Risk: A Policy Analysis Tool with an Application to Northern Kenyan Livestock Markets
(Christopher B. Barrett and Winnie K. Luseno, Cornell University)

3. From the KIPPRA-CORNELL SAGA Workshop on QUALITATIVE AND QUANTITATIVE METHODS FOR POVERTY ANALYSIS
March 11, 2004, Nairobi, Kenya

PROCEEDINGS OF THE WORKSHOP
Edited by Walter Odhiambo, John M. Omiti, and David I. Muthaka
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APPENDIX XI
SAGA RESEARCH IN PRINT

Published and Forthcoming Papers:

1. Duclos, Jean-Yves, David E. Sahn and Stephen D. Younger
   Forthcoming
   Robust Multidimensional Spatial Poverty Comparisons in Ghana, Madagascar, and Uganda
   In World Bank Economic Review

2. Barrett, Christopher B. and Brent M. Swallow
   Forthcoming
   Fractal Poverty Traps
   In World Development

3. Leibbrandt, Murray, Laura Poswell, Pranushka Naidoo, Matthew Welch and Ingrid Woolard
   Forthcoming
   Measuring Recent Changes in South African Inequality and Poverty Using 1996 and 2001 Census Data
   Haroon Bhorat and Ravi Kanbur, editors
   Cape Town, South Africa: HSRC Press

4. Rospabe, Sandrine and Harris Selod
   Forthcoming
   Does City Structure Cause Unemployment? The Case Study of Cape Town
   Haroon Bhorat and Ravi Kanbur, editors
   Cape Town, South Africa: HSRC Press

5. Meth, Charles
   Forthcoming
   Half Measures: The ANC’s Unemployment and Poverty Reduction Targets
   Haroon Bhorat and Ravi Kanbur, editors
   Cape Town, South Africa: HSRC Press

6. Posel, Dorrit and Daniela Casale
   Forthcoming
   Internal Labour Migration and Household Poverty in Post-Apartheid South Africa
   Haroon Bhorat and Ravi Kanbur, editors
   Cape Town, South Africa: HSRC Press

7. Demombynes, Gabriel and Berk Özler
   Forthcoming
   Crime and Local Inequality in South Africa
   Haroon Bhorat and Ravi Kanbur, editors
   Cape Town, South Africa: HSRC Press

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8. van der Berg, Servaas
Forthcoming
Public Spending and the Poor Since the Transition to Democracy
Haroon Bhorat and Ravi Kanbur, editors
Cape Town, South Africa: HSRC Press

9. Hoogeveen, Johannes G. and Berk Özler
Forthcoming
Not Separate, Not Equal: Poverty and Inequality in Post-Apartheid South Africa
Haroon Bhorat and Ravi Kanbur, editors
Cape Town, South Africa: HSRC Press

10. May, Julian
Forthcoming
Persistent Poverty, Asset Accumulation and Shocks in South Africa: Evidence from KwaZulu-Natal
Haroon Bhorat and Ravi Kanbur, editors
Cape Town, South Africa: HSRC Press

11. Edwards, Lawrence
Forthcoming
Trade Liberalisation and Labour Demand in South Africa during the 1990s
Haroon Bhorat and Ravi Kanbur, editors
Cape Town, South Africa: HSRC Press

12. Bhorat, Haroon and Oosthuizen, Morné
Forthcoming
Haroon Bhorat and Ravi Kanbur, editors
Cape Town, South Africa: HSRC Press

13. Fedderke, Johannes
Forthcoming
From Chimera to Prospect: Toward an Understanding of the South African Growth Absence
Haroon Bhorat and Ravi Kanbur, editors
Cape Town, South Africa: HSRC Press

14. Oosthuizen, Morné and Haroon Bhorat
Forthcoming
The Post-Apartheid South African Labour Market
In Poverty and Policy in Post-Apartheid South Africa
Haroon Bhorat and Ravi Kanbur, editors
Cape Town, South Africa: HSRC Press
15. Glick, Peter and Mamisoa Razakamanantsoa
Forthcoming
The Distribution of Education and Health Services in Madagascar over the 1990s:
Increasing Progressivity in an Era of Low Growth
In Journal of African Economies

16. Bellemare, Marc F. and Christopher B. Barrett
Forthcoming
An Ordered Tobit of Market Participation: Evidence from Kenya and Ethiopia
In American Journal of Agricultural Economics

17. Glick, Peter and David E. Sahn
Forthcoming
The Demand for Primary Schooling in Madagascar: Price, Quality, and the Choice
Between Public and Private Providers
In Journal of Development Economics

18. Carter, Michael R. and Christopher B. Barrett
Forthcoming
The Economics of Poverty Traps and Persistent Poverty: An Asset-Based Approach
In Journal of Development Studies

19. Barrett, Christopher B., Paswel Phiri Marenya, John McPeak, Bart Minten, Festus
Murithi, Willis Oluoch-Kosura, Frank Place, Jean Claude Randrianarisoa, Jhon
Rasambainarivo and Justine Wangila
Forthcoming
Welfare Dynamics in Rural Kenya and Madagascar
In Journal of Development Studies

