Strategies and Analysis for Growth and Access (SAGA)

FINAL REPORT
Cornell University and Clark Atlanta University
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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This final report summarizes the activities and main accomplishments of SAGA. Due to funding shortfalls, however, we completed only three-quarters of the activities envisaged in the overall Cooperative Agreement. Despite our disappointment with the severe cut-back in funding, we have engaged in a wide range of activities and have achieved SAGA’s objectives of high quality poverty research, institution strengthening, and policy outreach. This report familiarizes and informs USAID and others about our progress. While this report provides considerable insight and a synopsis of much of work conducted under the SAGA project, the reader is strongly encouraged to consult the website: www.saga.cornell.edu. This will provide a far more comprehensive and complete picture of our activities and accomplishments.

In research, 311 papers have been prepared under SAGA, 73 of which having been published in peer-reviewed journals and as book chapters. These published titles are collected in Appendix I. Eleven volumes, edited by SAGA principals, have been published that focus on specific areas of SAGA research, including collections of proceedings of SAGA-sponsored conferences. These are also listed in Appendix I, following the individual article titles. There are 34 additional working papers shown in Appendix II. There were 204 papers generated for conferences, and these, as well as conference briefs and presentations, are included with hyperlinks in Appendix III that lists all conferences, workshops, and presentations involving SAGA and SAGA researchers.

These papers describe the studies undertaken over the course of this project that have increased understanding of the issues central to SAGA’s focus—economic growth equity and poverty alleviation—and brought, in some cases, surprising findings, to aid policymakers in decision-making. Examples include:

In education, little is known about the relationship of early ability and subsequent educational outcomes in developing country environments, because the panel data needed to analyze this question have been lacking. We were able to take advantage of unique data from Senegal, combining test score data for children from the second grade with information on their subsequent school progression from a follow-up survey conducted seven years later. We find that measures of early cognitive ability, corrected for measurement error using multiple test observations per child, are very strongly positively associated with later school progression. A plausible interpretation is that parents invest more in a child’s education when the returns to doing so are higher. The results point to the need for remedial policies to target lagging students early on to reduce early dropout. A current policy targeting poorly performing students is grade repetition, which is pervasive in Francophone Africa. Using variation across schools in test score thresholds for promotion to identify the effects of second grade repetition, we find that a repeated student is more likely to leave school before completing primary than a student with similar ability who is not held back, pointing to the need for alternative measures to improve skills of lagging children.
On HIV/AIDS, we estimated the determinants of HIV/AIDS knowledge and related behavior (use of condoms) among women in Madagascar, a country where prevalence remains low but conditions are ripe for a rapid increase in infections. In both rural and urban areas, more educated and wealthier women are more likely to know about means of preventing infection, less likely to have misconceptions about transmission, and more likely to use condoms. Community factors such as availability of health centers and access to roads also are associated with greater HIV knowledge. However, most of the large rural-urban difference in mean knowledge is due not to location per se but to differences in schooling and wealth; rather than simply being geographically targeted, AIDS education efforts must be designed to target and be understood by uneducated and poor subpopulations.

Regarding risk, vulnerability and poverty dynamics, we investigated variation over time, space and household and individual characteristics in how people perceive different risks. Using original data from the arid and semi-arid lands of east Africa, we explored which risks concern individuals and how they assess their relative level of concern about these identified risks. Because these assessments were gathered for multiple time periods, sites, households and individuals within households, we were able to identify the degree to which risk perceptions vary across time, across communities, across households within a community, and across individuals within a household. We found the primary determinants of risk rankings to be changing community level variables over time, with household specific and individual specific variables exhibiting much less influence. This suggests that community-based planning and monitoring of development efforts that address risk exposure should be prioritized. We also find that individuals throughout this area are most concerned about food security overall, so that development efforts that directly address this problem should be given the highest priority.

In the area of empowerment and institutions, we developed a simple theoretical model of market participation over multiple seasons in the presence of liquidity constraints and transactions costs to explain the ‘sell low, buy high’ puzzle wherein certain households forego opportunities for intertemporal price arbitrage through storage and are observed to sell output post-harvest at prices lower than observed prices for purchases in the subsequent lean season. We tested our model with data from western Kenya using maximum likelihood estimation of a multivariate sample selection model of market participation. Access to off-farm income and credit indeed seem to influence crop sales and purchase behaviors in a manner consistent with the hypothesized patterns.

SAGA built capacity in partner institutions to conduct high quality research, to raise funding for research, and to raise their national and international profiles. Prominent examples included:
SAGA co-sponsored, with the Institute of Statistical, Social and Economic Research (ISSER) and the Economy of Ghana Network (EGN), the Young Economists Outreach Programme, January 10-11, 2008, in Elmina, Ghana. The purpose of the forum was to expose young economists in Ghana to an international peer review process for their work and develop mentoring relationships with senior, internationally known, and accomplished economists. At this meeting, emphasis was placed on introducing young economists to new ideas in economics and how these can be used in their own work.

Planning for the dissemination of the papers commissioned as part of the SAGA-Ghana research sparked a major new process that has proved very exciting. Ernest Aryeetey, the director of ISSER, devised a major plan to transform the July 2004 dissemination conference into the launch conference of a new network on the Economy of Ghana (EGN). Within Ghana, the EGN seeks to fulfill the need previously met by the now moribund Economic Society of Ghana and, equally important, serves as a network for the diaspora of Ghanaian economists, and indeed for all economists working on Ghana. ISSER successfully applied to the African Capacity Building Foundation (ACBF) for institutional support for the Network. Thus, the ISSER-Cornell and SAGA-Ghana processes led to a Ghana-wide process, based at ISSER, that transformed economic analysis networks on Ghana and raised the national and international profile of ISSER.

In South Africa, Ravi Kanbur, Paul Cichello, and Stephen Younger worked with the Development Policy Research Unit (DPRU) of the University of Capetown (UCT) to offer the two-week “Training Course in Poverty and Inequality Analysis” for faculty and staff from the historically disadvantages institutions (HDIs) in South Africa. The workshop was held at UCT from June 23 to July 4, 2003. The course covered both theoretical and empirical aspects of poverty and inequality analysis, with daily hands-on training with STATA software in UCT’s computer lab. News of the workshop’s success spread quickly in South Africa. The Department for Social Development (DSD), the government agency charged with design and management of most of South Africa’s transfer payments, asked DPRU and Cornell to run a poverty and inequality workshop for its staff, with emphasis on empirical analysis. Ravi Kanbur, Paul Cichello, Ching-Mei Chen, and Stephen Younger worked with the DPRU to offer a two-week training course in poverty and inequality analysis for the DSD, “Workshop on Measurement and Analysis of Poverty and Inequality.” The workshop was held in Pretoria at the government’s information technology training center March 23-April 2, 2004. The course covered both theoretical and empirical aspects of poverty and inequality analysis, with daily hands-on training with STATA software in a computer lab.

SAGA researchers and our partner institutions are reaching out to promote the maximum level of policy impact in a variety of ways:
The SAGA website (http://www.saga.cornell.edu) provides a means for us to communicate globally about the program and disseminate the results of our research as working papers, conference papers, and presentations downloadable from the website. The number of “hits” recorded to this website since data collection on the website usage began in May 28, 2003, is 1,641,618. While the “hit” is a common measurement of website traffic indicating the number of files downloaded by a visitor, which may include individual web pages or images, for example, the number of visitors was also tracked, and we find that the SAGA website has been visited 259,896 times. During the course of these visits, 336,263 copies of SAGA papers were downloaded.

During the course of the SAGA grant period, we have participated in over 50 conferences, workshops, and presentations, which are included in Appendix III. We have sponsored major policy-oriented conferences in collaboration with our African partners, organized dissemination conferences, provided technical workshops, and given presentations on our research findings.

The third symposium in the United Nations University-Cornell Africa Series, The Social and Economic Dimensions of HIV/AIDS in Africa, sponsored by UNAIDS and the Turkish Mission to the United Nations, was held September 9, 2008, at the UN headquarters in New York. The symposium was the third in a series designed to prepare and educate UN agency staff, delegates and other interested parties to address the lack of progress in meeting the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) in Africa, and prepare the landscape for the General Assembly Conference on Africa in late September 2008. A final event, planned for early 2009 will outline the lessons learned from the preceding events and make policy recommendations. Symposium organizer, David Sahn, worked to make this third event “a unique opportunity for academics, policymakers and practitioners to identify actions to reduce the prevalence and adverse economic and social consequences of HIV/AIDS in Africa, as well as gaps in knowledge that can be addressed by future research.” Leading academic experts from around the globe – including many from Africa, the United Nations, international organizations and non-governmental organizations shared their knowledge on the effect of HIV/AIDS on household incomes, migration patterns, the health care system, poverty and children and youth. In addition, the symposium explored various opportunities for, and the effectiveness of, prevention and treatment options and how they are expected to affect individuals, communities and the economy as a whole.

The SAGA teams also promoted and fostered engagement with our partners at USAID through a variety of mechanisms. For example:

SAGA researchers were interviewed for eleven “conversations on poverty,” in which they were able to describe their research in their own words, communicate their findings, and define the challenges ahead. These audio files were made available at the USAID Poverty Frontiers website. The Poverty Frontiers website
describes the audio files as a complement to the “the rich abundance of research materials” available on SAGA’s own website.

Ravi Kanbur’s continued engagement of high level policymakers in South Africa included presentations to parliamentarians and engaging Ministerial-level officials in conferences and workshops to help shape policy dialogue in South Africa. Most recently, his invited presentation on “The Global Backdrop to South Africa’s Anti-Poverty Strategy” on October 29, 2008, was delivered at the launch of the South African government’s draft Anti Poverty Strategy Framework for Dialogue and Action.
I. PROJECT OVERVIEW

Strategies and Analysis for Growth and Access (SAGA), a project of Cornell and Clark Atlanta Universities, funded by a cooperative agreement with USAID, brought together key personnel with extensive experience in Africa as researchers, teachers, policymakers, and consultants, to offer a “bottoms-up perspective. Believing that macroeconomic reforms are only part of the basis for growth and poverty reduction, we have focused on the capabilities of individuals, households, and communities—their productivities, their vulnerabilities, their institutions, and their environment.

This project differed from typical research projects in that both the research and the technical assistance components were demand driven, responding directly to needs and interests of our African colleagues. We sought considerable input from African policymakers, stakeholders, and researchers in developing the activities of this project. Consultations with USAID missions culminated in May 2002, when countries were selected based on the scoring of the proposals and responses from the missions that had expressed an interest in SAGA. Subsequent to the selection of SAGA countries, a process of consultation with USAID missions, partner institutions, government officials, and stakeholders was undertaken, with the intent of defining the research priorities that would best respond to, and promote evidence-based policy formulation.

SAGA’s goals were to conduct high quality, policy relevant research and to increase African capacity to produce such research, on key issues affecting economic growth and improved living standards in Africa. Our four main objectives were to:

1. Conduct policy-oriented research on economic growth equity and poverty alleviation;
2. Strengthen selected African economic research institutes;
3. Expand the pool of highly trained African economists; and,

SAGA is divided into 3 major components: The research component of SAGA had four broad themes: (1) schooling, education and human capital; (2) health and nutrition; (3) risk, vulnerability, and poverty dynamics; and (4) empowerment and institutions. The technical assistance component was provided to our partner institutes on a demand-driven basis on research methods, proposal preparation, and generating science-based information for policy making. The third component, the competitive grants program, provided opportunities for researchers, including Ph.D. students and faculty from U.S. universities to development partnerships with African researchers and research institutions by financing their collaborative research in Africa. Administered by Clark-Atlanta University, the final report of the third component is attached as Appendix IV to this report.

As noted above, the SAGA project began with the determination of geographical focus of this project: The selection was made from countries with USAID country missions
and groups of countries that comprise regional missions. The choice of countries/regions in SAGA was determined based on a set of criteria that included: The mission commitment to working with the local SISERA institute; an indication that Mission and/or SISERA institute was able to bring the proposed research topics into the policymaking arena; the topics proposed by the Mission and SISERA institution had a strong policy orientation and were "cutting-edge" topics; the quality of presentation of mission and/or local SISERA institute's submission; the topics were cross-sectoral or multidisciplinary in coverage; the topics proposed were informative to current or upcoming mission program/strategy in economic growth and the social sectors; the Mission was in a Francophone region; the feasibility of success in research collaboration and institution building, including SISERA institutes capacity to conduct and benefit from collaborative research; and the proposed research was consistent with major themes of SAGA. The countries receiving the highest scores were Ghana, Kenya, Madagascar, South Africa, and Uganda, as well as the West Africa region.

Although some of our activities were multi-country in nature, most were focused on these core countries. The main modality of our activities was through collaboration with African partner institutions in the SISERA network, which in our core countries were:

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)¹
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)

¹ Note that INSTAT is not a SISERA institution, but became the focal point of our institutional collaboration since the local SISERA institution was no longer part of the network, owing to its demise.
II. PLANNING STAGES

Although the demand-driven nature of the project assured that consultations continued throughout the project with African partners, much effort in the early part of the project was involved in developing these partnerships and setting research agendas, as well as determining research needs in terms of available data and need for additional surveys.

By design, most SAGA activities addressed more than one objective. There was a synergy between the goals of research, institutional capacity building, engagement with policymakers, and facilitation of exchange between U.S. and African economists, with the expansion of the pool of highly trained African economists. When a research output was co-authored between someone at Cornell and someone at a partner institution, it built capacity (at both institutions). When such collaborative research was presented to policymakers at a conference, it helped to raise the profile of our partner institutions.

While SAGA’s methodological and disciplinary center of gravity was very clearly quantitative and economic, the original proposal recognized the value of a limited broadening out from this base to take in qualitative methods and other social sciences. We therefore held a brief workshop, “Qualitative Methods and SAGA: Community Studies Meeting” (April 2002) at Cornell University to discuss the way forward on integrating qualitative techniques and other social science disciplines into our research and technical assistance with SAGA personnel and invited guests, including Michael Lipton (Sussex); Josephine Allen (Policy Analysis and Management, Cornell); Scarlett Epstein (UK); Dimitra Doukas (Anthropology, Cornell); and Terence Turner (Anthropology, Cornell). In the research program, excursions into the use of qualitative techniques and social science disciplines were guided by country-specific concerns, capacities and interests. Based on these, the technical assistance program provided capacity building as needed in the use of mixed methods in poverty analysis.

Ghana

The Institute of Social Science and Economic Research (ISSER) at the University of Ghana was quite well placed to collaborate with SAGA to undertake studies in Ghana as outlined under the SAGA research themes. It proposed to make available a team of researchers led by Professor Ernest Aryeetey, an economist, and made up of other economists, agricultural economists, sociologists, political scientists, and demographers to the project. Researchers in other Ghanaian institutions were invited to team up with ISSER and other SAGA researchers in order to enhance the character of the teams that undertaking various studies. In late 2002 and early 2003, SAGA focused on defining a framework for the work program with ISSER.

A workshop, “Design of the SAGA-Ghana Research Program,” was held in Accra in October 2002 with active participation of the National Development Planning Commission and a range of stakeholders and, in consultation with the USAID mission, it was agreed to pursue four lines of enquiry: (i) a volume of papers, primarily written by locally based Ghanaians, on “Understanding Poverty in Ghana”; (ii) launching a project on collecting and analyzing panel data sets for Ghana at the community level; (iii) building bridges between
quantitative and qualitative analyses of poverty; and (iv) analysis of land tenure issues in Ghana.

The commissioning of a broad set of papers on Understanding Poverty in Ghana, written primarily by Ghanaian scholars based in Ghana, was a foundational exercise for the SAGA project, both in terms of providing a broad overview of the topic for Ghana, but also in terms of engaging with Ghanaian scholars and forming teams of ISSER and non-ISSER analysts.

Kenya

By African standards, Kenya enjoyed a relative abundance of good quality primary data for economic analysis and skilled researchers who were doing rigorous, policy-relevant research. SAGA sought to exploit this comparative advantage through a decentralized design that drew work from several able economic research institutions in Kenya. The program was also targeted toward informing debate on high profile policy questions highlighted in the new Kenya Rural Development Strategy (KRDS) and Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper (PRSP) processes in the aftermath of national elections that resulted in the country’s first change in power since independence. The PRSP identified agricultural and rural development as Kenya’s number one priority for poverty alleviation and economic growth. The KRDS emphasized problems of risk and vulnerability, market access, and smallholder empowerment as central to agricultural and rural development. Toward those ends, the SAGA-Kenya research program was organized as a set of subsidiary research projects conducted by a consortium of research institutions around two core, interrelated themes: “Reducing risk and vulnerability in rural Kenya” and “Empowering the rural poor.”

The research program SAGA pursued in Kenya was developed collaboratively through repeated consultations, both in Kenya and via email and by telephone, between Cornell, Clark Atlanta, Institute of Policy Analysis and Research (IPAR), the Kenya Institute for Public Policy Research and Analysis (KIPPRA), Tegemeo Institute of Agricultural Policy and Development at Egerton University Kenya (Tegemeo), the University of Nairobi, USAID-Kenya, USAID- Regional Economic Development Services Office (REDSO), and USAID-Washington. The SAGA-Kenya team included two members who were writing the government's Kenya Rural Development Strategy. Hezron Nyangito, the Acting Director of KIPPRA led one of our teams. James Nyoro of Tegemeo, who led another of our subprojects, chaired the government’s parliamentary advisory group on reforms in the coffee sector. Meetings were held in Nairobi in January and August, 2003, between SAGA-Kenya team leader Chris Barrett and Kenyan partners, and a team meeting was convened in Durban, South Africa where all parties were attending the 25th triennial meetings of the International Association of Agricultural Economists. It took time to get terms of reference and subcontracts finalized between Cornell and each of the participating institutions, the last of the subcontracts was put in place and the last of the budgetary advances was made in September, 2003.
Madagascar

A “SAGA Participatory Planning Workshop,” delayed initially by political turmoil and civil unrest the previous year, was organized in March 2003, by Cornell University and our SAGA partner, the Centre d’Etudes Economique (CEE). Attending from Cornell were Christopher Barrett, David Stifel and Bart Minten. The deliberations commenced with the Cornell University team outlining the general structure of SAGA’s three broad activities and the research themes and core countries within the research activity. We encouraged CEE and the Mission to think about capacity building needs for CEE and to propose appropriate training efforts to SISERA and SAGA for technical assistance funding. The results from this planning workshop were not only used to define the SAGA research agenda, but fed directly into the Ministry’s of Agriculture and the Presidency's deliberations on the PRSP later that month.

The Mission expressed support for SAGA work in the thematic area of poverty dynamics and rural vulnerability, and particularly how that would link with PRSP team. Among the issues they wanted to see tackled were identifying the high value agricultural products that could help stimulate sustainable agricultural intensification there, and how rural household portfolios could be adapted to stabilize and increase well-being.

Decentralization of public services delivery in health and education was considered a very important topic, with discussions focused on participation in the design and analysis of a health facilities and user survey, and a similar survey of schools and cognitive achievement of children. The Ministry of Decentralization (attached to Office of Presidency) was the key government audience, as well as the Ministries of Health and Primary and Secondary Education. We agreed to coordinate closely with the World Bank, and other bilaterals who had started some work on this also. We explored the need to ensure integration of research design and results reporting into policy discussions.

In terms of the major research theme of health pursued in Madagascar, two areas of interest were mutually reinforcing and intertwined. The first was our work on HIV/AIDS. Consistent with the Mission’s interest in this area, we undertook an analysis of existing data with Malgashe counterparts to examine HIV-AIDS knowledge and behaviors, using data from the last (1997) Demographic and Health Survey conducted in Madagascar, that estimated the individual, household, and community-level determinants of AIDS prevention knowledge, condom use, and related outcomes for women of childbearing age. The second major area of the health work related to the SAGA themes of empowerment and institutions. The Secretary General, Mme. Josianne Rabetokotany of the Ministry of Education, along with the Prime Minister, requested and secured financial support from the World Bank at a Paris donor’s meeting for a survey to be jointly designed and conducted by SAGA and the Ministry to improve the knowledge base for the Ministry’s policymaking and investments. Specifically, we worked with the Institut National de la Statistique (INSTAT) and the Ministry of Health, with funding from and in collaboration with the World Bank, to conduct surveys of health facilities and their users.
At the end 2003, we finalized a research program with INSTAT and the Ministry of Education to provide a clearer picture for policymakers of the determinants of primary and lower secondary schooling outcomes. In a series of visits to Madagascar, we finalized our research program with INSTAT and the Ministry of Education. This was followed by a series of high level meetings in Washington and Ithaca with the Minister of Education, the Secretary General, and the Director Generals, to map out the execution of our work there.

**Uganda**

Stephen Younger met with a many researchers, government officials, and USAID/Uganda staff to discuss possible foci for the research program in three visits in November 2001, June and August, 2002. Younger, John Okidi of the Economic Policy Research Centre (EPRC), and various USAID/Uganda staff met separately with government officials, donors, and other stakeholders during Younger’s June visit to Kampala. The most striking observation made in the meetings in Kampala was that virtually everyone commented that there was an abundance of good data in this country, but few good researchers to use them.

In response, Cornell and the EPRC conducted a two-week workshop, “Uganda Survey Data Analysis Workshop,” on the use of household survey data for policy analysis, from August 26 to September 6, 2002, with Stephen Younger and John Okidi serving as joint coordinators and resource people. This technical assistance was designed to address the imbalance between abundant data and scarce researchers in Uganda. Both EPRC and Cornell have considerable experience at training researchers to analyze survey data using advanced econometrics techniques and software. Thus, we had an excellent opportunity to provide a valuable technical assistance activity under SAGA. The workshop participants included four EPRC researchers, four Makerere University lecturers, two graduate students, and one researcher from the Bank of Uganda. In addition to these Ugandan participants, researchers from Kenya (IPAR), Tanzania (Economic and Social Research Foundation (ESRF)), and Zambia (Institute for Economic and Social Research (INESOR) of the University of Zambia) also attended.

While primarily a technical assistance activity, we sought to augment the Uganda research program, by showing the workshop’s participants both research topics and the methods to address them, in order to stimulate the interest of a group of researchers who could participate in the SAGA research agenda. We included the participants in the day-long consultative meeting on September 6, 2002, that included representatives from the government, USAID, the World Bank, and other stakeholders, such as university faculty as well.

Based on all of our discussions, The Economic Policy Research Centre (EPRC) and Cornell decided that SAGA research would not be a single, large research project, but several papers, written by different authors, using existing data that are largely untapped in Uganda.
South Africa

After the selection of South Africa as a core country, discussions began with the Development Policy Research Unit (DPRU) in June, 2002. In keeping with the demand-driven philosophy of SAGA, discussions focused on DPRU’s research priorities, in light of the policy needs in South Africa, with input from the USAID mission. We worked with DPRU to help them develop their framework for research under the SAGA program, viewing this as an integrated part of their overall research strategy. Three main activities were advanced: (i) a research proposal to SISERA on education, labor markets, and poverty in post-Apartheid South Africa; (ii) a research proposal to SAGA-Cornell on comparing poverty and standards of living in 1995 and 2000, the first five years of the post-Apartheid period; and (iii) a volume of papers on poverty in South Africa ten years after Apartheid.

DPRU produced its highly successful “Fighting Poverty” report with AERC in 2000. SAGA helped DPRU prepare a reapplication for a second stage of support focusing on labor markets. This application was successful. Although not financed by SAGA, this work complemented the work financed by SAGA on poverty and labor markets in South Africa. Additionally, SAGA helped DPRU develop a proposal, “Human Capital Outcomes in South Africa: The Role of Primary and Secondary School Institutions,” that received funding from SISERA.

Ravi Kanbur was involved in a number of outreach activities at the request of USAID-South Africa and DPRU. He addressed Parliamentarians on the issue of globalization and poverty, made presentations to South Africa Treasury staff on a range of issues, and became a peer reviewer for the Fiscal and Finance Commission report to Parliament.

West Africa

Our consultations in the West African region quickly focused our attention on issues of the low educational attainment in the region, lagging cognitive skill development, and the large gender bias in schooling. As an outcome of the formal and informal consultation process with various actors, we developed a research program to investigate the household, community, and school-level determinants of the following education outcomes in Senegal and Côte d’Ivoire: primary and secondary enrollment, school level transitions and progress through school, grade repetition and dropout, and learning—both academic (math and French test scores) and non-academic (“life-skills”). The project was a collaborative research effort involving, in addition to Cornell, institutions in Senegal such as Confemen Education System Analysis Program (PASEC), Centre de Recherche en Economie Appliquée (CREA), the Ministry of Education, the national statistics agency (Direction de la Prevision et de la Statistique), and Institut National de l’Enseignement Appliqué et de la Didactique (INEAD); and in Côte d’Ivoire, Ivoirian researchers at Ecole Nationale supérieure de Statistique et d’Economie appliqué (ENSEA) and Centre Ivoirien de Recherche Économique et Sociale (CIRES), as well as French researchers from Institut National de la Recherche Agronomique (INRA). Given the expense of data collection associated with this activity, we also worked with the French Ministry of Development Cooperation and the World Bank to secure funding for local survey costs.
Evaluation of Voluntary HIV Testing and Counseling (VCT) interventions emerged as the most appropriate specific focus of our health-related research in West Africa. In May 2002, David Sahn and Peter Glick traveled to Bamako to meet with the USAID Mission to discuss potential research areas that were consistent with this strong interest in the HIV/AIDS epidemic expressed by USAID’s West Africa Regional Program (WARP). In Bamako, Peter Glick and David Sahn met with Carleene Dei, the director of WARP. Peter Glick subsequently traveled to Dakar and Abidjan for further discussions with USAID and other personnel. In Dakar, he met with Felix Awantang, the WARP Health Strategic Objective Team Leader. In Abidjan, he met extensively over a period of a week with Dr. Jim Allman, Project Manager of FHA/AIDS for USAID. He also met several times with personnel of CIRES, including Dr. Barry Mody, Assistant Director. Also consulted with was Dr. Koffi N'Guessan, the director of ENSEA which has done a great deal of HIV survey related research in the country. Finally, meetings were held as well with a number of key public health officials involved in HIV prevention. Evaluation of Voluntary HIV Testing and Counseling (VCT) interventions emerged as the most appropriate specific focus of our research. By spring 2003, the political crisis and violence in Côte d’Ivoire made it clear that Côte d’Ivoire will be unsuitable for the research as long as the conflict remained unresolved. Given the availability (primarily) of Demographic and Health Survey data from many countries, we turned our efforts to the analysis of secondary data, and Madagascar became a particular focus of the research, consistent with the interest of the USAID Mission there. What made the Madagascar analysis of special interest is that we anticipated being able to integrate the DHS individual and household data with other sources, such as the commune census and the population census to provide a better understanding of how factors outside household—such as the availability of community health or fertility centers as well roads and other infrastructure (or more generally ‘remoteness’), affect the speed and diffusion of HIV knowledge, testing, and sexual behavior.

In the summer 2002, N’Dri Assié-Lumumba traveled to Côte d’Ivoire, with a brief stopover in Paris, in order to collect some broad information on the community schools to help prepare a research agenda on this topic. In Paris, she had some fruitful exchange of ideas with, and received documents from, Dr. Dramane Oulai, at the International Institute of Educational Planning, who has conducted research on community schools in Cameroon, Mali, Senegal and Togo, and was then focusing on Kenya and planning to work on the same topic in Namibia in the near future. In Abidjan, Dr. Assié-Lumumba had several working sessions with the Ivorian Ministry of Education and worked more specifically with Mr. Kagohi Robalé, technical adviser to the Minister of Education, in charge of the “Non Formal Education” project. In Côte d’Ivoire, her meetings with Professor Mama Ouattara, the new director of CIRES, were very positive. He expressed a strong interest in the different components of the SAGA project. Dr. Assié-Lumumba traveled also to Dakar, where assisted by SAGA graduate student research assistant Marieme Lô (who was also working on community schools for her Ph. D. thesis), she met with key actors in the Senegalese experience of “écoles communautaires de base.” In Dakar, Dr. Assié-Lumumba also met Dr. Elias Ayuk, then a program officer at SISERA; Dr. Gilles Forget, the International Development Research Centre (IDRC) Regional Director, who was acting Executive
Director of SISERA; and Mr. Laurent Elder of IDRC’s project Acacia: Communities and the Information Society in Africa.

The political context in Côte d’Ivoire and the fact that the schools and localities to be included in the study are in the areas still controlled by the “rebels” adversely affected progress in the area of research on community schools. Preparatory work was done in the case of Senegal under the direction of Dr. Assie-Lumumba by a Senegalese researcher, Marième Lo. In 2003, she visited a variety of sites with the purpose of locating the community school within its social environment and to draw a situation analysis, assessing challenges and potentialities of current programs, as well as areas of innovations. A wide spectrum of actors, stakeholders, and intended beneficiaries were interviewed primarily to revisit assumptions about community schools and obtain a first-hand account of the prevailing situation regarding the development of community schools and update about the current and emerging issues.
III. 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 developed SAGA’s research program collaboratively with our partner institutions, USAID missions, policymakers, and other stakeholders in each core country. To date, SAGA researchers have completed over 311 papers, and many more are in progress. We have also fielded several major surveys and sponsored 56 research conferences, workshops, and presentations. Here, we summarize our results.

III.1. Schooling, Education, and Human Capital

During May, 2002, Peter Glick traveled to Senegal to assist the Centre de Recherche en Economie Appliquée (CREA), the Senegal SISERA institution, in the design of household surveys. Cornell University, CREA, and the Ministry of Education organized the conference, “Identifying Policy Needs in Education,” (May 2002), with the support of UNESCO and UNICEF to identify information needs for policymakers in Senegal charged with redesigning the countries education strategy. In addition, Leopold Sarr, a doctoral student at Cornell and Senegalese national, who was working on his dissertation was sent to Dakar from Mid-June to early October. In 2003, he assumed primary responsibility for managing and implementing the household survey that was conducted by the Ministry of Education and CREA, remaining in Senegal until August 2003. Overall, the efforts involved in conducting this large and uniquely comprehensive survey involved over eight trips for the SAGA research team to Dakar in 2002-2003, and approximately one person year of our team being on site during this period. In addition, numerous Senegalese institutions were engaged, as were some 50 enumerators and supervisors.

The technical assistance team from Cornell University worked primarily with the director, Abdoulaye Diagne, and with lead researchers Monseur Dafe and Salimata Faye. The specific area in which Cornell provided technical assistance was in the design of household, community, and school-level questionnaires for examining education outcomes, as well as the planning and design of sampling procedures and related analytic approaches for data analysis. A formal workshop was hosted by Cornell and CREA in 2003, with participants from Ministries of Education in Côte d’Ivoire and Senegal, representatives of various international organizations and donors, and non-governmental organizations. Other less formal consultations in Senegal and Côte d’Ivoire took place during the three trips that David Sahn and Peter Glick made to the region during this period. David Sahn traveled to Senegal
to meet with the Ministers of Education from Senegal and Côte d'Ivoire at the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) meeting of Ministers of Education. During this visit, final research plans based on the planned surveys and discussions with the Ministry of Education and various stakeholders in terms of specific research papers to be prepared were discussed.

We supplemented an existing five-year cohort survey of school children with additional comprehensive data collection on households, communities, and school alternatives in areas where the original data were collected. Combining the data sources, a range of econometric approaches were used to explain variation in these education and cognitive outcomes. In addition, the research examined related factors such as entry into the workforce after school, children’s time allocation, and schooling differences among siblings and between boys and girls, migration and health and their relationships to education, the impact of shocks on health and education outcomes, and the role of indigenous and formal institutions in affecting household welfare.

The actual survey began in March 2003, following months spent working with our partners to develop the questionnaires, sampling procedures, data entry programs, and other procedures. In addition, we spent two months training enumerators and supervisors. Furthermore, we arranged for complementary financing, which came from the USAID Mission, UNICEF, the World Bank, the French Ministry of Development Cooperation and the Ministry of Education. Following the data collection, the next six months were dedicated to the implementation of the household, community, and school surveys, including the data entry and cleaning and file preparation is in its final stages. Overall, the efforts involved in conducting this large and uniquely comprehensive survey were a major accomplishment, and facilitated the studies described below.