20. Barrett, Christopher B.
Forthcoming
On the Relevance of Identities, Communities, Groups and Networks to the
Economics of Poverty Alleviation
In The Social Economics of Poverty: Identities, Groups, Communities and Networks
Christopher B. Barrett, ed.
London: Routledge

21. Barrett, Christopher B.
Forthcoming
Smallholder Identities and Social Networks: The Challenge of Improving
Productivity and Welfare
In The Social Economics of Poverty: Identities, Groups, Communities and Networks
Christopher B. Barrett, ed.
London: Routledge
22. Barrett, Christopher B. and John G. McPeak
Forthcoming
Poverty Traps and Safety Nets
In Poverty, Inequality and Development: Essays in Honor of Erik Thorbecke
Alain de Janvry and Ravi Kanbur, eds.
Norwell, MA: Kluwer Academic Publishers

23. Sahn, David E. and Stephen D. Younger
August 2005
Improvements in Children’s Health: Does Inequality Matter?
In The Journal of Economic Inequality 3(2):125-143

24. Glick, Peter
August 1, 2005
Studies Tell Us About Potential Prevention Impacts?
In Evaluation Review 29(4):331-357

25. Barrett, Christopher B.
February 2005
Rural Poverty Dynamics: Development Policy Implications
In Reshaping Agriculture’s Contributions to Society
David Colman and Nick Vink, eds.
Oxford: Blackwell, 2005

26. Glick, Peter and David E. Sahn
February 2005
Intertemporal Female Labor Force Behavior in a Developing Country: What Can We Learn from a Limited Panel?

27. Sahn, David E. and Stephen D. Younger
2004
Growth and Poverty Reduction in Sub-Saharan Africa: Macroeconomic
Adjustment and Beyond
In Journal of African Economies 13(90001):i66-i95

28. Barrett, Christopher B., Christine M. Moser, Oloro V. McHugh and Joeli Barison
November 2004
Better Technology, Better Plots or Better Farmers? Identifying Changes In
Productivity And Risk Among Malagasy Rice Farmers
In American Journal of Agricultural Economics 86(4):869-888 (November)
29. Barrett, Christopher B. and Winnie K. Luseno
   August 2004
   Decomposing Producer Price Risk: An Analysis of Livestock Markets in Northern Kenya
   In Food Policy 29(4):393-405

30. Sahn, David E. and David C. Stifel
    2003
    Urban-Rural Inequality in Africa
APPENDIX XII
SAGA CONFERENCES, WORKSHOPS, PRESENTATIONS
12/01/05-11/08/05

Conferences

Regional Conference on Education in West Africa
sponsored by
Cornell University
Centre de Recherche en Economie Appliquée (CREA)
Ministère de l'Education du Sénégal
Dakar, Senegal
November 1-2, 2005

International Conference on
Shared Growth in Africa
sponsored by
Cornell University,
The Institute of Statistical, Social and Economic Research
(ISSER-University of Ghana), and
The Africa Region of the World Bank
Accra, Ghana
July 21-22, 2005

SAGA Conference on
Empowering the Rural Poor and Reducing Their Risk and Vulnerability
An International Conference sponsored by
Cornell University and
Institute of Policy Analysis and Research (IPAR)
Nairobi, Kenya
February 10, 2005

Poverty in Uganda: Trends, Dimensions, and Policy
A Conference sponsored by
Cornell University and the
Economic Policy Research Centre (EPRC)
Kampala, Uganda
February 4, 2005

Workshops

SAGA Workshop on Education Analysis and Survey Design
Antsirabe, Madagascar
January, 2005
Presentations

Cognitive Skills among Children in Senegal: Disentangling the Roles of Schooling and Family Background (David Sahn, Peter Glick)
Presenter:  David Sahn, Cornell University
September 1, 2005
University of Copenhagen, Denmark

Cognitive Skills among Children in Senegal: Disentangling the Roles of Schooling and Family Background (David Sahn, Peter Glick)
Presenter:  David Sahn, Cornell University
September 2, 2005
Gothenburg University, Sweden

Risk and Asset Management in the Presence of Poverty Traps: Implications for Growth and Social Protection (Christopher Barrett, Michael R. Carter)
Presenter:  Christopher Barrett, Cornell University
June 23-24, 2005
World Bank Workshop
Leuven, Belgium

SAGA-Uganda Research Results
Presenters: Sarah Ssewanyana, John Okidi, Ibrahim Kasirye, and Stephen Younger
June 8, 2005
USAID Mission-Kampala, Uganda

Progression through School and Academic Performance in Madagascar Study
Presenters: SAGA researchers and the Ministry of Education (MENRS)
March 30, 2005
Antanarivo, Madagascar

Assets, Poverty Traps and Rights
USAID Seminar Series
Natural Resource Management and Poverty Reduction
Chris Barrett, Cornell University
December 9, 2004
Washington, DC