In Madagascar, at the end 2003, we finalized a research program with INSTAT and the Ministry of Education to provide a clearer picture for policymakers of the determinants of primary and lower secondary schooling outcomes. This work was also designed to be comparable in research methods to the study being undertaken in Senegal. We noted that the educational system in Madagascar was characterized by resource inefficiencies and misallocations in the composition of public spending across educational levels. The quality of schooling from elementary to higher education was low, as were gross enrollment rates both at the primary and secondary levels, even when compared with the averages for Sub-Saharan Africa. In addition to low initial enrollment, grade repetition and dropping out of primary school before completion were recognized as serious problems in Madagascar. This problem also reflected the small number of lower secondary schools in the country and the significant distances many children would have to travel to attend them. Further, the lack of access to secondary schools could be inhibiting primary, not just secondary, enrollments. Girls were seen to be at a particular disadvantage. Across all grades, repetition and dropout rates are systematically higher for girls than for boys.

Our research focused on understanding the factors at different levels—household, school, and community—that affect education outcomes in Madagascar, particularly for primary and lower secondary schools. More specifically, the research had multiple
objectives, reflecting (as well as determining) the broad nature of the data that would be available for the analysis. The objectives pertained to three main subject areas: (1) determinants of school enrollment and grade attainment, (2) determinants of learning, both academic (as measured by student test scores) and nonacademic (acquisition of life skills), and (3) development of empirical methodologies applicable and appropriate to the Malgashe context. In addition, the research examined related factors such as entry into the workforce after school, children’s time allocation, and schooling differences among siblings and between boys and girls, as well as migration and health and their relationships to education.

III.1.1 Progression through School and Academic Performance

A preliminary descriptive analysis of some of the data from The Progression through School and Academic Performance in Senegal Study was provided in this report. The topics covered in this report focus on the household survey and test score data and include: enrollment rates; school attainment; grade repetition; dropouts and progression to secondary school; academic and life skills test scores; and perceptions about education and schooling. Some key findings include:

- More than half of children repeat at least one primary grade, and only about 52% of children who entered primary school complete it.
- Among children who do manage to complete primary school, most (just over three quarters) go on to secondary school.
- There is a strong positive relationship between test scores in second grade and the subsequent probability of both completing primary school and continuing on to secondary school. This suggests that early learning and academic performance is a good predictor of subsequent academic achievement.
- Parental education is the key to explaining school attainment, as are household and community shocks. Conditional upon level of schooling, however, cognitive skills are unaffected by parental background and most other factors generally thought to be associated with achievement.


A preliminary analysis of the Etude sur la Progression Scolaire et la Performance Académique en Madagascar (EPSPAM) was based on a nation-wide 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 sought 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 investigated 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 evaluated 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. Key findings include:

- Analysis of the EPSPAM data reveal that rates of current enrollment are high overall, reflecting recent policies of the government such as fee elimination and provision of free books and school supplies to families. 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.

- Econometric analysis of the determinants of cognitive achievement of 8-10 years olds suggests that (conditional on effects on enrollment and grade level) household wealth and parental schooling have little effect on test scores in four subjects; the only exception was a positive effect of mother’s education for several subjects. Several school quality factors do matter, however.

- 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.

(See [http://www.saga.cornell.edu/images/wp166.pdf](http://www.saga.cornell.edu/images/wp166.pdf)).
III.1.2 Ability, Grade Repetition, and School Attainment in Senegal

Little is known about the relationship of early ability and subsequent educational outcomes in developing country environments, because the panel data needed to analyze this question have been lacking. In this study, we used the unique data from Senegal, combining test score data for children from the second grade with information on their subsequent school progression from a follow-up survey conducted seven years later. We find that measures of early cognitive ability, corrected for measurement error using multiple test observations per child, are very strongly positively associated with later school progression. A plausible interpretation is that parents invest more in a child’s education when the returns to doing so are higher. The results point to the need for remedial policies to target lagging students early on to reduce early dropout. A current policy targeting poorly performing students is grade repetition, which is pervasive in Francophone Africa. Using variation across schools in test score thresholds for promotion to identify the effects of second grade repetition, we find that a repeated student is more likely to leave school before completing primary than a student with similar ability who is not held back, pointing to the need for alternative measures to improve skills of lagging children. (See http://www.saga.cornell.edu/images/wp227.pdf).

III.1.3 Cognitive Skills among Children in Senegal

We used 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. Key findings include:

- Descriptive and econometric analysis of the EBMS data indicate that schooling matters strongly for cognitive skills, 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. This is the case whether or not the regressions control for the possible correlation of parental education with unmeasured factors also affecting 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. (See http://www.saga.cornell.edu/images/wp189.pdf)

III.1.4 Schooling Gender Gaps in Developing Countries

SAGA conducted a background study for policy and analysis relating to gender disparities in schooling. The resulting paper critically reviews the literature on policies to boost girls’ enrollments and learning and presents a theoretical framework for interpreting the evidence. The paper also discusses methodological problems in evaluating the gender effects of education policies and suggests areas where additional research is most needed. (See http://www.saga.cornell.edu/images/wp196.pdf).

The report finds that:

• There is evidence, though less universal than is commonly assumed, that the demand for girls’ schooling is more responsive than boys’ to gender neutral changes in school cost or distance as well as quality. Among these policies, increasing the physical accessibility of schools emerges as a measure that is likely to result in disproportionate enrollment gains for girls.

• Where gender gaps are large or persistent, however, direct targeting of girls is probably necessary. Formal evidence from a number of demand or supply side interventions, including subsidies to households and to schools to enroll girls and the provision of girls-only schools, suggests the potential for targeted measures to yield substantial gains for girls.

• Many other policies, such as subsidized childcare or flexible school scheduling that address the opportunity costs of girls’ time, hold promise but for the most part have yet to be subjected to rigorous assessment.

III.1.5 Demand for Primary Schooling in Madagascar

We estimate a discrete choice model of primary schooling and simulate policy alternatives for rural Madagascar. Findings include:

• Poor households are substantially more price-responsive than wealthy ones. Fee increases for public primary schools—even if used to pay for quality improvements—will have negative effects on equity in education.

• Parents respond strongly to school quality. Most importantly, poor facility condition and the practice of multigrade teaching (several classes being taught simultaneously by one teacher) have strongly negative impacts on public school enrollments.
III.1.6. 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-commnsch.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). 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.

The most salient findings are as follows:

**Profiles and Learning of the Pupils**

- Gender Distribution: Among Community School (CS) pupils, 63 percent are females while 60 percent among the enrolled pupils at the time of the survey were females. Considering they have less chance to progress into secondary and higher education levels, the higher proportion of the female pupils suggests that the unequal educational opportunity for girls remains an issue. This suggests a need to focus on integrating CS with the regular school system to provide opportunities for girls.

- Acquisition of Cognitive and Practical Skills: While 67.7 percent of the pupils in the CS were illiterate when they enrolled, the study found that 93.7 percent of enrolled pupils and 92.3 percent of former CS pupils are able to read fluently French and other national languages.

**Infrastructure and Equipment**

- Infrastructure and Equipment and Physical Conditions: By and large, the community schools are in dire physical and learning conditions. While nearly all the schools (92.7 percent) are equipped with seats, up to 50 percent of the sampled schools are in
temporary locations (abris provisoires). Only 45 percent have the necessary teaching/learning tools, and less than half of the pupils (48.8 percent) have textbooks.

**Teaching Staff and Management**

- **Teaching Staff:** The mere fact that the teachers in these schools are referred to, as “volunteers” indicates the type and magnitude of the problems. Teaching in these schools is not a professional choice, but rather “à défaut de mieux” or a stepping-stone to better work and/or educational opportunities. In addition to the lack of initial professional training, many do not benefit from proper supervision. While the majority of the CS students are females, women constitute only 36.4 percent of the teaching staff.

- **Management:** Among the sampled schools, only 17.4 percent have received support from the local institutions.

**Output and Outcome toward the National Goal of Universal Education, Fighting Poverty, and Sustainable Development**

- **Universal Basic Education:** It is worth noting that according the sampled pupils, 38.6 percent of those who leave early primary school from the regular schools are enrolled in the CS.

- **Fighting Poverty:** CS alumni are often among the poorest segments of society. Most are engaged as in agro-pastoral or agricultural activities.

- **Toward Sustainable Development:** One remarkable outcome is the consciousness of responsible citizenry and commitment toward the contribution development of local knowledge as an investment in permanent source for future development.

**Policy Implications**

There are specific areas where the government and partners can work to improve the conditions of the community schools so that they can provide a space for learning for the youth and also the entire community. The new concept of acquisition and immediate use of theoretical and practical knowledge and a focus on training in productive activities that promote sustainable development are important aspects of community schools. The promotion of women as major partners or leaders in the management of local institutions is another area that must be supported.

On the whole, the community schools face considerable challenges as they are perceived and treated as schools for the poor. However, they contain the seed for many positive development ideas, closing the educational gender gap, promoting women’s role in decision-making and improving access to and use of local knowledge in combating poverty and promoting sustainable development.
III.2. Health

SAGA’s work on health and nutrition falls into four categories: (1) the impact of finance, decentralization, and the characteristics of health delivery systems on utilization, consumer demand and perceptions, and health outcomes; (2) behavioral aspects of HIV and implications for HIV prevention policy; (3) the determinants of and changes in infant and under-five mortality and an assessment of the use of survey data to measure these changes; and (4) the use of health-related measures of well-being in poverty analyses.

III.2.1 Institutional Analysis and Health Delivery Systems

This work was concentrated in Madagascar where we 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 first completed a 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. In addition, we completed a detailed econometric analysis of household demand for health care and perceptions of health care quality, taking advantage of unique features of the EEEFS data:

- The survey of health facilities reveals severe inadequacies in infrastructure: for example, only 53% had electricity, 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 were 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 one-fifth of the centers did practitioners note lethargy in their patients.

- Research on improving health care quality frequently uses client satisfaction surveys conducted outside health facilities (user exit surveys). However, econometric analysis using the linked household, facility, and exit surveys in the EEEFS indicates that responses in user exit surveys are often substantially biased toward indicating higher satisfaction than is actually the case, likely reflecting the phenomenon of ‘courtesy bias’. The results thus raise doubts about the reliance on such surveys to understand consumer perceptions and health care demand.

- Several aspects of care that patients observe and respond favorably to are uncorrelated with measures of provider skills (with respect to diagnoses and treatment) obtained from direct clinical observation. This suggests the need for direct observation of facilities and practitioners to understand quality. It also suggests that providers
interested in increasing consumer satisfaction, hence demand for their services, would potentially try to achieve this objective by altering their behavior in ways that do not improve actual process quality.

III.2.1.1 Are Client Satisfaction Surveys Useful? Evidence from Matched Facility and Household Data in Madagascar

Client satisfaction surveys in developing countries are increasingly being promoted as a means of understanding health care quality and the demand for these services. However, concerns have been raised about the reliability of responses in such surveys: for example, ‘courtesy bias’ may lead clients, especially if interviewed upon exiting clinics, to provide misleadingly favorable responses. We used unique data from Madagascar to investigate these and other issues. Identical questions about satisfaction with local health care centers were asked in user exit surveys and in a population based household survey; the latter would be less contaminated by courtesy bias as well as changes in provider behavior in response to being observed. We find strong evidence that reported satisfaction is biased upward in exit surveys for subjective questions regarding (for example) treatment by staff and consultation quality, but is not biased for relatively objective questions about facility condition and supplies. The surveys do provide useful information on the determinants of consumer satisfaction with various dimensions of provider quality. Still, to obtain reliable estimates of consumer perceptions of health service quality, household based sampling appears to be far superior to the simpler exit survey method. (See http://www.saga.cornell.edu/images/wp226.pdf.)

III.2.2 Infant and Under-five Mortality

Repeated rounds of nationally representative surveys are an important source of information on changes in the welfare of the population. In particular, policymakers and donors in many developing countries rely heavily on the Demographic and Health Surveys (DHS) to provide information on levels and trends in indicators of the health status of the population, including child survival. The reliability of observed trends, however, depends strongly on the comparability across survey rounds of the sampling strategy and of the format of questions and how interviews ask them.

III.2.2.1 An Assessment of Changes in Infant and Under-Five Mortality in Demographic and Health Survey Data for Madagascar

In Madagascar, the most recent (2003/4) DHS indicated very sharp declines in rates of infant and under-five mortality compared with the previous survey from 1997. However, retrospective under-one and under-five mortality data in 1997 and 2003/4 for the same calendar years also show large differences, suggesting that this trend may be spurious. We employed a range of descriptive and multivariate approaches to investigate the issue. Despite evidence of significant interviewer recording errors (with respect to date of birth and age at death) in 2003/4, the most likely source of problems is that the two samples differ: comparisons of time-invariant characteristics of households and of women suggests that the later DHS
sampled a somewhat wealthier (hence lower mortality) population. Corrections to the data using hazard survival model estimates are discussed. These suggest a much more modest reduction in infant and under-five mortality than indicated by the raw data for the two surveys. (See http://www.saga.cornell.edu/images/wp207.pdf)

III.2.2.2 Infant Mortality in Uganda

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. We used 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 used 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. (See “Infant Mortality in Uganda: Determinants, Trends and the Millennium Development Goals,” by Sarah Ssewanyana and Stephen D. Younger now published in the Journal of African Economies 17(1):34-61).

III.2.3 HIV/AIDS

Our work on HIV focused on knowledge acquisition and prevention knowledge.

III.2.3.1 Changes in HIV/AIDS Knowledge and Testing Behavior in Africa

Using the Demographic and Health Surveys (DHS) to measure changes in these factors over time, we undertook a multi-country study (Benin, Burkina Faso, Ghana, Kenya, Madagascar, Mozambique, Nigeria, Tanzania, Uganda, and Zambia) that examined the determinants of, and changes in, behaviors that put people at risk of contracting HIV/AIDS. Specifically, we looked at the age at first sex, abstinence, the number of sex partners, and the use of condoms.

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. These results were presented in a paper prepared for the conference “African Development and Poverty Reduction: The Macro-Micro Linkage” Cape Town, South Africa, October 2004. It was subsequently published in Journal of Population Economics 20(2):383-422, April, 2007.
III.2.3.2 Are Africans Practicing Safer Sex: Evidence from Demographic and Health Surveys for Eight Countries

We use repeated rounds of Demographic and Health Survey data from eight African countries to examine changes in and determinants of three HIV risk behaviors: age at first intercourse; number of current sexual partners, and use of condoms. As a prelude, we assessed the within-country comparability of DHS surveys over time. We found some evidence of changes in sample composition, which is easily handled in a multivariate framework, and found evidence as well of changes in how people respond to questions about HIV behavior. Because of the latter, which likely represents an increase in social desirability bias over time, our estimates of risk reduction may be upper bounds on the true effects. Overall the picture is one of reductions in risk behaviors over recent 4-6 year intervals, especially with respect to condom use; in some cases the changes seem large given the short time periods involved. With some exceptions, however, the extent and pervasiveness of these changes seems inadequate in relation to the urgency of the public health crisis represented by AIDS. With respect to the determinants of behaviors, schooling and wealth have contradictory impacts on risk behavior: they both tend to increase the likelihood of using condoms while (for men) also increasing the demand for additional sexual partners. (See http://www.saga.cornell.edu/images/wp193.pdf).

This study was presented at International Union for the Scientific Study of Population (IUSSP) Seminar on “Interactions between Poverty and HIV/AIDS,” Cape Town, South Africa, December 2005.

Highlights of the results include:

• Analysis of survey compatibility over time presents a mixed picture. There is evidence in several countries, of the nine used for the analysis, of differences in sampling, as indicated, for example, by differences in mean education level or adult women’s heights. These can be controlled in regression analysis. More difficult for understanding changes in behavior over time are cases where responses themselves change due, for example, to increasing concern to give socially appropriate answers about one’s sexual behaviors. There is evidence of this but only in a minority of our country/region samples.

• Overall, some reductions in risk behaviors are seen for each of the behaviors studied, for both men and women. Particularly noteworthy is that for the 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 group and country where negative signs predominate is for women in Nigeria. Although this may reflect in part issues of survey compatibility, the apparent trend in Africa’s largest country is still worrisome. 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.

### III.2.3.3 Determinants of HIV Knowledge and Condom Use among Women in Madagascar

Related to this cross-country work is an in-depth analysis of knowledge and high-risk behaviors in Madagascar. We estimated the determinants of HIV/AIDS knowledge and related behavior (use of condoms) among women in Madagascar, a country where prevalence remains low but conditions are ripe for a rapid increase in infections. (See [http://www.saga.cornell.edu/images/wp168.pdf](http://www.saga.cornell.edu/images/wp168.pdf).)

Key conclusions are:

- In both rural and urban areas of Madagascar, more educated and wealthier women are more likely to know about means of preventing infection, less likely to have misconceptions about transmission, and more likely to use condoms. Community factors such as availability of health centers and access to roads also lead to greater HIV knowledge.

- However, most of the large rural-urban difference in mean knowledge is due not to location per se but to differences in schooling and wealth; rather than simply being geographically targeted, AIDS education efforts must be designed to target and be understood by uneducated and poor subpopulations.

- The results also suggest that spreading information via radio broadcast may be highly effecting at increasing HIV/AIDS knowledge, especially in rural areas where there are fewer alternative sources of information.
III.2.3.4 Scaling up HIV Voluntary Counseling and Testing in Africa: What Can Evaluation Studies Tell Us About Potential Prevention Impacts?

Another area of research on which we concentrated was 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. Peter Glick’s paper was published in Evaluation Review 29(4): 331-357, August 2005, and key findings are highlighted here:

- 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.

III.2.4 Poverty and Reproductive Health

In cooperation with AERC and the Hewlett Foundation, SAGA researchers prepared on papers focusing on three aspects of poverty and reproductive health and presented these papers at the AERC/Hewlett Foundation Workshop, “Poverty and Economic Growth: The Impact of Population Dynamics and Reproductive Health Outcomes in Africa” in Brussels, Belgium, November 5-6, 2006.

III.2.4.1 Reproductive Health and Behavior, HIV/AIDS, and Poverty in Africa

This paper examines the complex linkages of poverty, reproductive/sexual health and behavior, and HIV/AIDS in Africa. It addresses the following questions: (1) what have we learned to date about these links and what are the gaps in knowledge to be addressed by further research; (2) what is known about the effectiveness for HIV prevention of reproductive health and HIV/AIDS interventions and policies in Africa; and (3) what are the appropriate methodological approaches to research on these questions. With regard to what has been learned so far, the paper pays considerable attention in particular to the evidence regarding the impacts of a range of HIV interventions on risk behaviors and HIV incidence. Other sections review the extensive microeconomic literature on the impacts of AIDS on households and children in Africa and the effects of the epidemic on sexual risk behavior and fertility decisions. With regard to methodology, the paper assesses the approaches used in the literature to deal with, among other things, the problem of self-selection.
and non-randomness in the placement of HIV and reproductive health programs. Data requirements for different research questions are discussed, and an effort is made to assess what researchers can learn from existing sources such as Demographic and Health Surveys. (See http://www.saga.cornell.edu/images/wp219.pdf).

### III.2.4.2 The Relationship between Poverty and Maternal Morbidity and Mortality in Sub-Saharan Africa

This work explores the impact of poverty on morbidity and mortality, taking a health production function approach. We looked at issues of the deleterious consequences of negative shocks in the form of a mother's illness or death on the household and individual family members. In this regard, we examined the mechanisms through which these shocks contribute to households falling into poverty and the related deleterious consequences such as children leaving school or suffering health consequences as a result of the loss of their primary caregiver. (See http://www.saga.cornell.edu/images/wp213.pdf).

### III.2.4.3 Labor Market Activities and Fertility

This aspect of our work focuses on a key aspect of the demographic transition: women’s labor market activity women’s labor market activities or, more generally, women’s time allocation decisions, and how they relate to the basic variables of fertility and poverty. Just as there are differences in fertility and mortality in rich and poor countries, there are differences in women’s time use. In rich countries, women tend to work outside the home, usually in wage employment on a fixed hourly schedule. In poor countries, women tend to work at home or, especially in Africa, on their family’s farm or at own-account activities where time use is more flexible. These characteristics are related to the other features of the demographic transition in ways that are important to our thinking about population dynamics, reproductive health, and poverty in Africa. (See http://www.saga.cornell.edu/images/wp218.pdf)

### III.2.5. 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 addressed this limitation of the empirical work with a series of papers that address non-income measures of well-being in a series of papers described below:

#### III.2.5.1 Children’s Health Status in Uganda

We studied 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. However, there was concern that improvements in other dimensions of well-being, especially health, were much weaker. We found 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 found 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. (See http://www.saga.cornell.edu/images/wp188.pdf; also, see http://www.saga.cornell.edu/images/wp186.pdf discussed above in section III.2.2.2.)

Highlights from our research in Uganda show:

- 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.
- 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.
- Even under optimistic assumptions about improvements in health care and mother’s education, both of which have significant effects on IMRs, Uganda will not achieve the MDG for infant mortality.
- 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.

III.2.5.2 Measuring Intra-Household Inequality: Explorations Using the Body Mass Index

We studied the relationships between level of well-being and inequality at both inter-country and intra-household levels, using a different indicator of well-being, the body mass index (BMI). BMI captures individual’s consumption relative to their needs, and reflects a combination of both consumption (of calories, sanitation, and health care) and health status, two important dimensions of well-being. We do
not find any evidence to support either the across country Kuznets curve or the intra-household Kuznets curve. Instead, we find consistent evidence for an increase in BMI inequality as average living standards (of countries or households) improve. A distinct and surprising result is that between one half and two-thirds of BMI inequality is accounted for by within-household BMI. This finding clearly suggests that a large share of the inequality that is measured using household surveys which assumes that the well-being of all household members is the same, is likely grossly under-estimating overall inequality in a given country. In examining the within-household ratios of adult to child body mass indexes we also find some evidence that health shocks are both large and affect children more than adults; although, there are also indications that in households with chronic food deficits, there is an attempt to protect young children from food and related stresses that contribute to low BMI. It is thus clear that policies and programs that target households, not individuals, will be largely ineffective. (See http://www.saga.cornell.edu/images/wp208.pdf).

This paper was presented at the WIDER Conference on Advancing Health Equity, Helsinki, Finland, September 29-30, 2006, and the CIRPÉÉ Conference on Health Economics, Université Laval, March 30, 2007, and is forthcoming in Health Economics.

III.2.5.3 Inequality and Poverty in Africa in an Era of Globalization: Looking Beyond Income to Health and Education

We described changes over the past 15-20 years in non-income measures of well-being – education and health – in Africa. We expected to find, as we did in Latin America, that progress in the provision of public services and the focus of public spending in the social sector would contribute to declining poverty and inequality in health and education, even in an environment of stagnant or worsening levels of income poverty. Unfortunately, our results indicate that in the area of health, little progress is being made in terms of reducing pre-school age stunting, a clear manifestation of poor overall health. Likewise, our health inequality measure showed that while there were a few instances of reduced inequality along this dimension, there was, on balance, little evidence of success in improving equality of outcomes. Similar results were found in our examination of underweight women as an indicator of general current health status of adults. With regard to education, the story is somewhat more positive. However, the overall picture gives little cause for complacency or optimism that Africa has, or will soon reap the potential benefits of the process of globalization. (See http://www.saga.cornell.edu/images/wp194.pdf).

This paper was presented at the UNU-WIDER Conference on “The Impact of Globalization on the Poor in Africa,” Johannesburg, South Africa, 1-2 December, 2005.

III.2.5.4 Living Standards in Africa

This study, a forthcoming chapter in Sudhir Anand, Paul Segal, and Joseph E. Stiglitz, Debates in the Measurement of Global Inequality, Oxford University Press, 2008, substantiates two claims — that Africa is poor compared to the rest of the
world and that poverty in Africa is not declining consistently or significantly, in contrast to other regions of the world. We consider poverty in the dimensions of health and education, in addition to income, stressing the inherent conceptual and measurement issues that commend such a broader perspective. We note a lack of consistency in the movement of the poverty measures. During similar periods, we often find them moving in opposite directions. We therefore discuss the need go beyond examining each poverty measure individually, and present an approach to evaluating poverty reduction in multiple dimensions jointly. The results of the multidimensional poverty comparisons reinforce the importance of considering deprivation beyond the material standard of living and provide insight into how to reconcile differing stories that arise from examining each indicator separately.

III.3. Empowerment and Institutions

III.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 began 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 included:

- At a first conceptual stage, SAGA co-funded a workshop held at Cornell that set out the broad parameters of collaboration between quantitative and qualitative approaches in poverty analysis.
- Ravi Kanbur helped to organize a meeting at ISSER to discuss the dramatic disconnect between quantitative and qualitative appraisals of poverty in Ghana in 2003. Participants from Ghanaian academia, civil society, and government highlighted resolution of this disconnect as a priority for research.
- ISSER organized a second meeting, “Qual-Quant Workshop,” in Accra on May 21-22, 2003, to advance collaboration between the two types of analysts. The workshop was attended by approximately 30 participants, including economists, sociologists, anthropologists, geographers, and statisticians. Participants came from academia, think tanks, government, NGO's, and donor groups. The UK’s Department for International Development (DFID) took a particular interest in the proceedings. The core presentations were by Ellen Bortei-Doku, reporting on her work on participatory poverty analysis in Ghana; by Andy McKay, reporting on his work based on the Ghana Living Standards Surveys (GLSS); and by Paul Shaffer on his global experiences with mixed methods. These presentations set the stage for an exploration of the issues, tensions and complementarities. ISSER planned to take the lead in forming interdisciplinary teams to address many issues that were highlighted as being best addressed by qual-quant analysis—and in seeking funding for these studies in the qual-quant tradition.
• This led to a volume entitled *Q-Squared: Combining Qualitative and Quantitative Methods in Poverty Appraisal*, edited by Ravi Kanbur, Delhi: Permanent Black, 2003, ISBN 81-7824-053-X.

• The second stage was more empirical, focusing on researchers’ actual attempts to use both quantitative and qualitative methods in practice. SAGA supported a conference organized jointly by Cornell and the University of Toronto in May 2004, with cofinancing from DFID and IDRC ([http://www.utoronto.ca/mcis/q2/](http://www.utoronto.ca/mcis/q2/)). A selection of these papers was published as a special issue of the journal *World Development* 35(2) February 2007: *Experiences of Combining Qualitative and Quantitative Approaches in Poverty Analysis*, edited by Ravi Kanbur and Paul Shaffer. Kanbur and Shaffer authored the lead article, entitled, “Epistemology, Normative Theory and Poverty Analysis: Implications for Q-Squared in Practice.”

• SAGA organized a workshop in March, 2004, on “Mixing Qualitative and Quantitative Method of Poverty Analysis in Kenya,” hosted by KIPPRA and co-organized by IPAR and Cornell and co-sponsored by the World Bank. This workshop developed and promoted the use of mixed methods of poverty analysis within the Kenyan research community. There was considerable interest in this approach within the policy research community, including within the Ministries (e.g., Agriculture, Livestock Development), the Kenya Agricultural Research Institute, and various other universities and NGOs active in the country. The objective of the workshop was to familiarize the policy research community (both producers and end-users in donor and operational agencies and government) with these techniques. The workshop was attended by 50 or so representatives from various government ministries, the Central Bureau of Statistics, donor agencies (e.g., USAID, World Bank, EU, DFID), Kenyan universities and research institutes, as well as several different national media outlets (print, radio, and TV). The opening keynote speaker was Dr. David Nalo, Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Planning and National Development and former Director of the Central Bureau of Statistics. The workshop included presentations by a range of scholars from different social science disciplines and closed with an expert panel discussing how best to integrate qualitative and quantitative methods of poverty analysis in emerging policy-oriented research in Kenya. Conference papers produced included

  o  *Quantitative Poverty Analysis*, Germano Mwabu

  o  *Bridging the Qualitative-Quantitative Methods of Poverty Analysis*, Enos H.N. Njeru

  o  *Mixing Qualitative and Quantitative Methods of Analyzing Poverty Dynamics*, Christopher Barrett

The conference proceedings were published in a volume in 2005:

*Qualitative and Quantitative Methods for Poverty Analysis*
Proceedings of the Workshop Held on 11 March 2004, Nairobi, Kenya
Walter Odhiambo, John M. Omiti, and David I. Muthaka, editors
ISBN 9966 94981X

Christopher Barrett’s workshop paper, linked above, outlines his experience in mixing qualitative and quantitative methods of data collection and analysis so as to gain a firmer and more useful understanding of poverty dynamics, especially in rural Kenya. He explores the very real differences between qualitative and quantitative poverty analysis methods, differences that make them useful complements. Then he debunks a few myths about differences that do not really exist. Finally, he discusses key lessons learned from four multi-year research projects in Kenya that have tried to implement mixed qualitative and quantitative research methods with a range of researchers from animal science, anthropology, economics, geography, range science, sociology and soil science.

A website has been created 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/](http://www.q-squared.ca/).

### III.3.2 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.

#### III.3.2.1 The Distribution of Social Services in Madagascar, 1993-99

While a number of benefit incidence studies of public expenditures have been carried out for African countries, there are very few studies that look at how the incidence of such expenditures has been changing over time. We used three rounds of nation-wide household surveys to analyze the distribution of public expenditures on education and health services in Madagascar over the decade of the 90s, a period of little economic growth but significant changes in social sector organization and budgets. (See [http://www.saga.cornell.edu/images/wp128.pdf](http://www.saga.cornell.edu/images/wp128.pdf); see also [http://www.saga.cornell.edu/images/wp196.pdf](http://www.saga.cornell.edu/images/wp196.pdf) discussed in section III.1.4 above concerning gender gaps and school access and enrollment.) Findings included:
• Education and health services for the most part are distributed more equally than household expenditures.

• However, few services other than primary schooling accrue disproportionately to the poor in absolute terms and some services such as post-primary schooling are in effect targeted to the non-poor. Significant disparities exist as well in the use of services between rural and urban areas, and by province, but there are no notable gender differences in coverage.

• With regard to changes over the decade, primary enrollments rose sharply and also become significantly more progressive. The improvement in equity in public schooling occurred in part because the enrollment growth was in effect regionally targeted: it occurred only in rural areas, which are poorer.

**III.3.2.2 Empowering the Rural Poor**

In Kenya, SAGA work was undertaken by IPAR and by Cornell University in collaboration with Egerton University that 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.

The SAGA-Kenya team co-sponsored, with IPAR, a policy conference “Empowering the Rural Poor and Reducing Their Risk and Vulnerability,” in Nairobi in February 2005. Results were revised and edited for the volume, “Decentralization and the Social Economics of Development – Lessons from Kenya,” by Christopher B. Barrett, Cornell University; A. G. Mude, International Livestock Research Institute, Kenya; J. M. Omiti, Kenya Institute of Public Policy Research and Analysis (KIPPR), CABI, 2007 (ISBN: 9781845932695). Together, the chapters illuminate different aspects of the process, potential and pitfalls of decentralization in an attempt to offer a broad understanding of the key issues as well as the challenges and opportunities that must be considered for the design of a coherent, inclusive and effective program of decentralization to advance rural development objectives.

III.3.3 Land Tenure

USAID/Ghana funded an ISSER proposal for a three-year program of multidisciplinary research into Ghana’s land tenure and administration systems. ISSER’s work on land tenure funded by USAID/Ghana continue 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.

III.3.4 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 had a focus in this area.

III.3.4.1 South African Labor Markets

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. Major findings include:

- Unemployment at the end of the period stands at a staggering 41.8% and is concentrated among African, female, poorly educated, and young workers.
- Almost nine in ten unemployed individuals having been unemployed for more than three years or having never had a job at all.
• There is a rapidly growing number of unemployed workers with relatively high levels of education (specifically tertiary qualifications). This problem is particularly acute amongst Africans.

• The unemployed are also increasingly marginalized in households with no wage or salary earners and are relying more and more on state transfers (pensions and other grants).


A special issue of the Journal of African Economies, based on papers selected from presentations at the DPRU/TIPS/Cornell conference in Cape Town, entitled, “Poverty, Trade and Growth in Africa,” was edited by Haroon Bhorat, Stephen Hanival, and Ravi Kanbur, and was published December 2006 (Volume 15, No. 4). The current global environment poses both a threat and an opportunity for Africa. Taking advantage of the openings afforded by trade and investment, while managing the risks and focusing on benefits for the poorest, is the central African challenge in economic policymaking. The policies needed to manage this challenge will be both macro and micro in nature and, especially, the macro-micro linkage will be crucial. The past and current disappointments with macro-level policies are gradually being understood by analysts in terms of insufficient linkage to the micro-level realities of African economy and society. At the same time, there is a realization that micro-level policies are bound to fail if implemented in an unstable macro- or global-level environment.

The eight papers in this special issue between them cover poverty, growth and trade. The first four papers focus on growth and its impact on poverty. The second set of four papers covers trade and its impact on efficiency, growth, and labor markets. The opening paper constitutes a significant statement by the current Chief Economist for Africa at the World Bank. In his paper, “Strategies for Pro-Poor Growth: Pro-Poor, Pro-Growth or Both?,” John Page puts forward his concept of shared growth, which he defines as combining a focus on using all of the public policy means available to create and sustain growth, with actions in education, health, rural development, and micro and small enterprise development, for example, designed to equip the poor to participate in and benefit from growth. In particular, he emphasizes three key areas of public policy for advancing growth managing natural resource revenues, pushing agricultural exports, and deepening regional integration, the last two of which link up with the trade theme of this special issue.

The overall conclusion drawn from the eight papers in the special issue, apart from the obvious vitality of macro- and micro-economic research on Africa, is the importance of understanding and appreciating the huge diversity of Africa, and the fact that country-specific, sector-specific, and policy-specific analysis is needed in order to understand the complex relationships between poverty, growth, and trade in the region.

III.3.4.2 Export Processing Zone Expansion in Madagascar: What are the Labor Market and Gender Impacts?

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. We analyzed 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 the EPZ (or Zone Franche) grew very rapidly during the 1990s. (See Journal of African Economies 15(4): 722-756, 2006). Major findings are:

- The most significant change was the dynamism of the urban labor market and rapid rise of urban manufacturing employment in Madagascar’s export processing zone, especially for women.
- The evidence suggests that the export processing zones provide better employment opportunities—in terms of wages and job benefits—for semi-skilled women than are generally available to them elsewhere in either the formal or informal economy.
- 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.

III.3.4.3 Spatial Integration at Multiple Scales: Rice Markets in Madagascar

The dramatic increase in the price of rice and other commodities over the past year has generated new interest in how these markets work and how they can be improved. This paper uses an exceptionally rich data set to test the extent to which markets in Madagascar are integrated across space at different scales of analysis and to explain some of the factors that limit spatial arbitrage and price equalization within a single country. 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 to determine whether non-integration 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 rates, remoteness, and lack of information are among the factors limiting competition. (See http://www.saga.cornell.edu/images/wp180.pdf).
III.3.5 Political Liberalization, Decentralization and the Social Economics of Development

As Ghana enters its second half century, we are faced with a paradox. Despite a solid transition to democracy in the political situation, despite recorded recovery in the last fifteen years from the economic malaise of the two decades preceding, and despite reductions in measured poverty, there is widespread perception of failure of the economic and political system in delivering improving living standards to the population. The volume of papers commissioned by SAGA calls for a deeper examination of the macro level data on growth and on poverty. A sectoral and regional disaggregation reveals weaknesses in the levels and composition of private investment, in the generation of employment, in sectoral diversification, and in the distribution of the benefits of growth. At the same time, the push for decentralization, and for better allocation, monitoring, and implementation of public expenditure has raised more questions than it has answered. These are the challenges that Ghana faces if it is to fulfill the bright promise of its independence in 1957.

To address these issues, Ernest Aryeetey and Ravi Kanbur have edited a book, *The Economy of Ghana Analytical Perspectives on Stability, Growth and Poverty*, James Currey Ltd., Publishers, 2008, (ISBN: 9781847010032). The papers in this volume set out an analytical agenda that we hope will help in laying the groundwork for the path that the nation's policymakers will have to steer on the road to 2057.

The volume *Decentralization and the Social Economics of Development – Lessons from Kenya*, co-edited by Christopher B. Barrett, Andrew G. Mude and John M. Omiti (Wallingford, UK: CAB International, 2007, ISBN: 9781845932695) is presented in two sub-sections that highlight two key, overarching processes that are fundamental in determining the success of decentralization. The first five chapters of the book investigate the effects of decentralization in different settings spanning devolution in the administration and management of cooperatives, to decentralization of provision and financing of agricultural extension services, and the authorizing of local governments and community leaders to adjudicate over natural resources management and associated land use conflicts. These chapters offer evidence into the various forms that decentralization can take and the varying outcomes it can yield. By studying the institutional and socioeconomic context by which decentralization took place in each case, the chapters offer insights into the challenges and correlates of successful decentralization. Highlighting the importance of a conducive and receptive socioeconomic environment at the local level as a precondition for successful decentralization, the second section of the volume focuses on the social networks, informal groups and community-based organizations that can act as a vehicle by which administrative authority is effectively devolved to local level institutions and through which the potential for abuse can be either checked or fostered. Because so much of the outcome of decentralization experiences appears to turn on the pre-existing condition of meso-level informal institutions, what Barrett terms the “social economics of development” becomes a crucial determinant of performance. Decentralization cannot be introduced into an information or capacity vacuum. Communities must have the wherewithal to impose standards and demand accountability and performance from local leaders. Communities must also have internal mechanisms to
effectively resolve intracommunity conflicts and disagreements. The chapters in the book’s second half explore these questions.

III.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.

III.4.1 Poverty Research in Ghana

At the “Shared Growth in Africa” conference, held in Accra, Ghana 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.

A selection of the papers presented at the conference was published in the African Development Review, the Africa-wide professional journal published out of the African Development Bank. (See African Development Review, Vol. 18, No. 3, December, 2006. Guest editors: Ernest Aryeetey, Ravi Kanbur, John Page.) The papers in this special issue use a range of methodologies: institutional analysis, qualitative surveys and interviews, inequality and poverty decomposition techniques, econometric analysis of enterprise and household surveys, econometric time series analysis of sectoral and macroeconomic data, and simulation analysis of computable models. Between them, they show the vitality of current research on growth and poverty reduction in Africa by scholars in Africa and outside. They also show that shared growth can be analyzed rigorously, and that analysis can be directed towards key policy issues.
The volume, *The Economy of Ghana Analytical Perspectives on Stability, Growth and Poverty* edited by Ernest Aryeetey and Ravi Kanbur, James Currey Ltd., Publishers, 2008 (ISBN: 9781847010032), with papers selected from those presented at the Accra conference in 2004, *Ghana at the Half Century* and from work commissioned for SAGA from Ghanaian authors. The commissioning of a broad set of papers on “Understanding Poverty in Ghana,” written primarily by Ghanaian scholars based in Ghana, was a foundational exercise for the SAGA project, both in terms of providing a broad overview of the topic for Ghana, but also in terms of engaging with Ghanaian scholars and forming teams of ISSER and non-ISSER analysts. The launch of the book was held at the University of Ghana on September 12, 2008. Ravi Kanbur’s presentation at the event, “Three Challenges for Ghana’s Economy” describes the volume as a “start” to the challenges in coming decades. This conference also served to launch Economy of Ghana Network (EGN).

The Economy of Ghana, with ISSER and Cornell, co-sponsored the Young Economists Outreach Programme January 10-11, 2008, in Elmina, Ghana, bringing together senior internationally known and accomplished economists to work with young economists in Ghana—to expose them to an international peer review process for their work and develop mentoring relationships. At this meeting, emphasis was placed on introducing young economists to new ideas in economics and how these can be used in their own work.

**III.4.1.1 Rural Poverty in Ghana**

In Ghana, SAGA took an asset-based approach to analyzing rural poverty based on household survey. Major results include:

- For most people, there are hardly any institutions in rural Ghana that offer a positive real return on savings. Aside from the poor return, savings mobilization in rural Ghana has very little institutional organization, not even with the informal sector participation.

- Savings does not necessarily generate access to a credit market in order to generate liquidity when desired. The institutional characteristics of the financial market lead to substantial transaction costs that reduce the real return on financial assets for rural households.

**III.4.1.2 Risk Management and Social Visibility in Ghana**

We tested for risk pooling within and among social networks to see if the extent of informal insurance available to individuals in rural Ghana varies with their social visibility. We identified a distinct subpopulation of socially invisible individuals who tend to be younger, poorer, engaged in farming, recent arrivals into the village who have been fostered and are not members of a major clan. While we cannot reject the null hypothesis that individual shocks do not affect individual consumption and that individual consumption tracks network and village consumption one-for-one among the socially visible, risk pooling fails for the socially invisible subpopulation. These results have important implications for the design of social protection policy.
We also find that efficient allocation of idiosyncratic risk among members of social networks suggests that given binding financial constraints, policy should distinguish between idiosyncratic versus covariate risk: policy targeting for idiosyncratic shocks could focus on the socially invisible whereas interventions ex poste of covariate shocks could target everyone. Given the evidence that the socially invisible are farmers, contract interlinkages may be used as a means of quasi-insurance: interlinking credit and product sales or input delivery to provide alternate means of insuring this subpopulation. (See http://www.saga.cornell.edu/images/wp222.pdf. This study is forthcoming in *African Development Review*).

### III.4.2 Poverty Analysis in Madagascar

#### III.4.2.1 Welfare Dynamics in Rural Kenya and Madagascar

Examining comparative qualitative and quantitative evidence from rural Kenya and Madagascar, we 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. Income and asset dynamics in the central and southern highlands exhibit patterns consistent with the notion of a poverty trap. Shocks such as the 2001-2 political crisis have a significant, covariate, adverse effect on households in rural areas. Health and mortality shocks appear the most common explanations for households falling into chronic poverty. Furthermore, we find supporting evidence of locally increasing returns to assets and of risk management behaviour consistent with poor households’ defence of a critical asset threshold through asset smoothing. (This paper was published in *Journal of Development Studies* 42(2): 248-277, 2006, and in *Understanding and Reducing Persistent Poverty in Africa*, Christopher Barrett, Peter Little, Michael Carter (eds.), Routledge, 2007.)

#### III.4.2.2 The Complex Dynamics of Smallholder Technology Adoption: The Case of SRI in Madagascar

We explore the dynamics of smallholder technology adoption, with particular reference to a high-yielding, low-external input rice production method in Madagascar. We present a simple model of technology adoption by farm households in an environment of incomplete financial and land markets. We then use a probit model and symmetrically censored least squares estimation of a dynamic Tobit model to analyze the decisions to adopt, expand and disadopt the method. We find that seasonal liquidity constraints discourage adoption by poorer farmers. Learning effects—both from extension agents and from other farmers—exert significant influence over adoption decisions. (See *Agricultural Economics* 35(3):373-388, 2006)
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.

**III.4.2.3 The Evolution of Horizontal Inequalities in Madagascar, 1999-2005**

This research explores whether there exist persistent horizontal inequalities in Madagascar; that is, whether there is a pattern over time of consistently poorer performance among subpopulations readily identifiable by one or more identity markers. Three key messages come out of this analysis. First, there exists a core group of households that remained persistently poor over the 1999-2005 period. These households were largely not members of the dominant ethnic group, land poor, lived in remote areas, and were headed by uneducated individuals, most commonly women. Second, in addition to establishing the existence of horizontal inequalities across groups, relative differences in returns to education, land and remoteness underscore the existence of vertical inequalities within groups, as one characteristic affects the returns to another. Third, persistent horizontal inequalities are associated with multiple different identities, some of which are offsetting and some of which are reinforcing. For example, women’s higher education tends to offset the disadvantages associated with being a head of household, while remoteness compounds the disadvantages associated with living in female-headed households. (See http://www.saga.cornell.edu/images/wp229.pdf).

**III.4.2.4 Agricultural Technology, Productivity, and Poverty in Madagascar**

We used 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 and food insecurity rates currently prevalent in rural Madagascar. (See *World Development* 36(5): 797-822).

**III.4.2.5 Productivity in Malagasy Rice Systems: Wealth-differentiated Constraints and Priorities**

This study explores the constraints on agricultural productivity and priorities in boosting productivity in rice, the main staple in Madagascar, using a range of different data sets and analytical methods, integrating qualitative assessments by farmers and quantitative evidence from panel data production function analysis and willingness-to-pay estimates for chemical fertilizer. Nationwide, farmers seek primarily labor productivity enhancing interventions, e.g., improved access to agricultural equipment, cattle, and irrigation. Shock mitigation measures, land productivity increasing technologies, and improved land tenure are reported to be much less important. Research and interventions aimed at reducing costs and price volatility within the fertilizer supply chain might help at least the more accessible regions to more readily adopt chemical fertilizer. (See *Agricultural Economics* 37(s1): 237-248, December, 2007).

**III.4.2.6 Better Technology, Better Plots or Better Farmers? Identifying Changes in Productivity and Risk among Malagasy Rice Farmers**

We introduce a method for properly attributing observed productivity and risk changes among new production methods, farmers, and plots by controlling for farmer and plot heterogeneity. Results from Madagascar show that the new system of rice intensification (SRI) is indeed a superior technology. Although about half of the observed productivity gains appear due to farmer characteristics rather than SRI itself, the technology generates the estimated average output gains of more than 84%. The increased estimated yield risk associated with SRI would nonetheless make it unattractive to many farmers within the standard range of relative risk aversion. (See *American Journal of Agricultural Economics* 86(4):869-888 (November).)

**III.4.2.7 Agricultural Policy Impact Analysis: A Seasonal Multi-Market Model for Madagascar**


**III.4.3 Kenya and Ethiopia**

SAGA worked extensively on understanding patterns of risk, vulnerability, and poverty dynamics among residents of the arid and semi-arid lands of East Africa. These are of significant interest to USAID missions in the region, because they are populations routinely subject to drought and flooding shocks, disproportionately recipients of food aid
shipments, and areas of routine civil disturbance. SAGA also co-funded work based at Cornell with Kenya-based collaborators at KARI, the University of Nairobi and Egerton University.

A major policy conference, on “Pastoralism and Poverty Reduction in East Africa: A Policy Research Conference,” was co-hosted by Cornell and the International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI), June 27-28, 2006 in Nairobi. It was co-organized by the International Livestock Research Institute in Nairobi, co-sponsored by Kenya’s Office of the President’s Arid Lands Resources Management Program (ALRMP) and the World Bank. National, provincial and local governments are confronting major policy questions that impact directly on the well-being of the region’s pastoralists: concerning livestock marketing, land use and tenure, conflict mitigation and resolution, early warning systems and drought relief, gazetting of protected areas, decentralization of services provision, community empowerment, evolving social organization in response to increased commercialization, and livelihood diversification.

Some key findings from this body of work include:

**III.4.3.1 Empirical Forecasting of Slow-Onset Disasters for Improved Emergency Response: An Application to Kenya’s Arid North**

Mitigating the negative welfare consequences of crises such as droughts, floods, and disease outbreaks, is a major challenge in many areas of the world, especially in highly vulnerable areas insufficiently equipped to prevent food and livelihood security crisis in the face of adverse shocks. Given the finite resources allocated for emergency response, and the expected increase in incidences of humanitarian catastrophe due to changing climate patterns, there is a need for rigorous and efficient methods of early warning and emergency needs assessment. In this paper we develop an empirical model, based on a relatively parsimonious set of regularly measured variables from communities in Kenya’s arid north, that generates remarkably accurate forecasts of the likelihood of famine with at least three months lead time. Such a forecasting model is a potentially valuable tool for enhancing early warning capacity. (See [http://www.saga.cornell.edu/images/wp203.pdf](http://www.saga.cornell.edu/images/wp203.pdf)).

**III.4.3.2 Informal Insurance in the Presence of Poverty Traps: Evidence from Southern Ethiopia**

Asset dynamics in southern Ethiopia exhibit patterns consistent with the notion of a poverty trap. Moreover, Boran pastoralists appear to recognize this in their stated subjective expectations of rainfall-conditional herd growth. Unpacking the overall dynamics, one finds that two factors account for the apparent existence of poverty traps: (i) adverse rainfall events – drought – that causes severe herd loss, and (ii) lower herding ability among a subpopulation of herders. These dynamics have strong implications for the design of herd restocking programs and also point to important holes in social safety nets within the Boran community, such that the likelihood of external transfers to poor households crowding out private transfers appears very low. (See [http://www.saga.cornell.edu/images/wp201.pdf](http://www.saga.cornell.edu/images/wp201.pdf) and [http://www.saga.cornell.edu/images/wp206.pdf](http://www.saga.cornell.edu/images/wp206.pdf))
III.4.3.3 Incomplete Credit Markets and Commodity Marketing Behavior

We develop a simple theoretical model of market participation over multiple seasons in the presence of liquidity constraints and transactions costs to explain the ‘sell low, buy high’ puzzle wherein certain households forego opportunities for intertemporal price arbitrage through storage and are observed to sell output post-harvest at prices lower than observed prices for purchases in the subsequent lean season. We test our model with data from western Kenya using maximum likelihood estimation of a multivariate sample selection model of market participation. Access to off-farm income and credit indeed seem to influence crop sales and purchase behaviors in a manner consistent with the hypothesized patterns. (See http://www.saga.cornell.edu/images/wp230.pdf).

III.4.3.4 Challenging Orthodoxies: Understanding Poverty in Pastoral Areas of East Africa

A broader review of pastoral development strategies in east Africa and a synthesis of lessons learned from this body of work points to several key foci for reducing pastoralist poverty and vulnerability: firmer recognition of pastoralists’ land rights so as to maintain mobility, improved livestock productivity through genetic and nutrition improvements, improved marketing infrastructure, redesigned post-drought restocking programs, improved access to health and education services, more responsive safety net interventions, and political empowerment of pastoral communities. (In Development and Change 39(4): 587-611, 2008).

III.4.3.5 Interpersonal, Intertemporal and Spatial Variation in Risk Perceptions: Evidence from East Africa

Panel data on pastoralists’ risk perceptions collected in northern Kenya and southern Ethiopia indicate considerable heterogeneity in subjects’ assessment of the near-term risks they face. Individual risk perceptions respond robustly to shocks experienced by others in the community, indicating active information flow and learning. Most variation in risk perceptions is between rather than within communities or within households, suggesting that geographic targeting is likely to prove relatively effective in addressing the proximate risks faced by vulnerable households in the arid and semi-arid lands of east Africa. (See World Development 36(8): 1453-68, 2008).

III.4.3.6 Decomposing Producer Price Risk: A Policy Analysis Tool with an Application to Northern Kenyan Livestock Markets

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 Food Policy 29(4): 393-405, 2004).
III.4.3.7 Poverty Traps and Safety Nets

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. (See “Poverty Traps and Safety Nets,” by Christopher B. Barrett and John G. McPeak in Poverty, Inequality and Development: Essays in Honor of Erik Thorbecke, Alain de Janvry and Ravi Kanbur, eds., Norwell, MA: Kluwer Academic Publishers).

III.4.3.8 Food Aid Targeting, Shocks and Private Transfers Among East African Pastoralists

Using high frequency panel data among Ethiopian and Kenyan pastoralists we establish that self-targeting food-for-work or indicator-targeted free food distribution more effectively reach the poor than does food aid distributed according to community-based targeting. Food aid flows do not respond significantly to either covariate community-level income or asset shocks. Rather, food aid flows appear to respond mainly to more readily observable rainfall measures. Finally, food aid does not appear to affect private transfers in any meaningful way, either by crowding out private gifts to recipient households nor by stimulating increased gifts by food aid recipients. (See http://www.saga.cornell.edu/images/wp170.pdf)

III.4.4 South Africa

III.4.4.1 Poverty and Policy in Post-Apartheid South Africa

SAGA supported the publication of a Poverty and Policy in Post-Apartheid South Africa (HRSC Press, 2006, ISBN 978-07969-2122-2), with contributions by leading South Africa researchers. The volume was co-edited by Haroon Bhorat, Director of DPRU and Ravi Kanbur. Five clear trends emerge in the analysis of welfare shifts in the post-apartheid period. These are firstly, an increase in both absolute and relative income poverty, when using the standard measures of poverty. Secondly, there has been an increase in income inequality, which is notably being catalyzed by a rise in the share of within-group inequality. Thirdly, despite some employment growth, the rapid expansion of the labor force has resulted in increased unemployment rates irrespective of the definition used. Fourthly, a large and swift fiscal resource shift has engendered widened access to assets and basic services to poor households. These aggregate trends are fairly consistent across race and gender with the shifts amongst the African population predictably influencing many of the results. One important, relatively new dimension, to emerge from the above broad trends, has been the declining share of rural poverty as a consequence of increased migration and urbanization. Fifthly and finally, these changes in poverty and well-being in the post-1994 period have occurred within, and have influenced and had been influenced by, an environment of tepid economic growth rates.
The constraints on growth identified above, speak to the menu of policy options available to government. While ensuring that a conducive environment to realize higher growth is critical, this should not marginalize the issues of income vulnerability. In this context, it is the nature of growth, together with growth itself, that is crucial, and the results on the dissipating impact of inequality on economic growth is a key result. Given South Africa's severe income vulnerability, the growth-poverty-inequality nexus retains a particular relevance for the future.

**III.4.4.2 Exploring Poverty Traps and Social Exclusion in South Africa Using Qualitative and Quantitative Data**

Recent theoretical work hypothesizes that a polarized society like South Africa will suffer a legacy of ineffective social capital and blocked pathways of upward mobility that leaves large numbers of people trapped in poverty. To explore these ideas, this paper employs a mix of quantitative and qualitative methods. Novel econometric analysis of asset dynamics over the 1993-98 period identifies a dynamic asset poverty threshold that signals that large numbers of South Africans are indeed trapped without a pathway out of poverty. Qualitative analysis of this period and the period 1998-2001 more deeply examines patterns of mobility, and confirms the continuation of this pattern of limited upward mobility and a low-level poverty trap. In addition, the qualitative data permit a closer look at the specific role played by social relationships. While finding ample evidence of active social capital and networks, these are more helpful for non-poor households. For the poor, social capital at best helps stabilize livelihoods at low levels and does little to promote upward mobility. While there is thus some economic sense to sociability in South Africa, elimination of the polarized economic legacy of apartheid will ultimately require more proactive efforts to assure that households have access to a minimum bundle of assets and to the markets needed to effectively build on those assets over time. (See *Journal of Development Studies* 42(2):226-247, 2006; also published in *Understanding and Reducing Persistent Poverty in Africa*, Christopher Barrett, Peter Little, Michael Carter (eds.), Routledge, 2007).

**III.4.5 Uganda**

A SAGA-funded study at EPRC has found:

- Even though poverty fell significantly in the 1990s, most Ugandans remain vulnerable to shocks that could drop them below the poverty line.

- The most important shocks to households are the illness or death of a family member. For communities, the most important shocks are crop losses due to disease or poor weather.

- The least vulnerable group, and the group whose poverty declined most over the decade, are those households with a public sector worker.
IV. INSTITUTION BUILDING AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

A principal goal of SAGA was to strengthen the capacity of the SISERA institutions to conduct high quality research, to do outreach that elevates their profile and among national and international policymakers, 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 produced numerous research papers. They also organized major national and international conferences; bid for and won research grants that expanded their research resources beyond SAGA’s contribution; and made significant contributions to the national policy dialogue. Here we highlight several illustrative examples.

IV.1 Ghana

We continued our strong partnership with ISSER, focusing on policy outreach and engagement through conferences, workshops, and policy seminars. One of the main objectives of Cornell’s collaboration with ISSER under the SAGA project was to help build the capacity of ISSER and to raise its Africa-wide profile, for it, in turn, to build capacity in Ghana on economic and social analysis.

The commissioning of a broad set of papers on “Understanding Poverty in Ghana,” written primarily by Ghanaian scholars based in Ghana, was a foundational exercise for the SAGA project, providing a broad overview of the topic for Ghana, but also engaging with Ghanaian scholars and forming teams of ISSER and non-ISSER analysts. A book launch for the volume, The Economy of Ghana Analytical Perspectives on Stability, Growth and Poverty edited by Ernest Aryeetey and Ravi Kanbur, James Currey Ltd., Publishers, 2008 (ISBN: 9781847010032), was held on September 12, 2008, at the University of Ghana. Ravi Kanbur stated “Two thirds of the authors are Ghanaian, most of them based in Ghana, and many of them representing the younger generation of Ghanaian economists, on whose shoulders will fall the responsibility of economic policymaking and advising in the years to come.” (See “Three Challenges of Ghana’s Economy”).

Ravi Kanbur helped to organize a meeting at ISSER to discuss the dramatic disconnect between quantitative and qualitative appraisals of poverty in Ghana in 2003. Participants from Ghanaian academia, civil society, and government highlighted resolution of this disconnect as a priority for research. ISSER organized a second meeting, “Qual-Quant Workshop,” in Accra on May 21-22, 2003, to advance collaboration between the two types of analysts. An organizational meeting on Qualitative and Quantitative Poverty Appraisal was also held at ISSER in January, 2004.

We developed a comprehensive research proposal to address the glaring gap in data on poverty in Ghana—the lack of household panel data sets that allow for serious analysis of poverty dynamics. In Ghana, the work was led by Abena Oduro of the Center for Policy Analysis (CEPA) and Kojo Appia-Kubi of ISSER (who prepared a joint paper on this topic for the volume discussed above). SAGA initiated a meeting at Yale, “Workshop on Panel Data Sets for Ghana,” in February, 2003, which included ISSER and several global leaders.
in the area of poverty dynamics — Chris Udry, of Yale, Stefan Dercon of Oxford and John Hoddinott of IFPRI.

The authors’ conference on the first drafts of papers for the Understanding Poverty in Ghana was organized ISSER in January, 2004. The conference was opened by the Vice Chancellor of the University of Ghana (who is himself an author of a paper for the volume), and the final session was chaired by the Director General of the National Development Planning Commission, which is the agency charged with coordinating the Ghana Poverty Reduction Strategy.

The July 2004 dissemination conference for the commissioned papers, “Ghana at the Half Century,” was also planned to be the launch of the Economy of Growth Network (EGN). ISSER successfully applied to the African Capacity Building Foundation (ACBF) for institutional support for the EGN. The network for the diaspora of Ghanaian economists, and indeed for all economists working on Ghana, for disseminating research findings and discussing their policy relevance, uses the interactive website as the main platform for discussion among members.

The “Shared Growth in Africa” conference in Accra, Ghana, July, 2005, was co-sponsored by ISSER, SAGA, and the World Bank (co-organizers were Ernest Aryeetey, Director of ISSER; Ravi Kanbur, Cornell; and John Page, World Bank). This major policy conference was organized, with a call for papers issued to address questions of how best to achieve shared growth—what policy and interventions are the best mix, how does the mix differ from country to country, and what is the balance of macro- and microeconomic policy. A special issue with papers from this conference, *African Development Review, Vol. 18, No. 3, December, 2006* was guest edited by the conference organizers.

One of EGN’s objectives is to help capacity building in institutions outside of the concentration of institutions in the capital city, Accra. In particular, it was well recognized that capacity is lacking in the North of the country. The already poor state of academic and analytical infrastructure in the country was exacerbated by the fact that most conferences and events are held in the capital city, with the result that renowned Ghanaian and non-Ghanaian scholars do not visit and tend not to interact with academics and analysts based in Northern institutions.

In pursuit of the capacity building objective of EGN, ISSER and Cornell held a “Northern Roadshow” on Economic Growth and for the Northern Region, Upper East Region and Upper West Region of Ghana in Bolgatanga and Tamale, Ghana, September 11-14, 2006. We took a group of persons from ISSER and the Economics Department at the University of Ghana as well as international resource persons from outside Ghana, to the North for discussions at local academic institutions. ISSER’s annual State of the Ghana Economy report was launched for the first time in Tamale in the Northern Region, by the Northern Regional Minister. The team also interacted with the Upper East Regional Minister and with the Faculty and students of the University of Development Studies.
The Young Economists Outreach Programme, co-sponsored by ISSER, Cornell, and EGN, held January 10-11, 2008, in Elmina, Ghana, exposed young economists in Ghana to an international peer review process for their work and provided a forum to develop mentoring relationships with senior internationally known and accomplished economists. At this meeting, emphasis was placed on introducing young economists to new ideas in economics and how these can be used in their own work.

IV.2. South Africa

We worked with DPRU to help them develop their framework for research under the SAGA program, viewing this as an integrated part of their overall research strategy. Since 2001, DPRU has organized an annual conference on the South African economy. In 2004, SAGA supported DPRU’s efforts to expand this conference to a region-wide forum, held in Capetown, October 13, 15, 2004, “African Development and Poverty Reduction: The Macro-Micro Linkage.” Authors from around the world presented almost 50 papers. Papers were selected, refereed, and edited by Haroon Bhorat, Stephen Hanival and Ravi Kanbur for a Special Issue on Poverty, Trade and Growth in Africa in Journal of African Economies, Vol, 15, No. 4, December, 2006.


SAGA researchers Paul Cichello, Ravi Kanbur, and Stephen Younger worked with the DPRU and the National Institute for Economic Policy (NIEP) to present a two-week Workshop on Analysis and Measurement of Poverty and Inequality for faculty at South Africa’s historically disadvantaged universities. The aim of this course was to provide participants with competences in working with South African survey datasets, particularly in the fields of labor markets, and the analysis of poverty and inequality. The course included formalized reading time and lectures based on the assigned readings. Practical computer-based exercises using the statistical software package STATA drew on the readings and lectures. Program content for poverty analysis included household surveys as an instrument for measurement, derivation of poverty lines, alternative classes of poverty measures, poverty decompositions, and uses of poverty measures with applications to developing countries. Topics for analysis of inequality included building and choosing an inequality measure, modeling inequality, decompositions of inequality measures, and the application of inequality measures to developing countries. The workshop was held in Capetown, South Africa, June 23-July 4, 2003, and involved about 25 participants.

A one-day learning workshop, Analytical and Empirical Tools for Poverty Research, was co-sponsored by SAGA on Saturday, August 16, 2003, in Durban, South Africa, as a lead in to the 25th triennial meeting of the International Association of Agricultural Economists (IAAE). The workshop, co-organized by SAGA co-PI Chris Barrett (Cornell) and Csaba Csaki (World Bank), featured five hour-long sessions by leading poverty researchers introducing frontier techniques in poverty research and a 90-minute panel featuring shorter remarks by five distinguished scholars on research and policy priorities for
addressing rural poverty. A range of international donors, including GTZ, IDRC, the World Bank, the Kellogg Foundation and others, supported the registration and travel costs of delegates from developing countries. More than 110 participants from at least 22 different countries registered for the learning workshop, including economists and other poverty researchers or program managers from line ministries in various African governments, universities from six continents, USAID, the World Bank, CGIAR centers, and other national and multinational organizations.

The success of the June 2003 training workshop at the Development Policy Research Unit (DPRU) of the University of Cape Town led to demand for more such workshops. Ravi Kanbur, Paul Cichello, Ching-Mei Chen, and Stephen Younger worked with the DPRU to offer a Workshop on Analysis and Measurement of Poverty and Inequality for the Department of Social Development (DSD), the government agency charged with design and management of most of South Africa’s transfer payments. The workshop was held in Pretoria at the government’s information technology training center, March 2004. The course covered both theoretical and empirical aspects of poverty and inequality analysis, with daily hands-on training with STATA software in a computer lab.

Ravi Kanbur and Steve Younger helped to plan a poverty training workshop organized by the Development Policy Research Unit (DPRU) at the University of Cape Town, a SISERA partner institution, for National Treasury in South Africa. They also participated as guest lecturers in the four-day workshop held December 11-14, 2006. A variety of issues were covered, ranging from the theory and proactive of the measurement of poverty and inequality, to labor market and trade-related poverty issues and social security. The workshop was attended by staff that work on these issues from National Treasury and the Presidency. In addition, a roundtable discussion on a social security system for South Africa was attended by officials from these departments, as well as Statistics South Africa and the Department of Social Development, among others.

Work was completed 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. The final paper was presented by our South African colleagues at the AERC Dissemination Conference on Poverty, Income Distribution and Labour Markets in Sub-Saharan Africa, October 12-13, 2006, in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

IV.3 Uganda

The Uganda Survey Data Analysis Workshop, held August 26-September 6, 2002, brought together researchers from Kenya (IPAR), Tanzania (ESRF), and Uganda (EPRC, various departments at Makerere University, and the Bank of Uganda) to develop skills for survey data analysis. We also included participants in a daylong consultation with government representatives, donors, university faculty, and the press, to define specific policy-relevant research topics for SAGA in Uganda. Jointly coordinated by Stephen
Younger from Cornell and John Okidi from the Economic Policy Research Centre, Uganda’s SISERA partner in Kenya, this workshop was designed to address the imbalance between abundant data and scarce researchers in Uganda. We discussed general poverty analysis and poverty comparisons; the incidence of public expenditures and taxes; agricultural development; and the demand for public social services. For each topic, we reviewed two or three key papers that use survey data to address a policy issue. We then worked through the steps of how to conduct a similar analysis with data available in Uganda. This latter activity was very much hands on. EPRC provided one computer for each pair of participants so that everyone could work through the program required for the analysis. This was followed by exercises in which each pair had to work through a similar problem with new data. We also included participants in a day-long consultation with government representatives, donors, university faculty and the press, to define specific policy-relevant research topics.

SAGA supported a competition for young Ugandan researchers wanting to do research indicated by the Ministry of Finance, Planning, and Economic Development’s (MOFPED’s) Poverty Research Guide. We received 27 proposals, of which we accepted four:

- **Sebaggala, Richard, and John Kikabi, “Wage Determination and Wage Discrimination in Uganda”**
- **Nadiope, Moses, Thomas Bwire, and Lazarus Mukasa, “The Determinants of Low Retention Rates in Primary Schools in Uganda: An Econometric Analysis”**
- **Akankunda, Denis, “An Assessment of the Causal Relationship Between HIV/AIDS and Poverty in Uganda”**
- **Okumu Ibrahim, Alex Nakajjo, Doreen Isole, “Socioeconomic and Institutional Determinants of Primary School Dropout: The Logistic Model Analysis”**

EPRC completed its report, “Strengthening the understanding of the dynamics of poverty in Northern Uganda,” with support from Steve Younger. Results were presented at a conference in Kampala hosted by the Bank of Uganda and the World Bank in March, 2006. SAGA-funded research provided the basis for presentations on poverty reduction, vulnerability, and progress toward the MDGs.

Stephen Younger made seven trips to Kampala from 2006 to 2008 to assist and mentor Ugandan researchers in the context of MOFPED's poverty research competition. In addition, he provided support to EPRC as it analyzed the 2004 Northern Uganda Survey on poverty and vulnerability, and to EPRC and the Uganda Bureau of Statistics (UBoS) as they prepared a follow-up survey to evaluate the impact of the Northern Uganda Social Action Fund (NUSAF).
IV. 4 Kenya

SAGA collaborated 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.

Five Cornell graduate students worked on topics related to the SAGA-Kenya research program. A Kenyan economics Ph.D. candidate, Andrew Mude, completed his dissertation field work in Muranga District, partially funded by a SAGA competitive small grant and partly by the Rockefeller Foundation. Mr. Mude was co-hosted by IPAR and Tegemeo during his field period in Kenya, where he focused on the determinants of successful cooperative marketing arrangements in the coffee, dairy, and tea sub-sectors, seeking to understand how meso-level institutional arrangements can most effectively empower small producers in liberalized marketing channels and reduce their exposure to risks of price crashes and contract breach or hold up. Chris Barrett worked in the field with two other students in the midst of field data collection. David Amudavi, a lecturer at Egerton University currently pursuing a Cornell Ph.D. in Adult and Extension Education, was completing one year of field research on how different types of community groups affect household-level innovation and welfare, and how external (donor, government, and private sector) agencies can most effectively partner with community groups to improve their developmental effectiveness. Mr. Amudavi’s fieldwork was supported primarily by the Rockefeller Foundation. Heidi Hogset, an American/Norwegian Ph.D. candidate in Applied Economics and Management, was completing a year’s fieldwork, funded by the National Science Foundation, Cornell, and the Pew Charitable Trusts, on the role social networks play in improving agricultural productivity and natural resources management in the central and western highlands. Both Mr. Amudavi and Ms. Hogset’s work was a part of the “Empowering the Rural Poor” sub-theme and were featured in our policy conferences. Mr. Paulo Santos, a Portuguese Ph.D. candidate in Applied Economics and Management, studied social networks among pastoralists in northern Kenya and their role in choices regarding seasonal migration, interhousehold transfers, employment and educational finance to manage risk and vulnerability. Mr. Kioko Munyao, a Kenyan M.P.S. candidate in International Agriculture and Rural Development, worked in the same northern Kenyan sites as Mr. Santos, studying how communities and households adapt to the loss of dry season grazing and watering areas to gazetting of protected areas for conservation purposes. The thrust of his work is to understand what sorts of interventions might prevent loss of crucial mobility for risk management and asset protection, with a special focus on the imminent imposition of land use restrictions on the Hurri Hills of Marsabit District.

The March 2004 workshop on “Mixing Qualitative and Quantitative Method of Poverty Analysis in Kenya,” hosted by KIPPRA and co-organized by IPAR and Cornell and co-sponsored by the World Bank, developed and promoted the use of mixed methods of poverty analysis within the Kenyan research community. There was considerable interest in this approach within the policy research community, including within the Ministries (e.g.,
Agriculture, Livestock Development), the Kenya Agricultural Research Institute, and various other universities and NGOs active in the country. The objective of the workshop was to familiarize the policy research community (both producers and end-users in donor and operational agencies and government) with these techniques. The workshop was attended by 50 or so representatives from various government ministries, the Central Bureau of Statistics, donor agencies (e.g., USAID, World Bank, EU, DFID), Kenyan universities and research institutes, as well as several different national media outlets (print, radio, and TV). The opening keynote speaker was Dr. David Nalo, Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Planning and National Development and former Director of the Central Bureau of Statistics. The workshop included presentations by a range of scholars from different social science disciplines and closed with an expert panel discussing how best to integrate qualitative and quantitative methods of poverty analysis in emerging policy-oriented research in Kenya.

The proceedings of the workshop were published in *Qualitative and Quantitative Methods for Poverty Analysis: Proceedings of the Workshop Held on 11 March 2004, Nairobi, Kenya*, Walter Odhiambo, John M. Omiti, and David I. Muthaka, editors ((ISBN 9966 94981X). The project was directed by Christopher Barrett.

**IV.5 Madagascar**

The Secretary General, Mme. Josianne Rabetokotany of the Ministry of Education, along with the Prime Minister, requested and secured financial support from the World Bank at a Paris donor’s meeting for a survey to be jointly designed and conducted by SAGA and the Ministry to improve the knowledge base for the Ministry’s policymaking and investments. Specifically, we worked with the *Institut National de la Statistique* (INSTAT) and the Ministry of Health, with funding from and in collaboration with the World Bank, to conduct surveys of health facilities and their users.

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 2005. 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*.

Additionally, seven researchers from INSTAT and the Ministry of Education trained at Cornell in survey design and data analysis in 2005.

**IV.6 Senegal**

The technical assistance team from Cornell University worked primarily with the director, Abdoulaye Diagne, and with lead researchers Monseur Dafe and Salimata Faye. The specific area in which Cornell provided technical assistance was in the design of household, community, and school-level questionnaires for examining education outcomes, as well as the planning and design of sampling procedures and related analytic approaches for data
A formal workshop, “Identifying Policy Needs in Education,” was hosted by Cornell and CREA, with the support of UNESCO and UNICEF and with participants from Ministries of Education in Côte d’Ivoire and Senegal, representatives of various international organizations and donors, and non-governmental organizations. In 2003, Leopold Sarr, a doctoral student at Cornell and Senegalese national, assumed primary responsibility for managing and implementing the household survey that was conducted by the Ministry of Education and CREA.

IV.7 SISERA Research Support

Steve Younger provided technical support and guidance to SISERA's research competition funded under SAGA. The competition attracted 38 proposals from researchers at SISERA institutions, of which 8 were funded. Younger helped researchers prepare proposals; helped SISERA evaluate those proposals; and then helped the winning research teams write their papers. He made three trips to Senegal and one to Uganda from 2003 to 2006 to support this activity.
V. 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 policymakers and the policy process, we believe that our greatest contribution to policy outreach was an indirect one, fostering a culture of evidence-based policy making in Africa.

V.1. SAGA Website

With our website (http://www.saga.cornell.edu), we developed a global platform to communicate about SAGA—our mission, our conferences, workshops, and progress reports, and, most importantly, disseminate the results of our research as working papers, conference papers, and presentations, downloadable from the website. The number of “hits” recorded to this website since data collection on the website usage began in May 28, 2003, is 1,641,618. Although the “hit” is a common measurement of website traffic indicating the number of files downloaded by a visitor, which may include the web page or images, for example, the number of visitors was also tracked. The SAGA website has been visited 259,896 times from May 28, 2003 to September 30, 2008. During the course of these visits, 336,263 papers were downloaded.

The website traffic peaked in 2006 with a total of 524,294 hits, but usage continues to be strong with 253,885 hits registered for the first 9 months of 2008, and 401,881 recorded for 2007. The number of downloads of working papers in 2007 was 93,223, only slightly less than the 2006 peak of 95,754. From January-September, 2008, there were 50,231 downloads of working papers. See Appendix V for a summary of website statistics for the project, and Appendices VI and VII for website statistics for 2007, and January-September 2008, respectively. (These last two years have not previously appended in progress reports.)

V.2. Conferences, Workshops and Related Publications

We actively engaged in organizing and hosting policy-oriented conferences and workshops. Section IV above highlights some of the workshops offering technical assistance that we organized. Appendix III provides a list of 56 conferences, workshops and presentations in which SAGA has co-sponsored, and/or SAGA personnel have co-organized and participated. Examples of major policy conferences include:

As noted above, in section IV.1, the conference, Ghana at the Half Century, co-sponsored by SAGA and ISSER, in July 2004, brought together researchers and policymakers from inside and outside Ghana, to assess where Ghana has come in its first half century, and present relevant research to influence the policy debates to meet the challenges of Ghana’s future. SAGA commissioned a broad set of papers on Understanding Poverty in Ghana, written primarily by Ghanaian scholars based in Ghana, and these papers were presented at the conference. The conference also served as the launch of the new Economy of Ghana Network.
On October 13-15, 2004, the conference, “African Development and Poverty Reduction: The Macro-Micro Linkage” sponsored by DPRU and Trade and Industrial Policy Strategies (TIPS), with support from SAGA, was held in Cape Town, South Africa. Each year, DPRU hosts a conference on the economy of South Africa. In 2004, with support from SAGA, Deutsche Gesellschaft für Technische Zusammenarbeit (GTZ), International Development Research Centre (IDRC), USAID/South Africa, and the Friedrich Ebert Stiftung, DPRU expanded this conference to an Africa-wide focus, inviting papers from all over the continent. 57 conference papers were posted on the SAGA website. A special issue of the Journal of African Economies, Vol. 15, No. 4, December, 2006, published selected papers from this conference. See Special Issue on Poverty, Trade and Growth in Africa.

On February 4, 2005, in Kampala, Uganda, a conference on “Poverty in Uganda: Trends, Dimensions, and Policy,” was sponsored by SAGA and the EPRC. This presented papers on poverty in Uganda, written with the support of SAGA. 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).

The SAGA Workshop on “Empowering the Poor and Reducing their Risk and Vulnerability,” was hosted by IPAR in Nairobi, Kenya, on February 10, 2005, and presented research from the SAGA-Kenya project. The event was opened by the Hon. Peter Kaindi, Assistant Minister of Agriculture and Member of Parliament. Five other Members of Parliament were in attendance, including the Hon. Franklin Bett, Chair of the Parliamentary Committee on Agriculture. Two former Permanent Secretaries, Prof. Harris Mule (Finance) and Prof. Shem Migot-Adholla (Agriculture) were also 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. Powerpoint presentations and policy briefs are available on the conference webpage. We worked closely with a subset of SAGA collaborators to substantially revise papers presented at this policy workshop held in Nairobi for publication in an edited volume entitled Decentralization and the Social Economics of Development – Lessons from Kenya, co-edited by Christopher B. Barrett, Andrew G. Mude and John M. Omiti (CABI, 2007, ISBN: 9781845932695).

The International Conference on “Shared Growth in Africa” was sponsored by SAGA, ISSER, and the Africa Region of the World Bank. Approximately 45 papers were presented, the majority by Africans based in Africa. The Mission Chief of USAID-Ghana was on the opening panel of the conference. Work sponsored by USAID-Ghana was

The SAGA team in Senegal, in partnership with Cornell University, CREA, and the Ministry of Education held a major international conference on “Education in West Africa: Constraints and Opportunities” in Dakar, Senegal, November 1-2, 2005. The conference was opened by Honorable Moustapha Sourang, Senegalese Minister of Education, Mr. Mbaye Ndoumbé Guèye, Director of Planning and Reform at the Ministry of Education, Pape Guèye, Special Advisor to the Minister of Education, Professor Abdou Salam Sall, the Rector of the University, and Professor Mohamed El Bachir Wade, the Dean of the Faculty of Economics and Management. More than one hundred attended, including several academics from the University of Dakar and other African and European universities as well as from the Dakar Campus of Suffolk University; experts from the Senegalese Ministries of Education, Adult Literacy and Vocational Training; representatives of donors (USAID, IDRC/SISERA, UNICEF, Agence Française de Développement); and many NGOs and education-oriented associations such as Pôle de Dakar and Aide et Action, among others. Twenty-three conference papers are posted on the website, as well as conference presentations.

SAGA co-hosted a major policy research conference, “Pastoralism and Poverty Reduction in East Africa,” in Nairobi, Kenya, June 27-28, 2006. It was co-organized by the International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI), and co-sponsored by Kenya’s Office of the President’s Arid Lands Resources Management Program (ALRMP) and the World Bank. The conference was extremely successful, drawing mid-level and senior policymakers from all countries in the region, all the major donor organizations operation in east Africa, and many NGOs, as well as researchers and representatives of pastoralist communities. The event drew local and international (e.g., *People’s Daily Online*, China) press attention and extremely favorable comments by participants, who were twice as many as expected. The conference addressed the challenges of poverty reduction policy in the pastoralist areas which are compounded by the complex relationship of pastoralist peoples and the natural resource base on which they depend. We produced a set of policy briefs that summarized each of the papers in nontechnical terms for lay readers, along with complete papers, available on the SAGA website.

SAGA co-sponsored with ISSER and the EGN, a workshop on “Economic Development and Northern Ghana,” September 11-16, 2006, in Bolgatanga and Tamale, Ghana. In this “Northern Roadshow,” economists from ISSER and the Economics Department at the University of Ghana, as well as international resource persons from outside Ghana, travelled outside of the capital to the Northern Ghana for discussions at local academic institutions. ISSER’s annual State of the Ghana Economy report was launched for the first time in Tamale in the Northern Region, by the Northern Regional Minister, Hon. Alhaji Mustapha Idrisu. The team also interacted with the Upper East Regional Minister and with the Faculty and students of the University of Development Studies. Thirteen workshop presentations are available on the SAGA website.
The AERC, in collaboration with Cornell University, organized the “Bottom-Up Intervention and Economic Growth in Africa,” May 31-June 1, 2007, in Nairobi, Kenya. This conference was motivated by the observation that while macro level policy reforms in Africa has addressed many of the economic distortions, its payoff in terms of growth and poverty reduction has been disappointing, to say the least. One reason for this may be that Africa is faced with many constraints to growth at the micro and meso levels. If this is the case, then addressing these constraints along with macro level reforms is likely to benefit poverty reduction and growth directly. Addressing these constraints, especially those faced by the poor, will improve the well being of the poor and also have positive feedback effects on the well being of the non-poor and growth generally. The objective of this conference, therefore, was to explore the feedback effects of a range of specific bottom up interventions on growth in general. The interventions considered might include those in health, education, community development, safety nets, and gender equity, among others. A key feature of these interventions is that they operate in the first instance at the micro and meso levels, but they also have macro level consequences for economic growth. The conference participants discussed theoretical, empirical, and policy oriented papers that investigate these feedback effects in rigorous manner. David Sahn and Ravi Kanbur from Cornell participated in the conference. Ten conference papers are available from the SAGA website.

The Young Economists Outreach Programme, co-sponsored by ISSER, Cornell, and EGN, held January 10-11, 2008, in Elmina, Ghana, engaged young economists in Ghana, exposing them to an international peer review process for their work and providing a forum for them to develop mentoring relationships with senior internationally known and accomplished economists. Emphasis was placed on introducing young economists to new ideas in economics and how these can be used in their own work.

The third symposium in the United Nations University-Cornell Africa Series, The Social and Economic Dimensions of HIV/AIDS in Africa, sponsored by UNAIDS and the Turkish Mission to the United Nations, was held September 9, 2008, at the UN headquarters in New York. It brought together leading academic experts from around the world – including many from Africa, the United Nations, international organizations and non-governmental organizations – to review the economic and social impacts of the HIV/AIDS, as well as strategies and opportunities to reverse the devastating consequences of the pandemic in Africa. David Sahn organized this symposium, the third in a series designed to prepare and educate UN agency staff, delegates and other interested parties to address the lack of progress in meeting the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) in Africa, and prepare the landscape for the General Assembly Conference on Africa in late September 2008. He led off the September symposium with an overview of the AIDS problem and objectives of the meeting, and then led the first panel, which addressed the effect of HIV and anti-retroviral therapy on families, children and youth. He also served as panelist in the roundtable/discussion: “The Way Forward and the Role of the Universities and Academics: Bridging the Academia and Development in the Field of Public Health.” Peter Glick presented the paper, “Prevention Impacts of HIV/AIDS Interventions in Africa: What Have We Learned?” as part of the panel on “Intensifying Prevention and the Role of Local Governments and Communities.”
V.3. Direct Engagement of Policymakers

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

V.3.1. South Africa

In South Africa, government officials were active participants in and users of a wide range of SAGA activities and output. This included various dissemination conferences and synthesis publications. The conferences held in Ghana and South Africa involved policymakers: 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.

In his foreword to the 2006 SAGA book, Poverty and Policy in Post Apartheid South Africa, edited by Haroon Bhorat and Ravi Kanbur, Alan Hirsch, Chief Director for Economics in the Presidency, says “This volume assembles twelve essays by top researchers who ask how well South Africa has addressed these challenges...What is key is that the quality of the research underlying the essays is sound. [The Editors] have ensured that the quality of evidence presented is such that readers will learn a great deal about the most important South African challenges, and begin to form their own opinions.”

In addition, we have worked hard to involve key international institutions that are critical to the current policy dialogue in our work. John Page, the Chief Economist for the Africa region, for example, puts forward his concept of shared growth for South Africa in the special SAGA sponsored issue, “Poverty, Trade and Growth in Sub-Saharan Africa,” edited by Haroon Bhorat, Stephen Hanival and Ravi Kanbur, that came out in December 2006. (See Journal of African Economies, Vol. 15, No. 4, December, 2006). He defines it as combining a focus on using all of the public policy means available to create and sustain growth, with actions in education, health, rural development, and micro and small enterprise development, for example, designed to equip the poor to participate in and benefit from growth. In particular, he emphasizes three key areas of public policy for advancing growth, managing natural resource revenues, pushing agricultural exports, and deepening regional integration, the last two of which link up with the trade theme of this special issue.

Ravi Kanbur was available as requested to provide a global perspective on discussion of South African issues. At the request of USAID-South Africa he has addressed a gathering of Parliamentarians and a gathering of senior South African officials including the Director General of the Treasury. He served as adviser and
peer reviewer to the Fiscal and Finance Commission a statutory body reporting to Parliament on Center-Province financial relationships. Most recently, he was an invited speaker at the launch of the public consultations of the draft Anti-Poverty Strategy document by the Deputy President of South Africa, October 29, 2008, in Pretoria. See his remarks at http://www.saga.cornell.edu/saga/sa-antipoverty-strategy.pdf.

V.3.2. Madagascar

SAGA has been working with the DGs and INSTAT on generating statistics for the Prime Minister’s office that accurately capture changes in living conditions in Madagascar over the past five years, with a particular focus on the evolution of infant and child mortality, and the relative success of regional development programs.

David Sahn engaged in direct talks and discussions with the Minister of Education to discuss opportunities and challenges that result from a move to eliminate user fees, as well as working intimately with the Director General for planning in the Ministry on identifying key investment strategies to increase enrollments, improvement school quality, and raise test score results. Toward this end, the Ministry of Education asked Cornell University to take a lead role on developing the analytical capacity of the Ministry in the formulation of a new education strategy.

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.

V.3.3 Kenya

The policy conference “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-Adholla (Agriculture) were also among the approximately 90 attendees. Correspondence has continued with these policymakers.

The June 2006 policy conference on “Pastoralism and Poverty Reduction in East Africa,” was organized by the International Livestock Research Institute in Nairobi, co-sponsored by Kenya’s Office of the President’s Arid Lands Resources Management Program (ALRMP), and the World Bank. It included a range of senior and mid-ranking policymakers from Ethiopia, Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda. Regular contact has ensued with some of them, especially the Kenyan team, which has
expressed considerable interest in drawing out the practical applications of some of the findings reported at the conference.

The SAGA-Kenya team included two members who were writing the government's Kenya Rural Development Strategy. Hezron Nyangito, the Acting Director of KIPPRA led one of our research teams. James Nyoro of Tegemeo, who led another of our subprojects, chaired the government’s parliamentary advisory group on reforms in the coffee sector.

V.3.4 Uganda

In response to the Ministry of Finance, Planning, and Economic Development's (MOFPED) *Poverty Research Guide*, which indicates areas of research that the Ministry views as critical for Uganda’s Poverty Eradication Action Plan (PEAP), SAGA sponsored and helped organize a research competition to provide input into government’s poverty alleviation strategy.

At the February 2005 conference on “Poverty in Uganda: Trends, Dimensions, and Policy,” 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).

V.3.5 Senegal

The 2005 “*Education in West Africa*” conference in Dakar was opened by Honorable Moustapha Sourang, Senegalese Minister of Education, Mr. Mbaye Ndoumbé Guèye, Director of Planning and Reform at the Ministry of Education, Pape Guèye, Special Advisor to the Minister of Education, Professor Abdou Salam Sall, the Rector of the University, and Professor Mohamed El Bachir Wade, the Dean of the Faculty of Economics and Management. More than one hundred attended, including several academics from the University of Dakar and other African and European universities as well as from the Dakar Campus of Suffolk University; experts from the Senegalese Ministries of Education, Adult Literacy and Vocational Training; representatives of donors (USAID, IDRC/SISERA, UNICEF, Agence Française de Développement); and many NGOs and education-oriented associations such as Pôle de Dakar and Aide et Action, among others.
VI. MONITORING AND EVALUATION

- Publications: A total of 311 research papers have been prepared—73 of these have been published in peer-reviewed journals and as book chapters. These titles are collected in Appendix I. Eleven published volumes, edited by SAGA principals, focus on specific areas of SAGA research or are collections of proceedings of SAGA-sponsored conferences. These are also listed in Appendix I, following the individual article titles. There are 34 additional working papers shown in Appendix II. There were 204 papers generated for conferences, and these are included, with hyperlinks, as well as briefs and presentations, in Appendix III that lists all conferences, workshops, and presentations involving SAGA and SAGA researchers.

- SAGA researchers made over 100 trips to Africa during the course of the project to engage in research and technical assistance. The travel was divided over the years thusly: 7 trips, 2001; 18 trips, 2002; 17 trips, 2003; 14 trips, 2004; 12 trips, 2005; 13 trips, 2006; 11 trips, 2007; and 11 trips, 2008. The travel was divided among the countries as follows: 16 trips to Senegal, 9 trips to Ghana, 25 trips to Kenya, 16 trips to South Africa, 16 trips to Madagascar, 17 trips to Uganda, and 4 trips to other Côte d’Ivoire, Mali, and Tanzania.

- As noted above in Section V.1 above, the SAGA website has continued to be developed both in terms of papers published and conferences highlighted. The number of “hits” recorded to this website since data collection on the website usage began in May 28, 2003, is 1,641,618. The SAGA website has been visited 259,896 times from May 28, 2003 to September 30, 2008. Papers were downloaded 336,263 times. In 2006, an annual peak of 524,294 hits was tracked, but usage continues to be strong with 253,885 hits registered for the first 9 months of 2008, and 401,881 recorded for 2007. See Appendix V for a summary of website statistics for the project, and Appendices VI and VII for website statistics for 2007, and for January-September 2008, not previously appended in progress reports.

- Major international policy conferences sponsored by SAGA, are detailed in section V.2. A total of 56 conferences, workshops and presentations listed in Appendix III were sponsored by SAGA and/or organized and participated in by SAGA personnel.

- An USAID external evaluation of SAGA was conducted and the results reported in: (http://pdf.dec.org/pdf_docs/Pdacg651.pdf)
VII. LEVERAGE

Fortunately, we were quite successful at leveraging SAGA funding with support from other institutions. The flexibility inherent in our cooperative agreement with USAID enabled us to both create and respond to opportunities in a timely fashion, which was 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 some again here:

- We 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 contributed $200,000 to INSTAT for the conduct of the survey and related data analysis, and we finalized negotiations for and additional $75,000.

- The World Bank 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 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 provided 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 was supported primarily by IDRC and TH Lee Funds.

- Roughly $40,000 in funding was received from USAID Global Livestock CRSP Pastoral Risk Management (PARIMA) project and the World Bank to help sponsor the June 2006 pastoralism project.
VIII. 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.

Examples of how our research supports Mission activities include:

- In Ghana, a component of the work program identified early on was land issues—an important part of USAID-Ghana’s country strategy. USAID-Ghana approved a $600,000 program of work to be undertaken by ISSER on land issues in Ghana.

- In South Africa, the USAID mission was involved in partially financing the courses that Cornell and DPRU have run for staff of Historically Black Universities in South Africa, and for staff of the Department of Social Development. Ravi Kanbur also addressed members of the South African parliament, and senior South African civil servants, at the request of USAID-South Africa.

- In Senegal, our work on education was specifically designed based on this being a strategic objective of the Mission. We worked with the Mission on the design of a large regional conference to bring researchers and policymakers together to discuss recent research findings and draw relevant policy implications.

- In Madagascar, we supported Mission programming along a number of dimensions. This includes our research on HIV/AIDS knowledge and behavior using the Demographic Health Surveys to address the Mission’s focus on prevention of this disease, our work on education in support of Madagascar being one of the focus countries of the President’s Africa Education Initiative, and our continued work on agricultural markets and productivity in support of the Mission’s agricultural and trade program which concentrates on accelerating economic growth through market development.

- In Madagascar, the Mission financed our work on analyzing the most recent DHS survey. The 2003/4 DHS indicated very sharp declines in rates of infant and under-five mortality compared with the previous survey from 1997. This is a very important gauge of changes in the country’s welfare as well as impacts of health policies, but many, including USAID-Madagascar and UNICEF-Madagascar, had concerns about the plausibility of the findings. USAID-Madagascar approached CFNPP to investigate these findings and assess the quality of the DHS data. The results of the report were discussed in consultations with USAID, the Malagasy health ministry, and others. In addition to leading to an accepted downward revision of the changes in mortality, the findings about sample representivity has prompted the engagement of consultants to redesign the sampling frame used for national surveys in Madagascar. (See http://www.saga.cornell.edu/images/wp207.pdf).
APPENDIX
TO
SAGA FINAL REPORT 2008
Appendix I

SAGA RESEARCH IN PRINT
Published and Forthcoming Papers:

1. Ghana’s Economy at Half Century: An Overview of Stability, Growth and Poverty
   September 2008
   Aryeetey, Ernest and Ravi Kanbur

   As Ghana enters its second half century, we are faced with a paradox. Despite a solid transition to democracy in the political situation, despite recorded recovery in the last fifteen years from the economic malaise of the two decades preceding, and despite reductions in measured poverty, there is widespread perception of failure of the economic and political system in delivering improving living standards to the population. This essay introduces a volume of papers that call for a deeper examination of the macro level data on growth and on poverty. A sectoral and regional disaggregation reveals weaknesses in the levels and composition of private investment, in the generation of employment, in sectoral diversification, and in the distribution of the benefits of growth. At the same time, the push for decentralization, and for better allocation, monitoring and implementation of public expenditure has raised more questions than it has answered. These are the challenges that Ghana faces if it is to fulfill the bright promise of its independence in 1957. The papers in this volume set out an analytical agenda that we hope will help in laying the ground work for the path that the nation’s policymakers will have to steer on the road to 2057.

2. What Drives Change in Ghana? A Political-Economy View of Economic Prospects
   September 2008
   Killick, Tony

   President Clinton famously had the slogan, ‘It’s the economy, stupid’, hanging in the Oval Office as a constant reminder to himself of what his priority should be to keep the American electorate on his side. Giving priority to the population’s economic well-being is good advice to all democratic politicians but I will argue that, if we want to understand the half-century of the Ghanaian economy’s experiences, we should invert Clinton’s priority and pay most attention to institutions and politics. The mantra for economists trying to understand the performance of Ghana’s economy should be, “It’s the polity….”

3. Ghana Census-Based Poverty Map: District and Sub-District level Results
   September 2008
   Coulombe, Harold

   This paper documents the construction and presents the main results of a Ghanaian poverty map based on the GLSS4 survey and the Census 2000. The methodology takes advantages of detailed information found in the survey and the exhaustive coverage of the census. It permits the calculation
of poverty indicators at a very low level of desegregation; sub-district in the case of Ghana. In the current paper district level poverty figures are presented. Council level estimates are also available.

4. **Interpersonal, Intertemporal and Spatial Variation in Risk Perceptions: Evidence from East Africa**

August 2008

**Doss, Cheryl, John McPeak, and Barrett, Christopher B.**

*World Development, 36 (8):1453-1468, 2008*

This study investigates variation over time, space and household and individual characteristics in how people perceive different risks. Using original data from the arid and semi-arid lands of east Africa, we explore which risks concern individuals and how they assess their relative level of concern about these identified risks. Because these assessments were gathered for multiple time periods, sites, households and individuals within households, we are able to identify the degree to which risk perceptions vary across time, across communities, across households within a community, and across individuals within a household. We find the primary determinants of risk rankings to be changing community level variables over time, with household specific and individual specific variables exhibiting much less influence. This suggests that community based planning and monitoring of development efforts that address risk exposure should be prioritized. We also find that individuals throughout this area are most concerned about food security overall, so that development efforts that directly address this problem should be given the highest priority.

5. **Smallholder Market Participation: Concepts and Evidence from Eastern and Southern Africa**

August 2008

**Barrett, Christopher B.**


This paper reviews the evidence on smallholder market participation, with a focus on staple foodgrains (i.e., cereals) in eastern and southern Africa, in an effort to help better identify what interventions are most likely to break smallholders out of the semi-subsistence poverty trap that appears to ensnare much of rural Africa. The conceptual and empirical evidence suggests that interventions aimed at facilitating smallholder organization, at reducing the costs of intermarket commerce, and, perhaps especially, at improving poorer households’ access to improved technologies and productive assets are central to stimulating smallholder market participation and escape from semi-subsistence poverty traps. Macroeconomic and trade policy tools appear less useful in inducing market participation by poor smallholders in the region.


6. **Challenging Orthodoxies: Understanding Poverty in Pastoral Areas of East Africa**

July 2008

**Little, Peter D., John McPeak, Christopher B. Barrett and Patti Kristjanson**


Understanding and alleviating poverty in Africa continues to receive considerable attention by a range of diverse actors, including politicians, international celebrities, academics, activists, and practitioners. Despite the onslaught of interest, there surprisingly is little agreement on what constitutes poverty in rural Africa, how it should be assessed, and what should be done to alleviate it. Based on data from an interdisciplinary study of pastoralism in northern Kenya, this article examines issues of poverty among one of the continent’s most vulnerable groups, pastoralists, and challenges
the application of such orthodox proxies as incomes/expenditures, geographic remoteness, and market integration. It argues that current poverty debates ‘homogenize’ the concept of ‘pastoralist, by failing to acknowledge the diverse livelihoods and wealth differentiation that fall under the term. The article concludes that what is not needed is another development label (stereotype) that equates pastoralism with poverty, thereby empowering outside interests to transform rather than strengthen pastoral livelihoods.


7. Improving Food Aid’s Impact: What Reforms Would Yield The Highest Payoff?
July 2008
Lentz, Erin C. and Christopher B. Barrett

Developing an integrated model of the food aid distribution chain, from donor appropriations through operational agency programming decisions to household consumption choices we simulate alternative policies and sensitivity analysis to establish how varying underlying conditions — e.g., delivery costs, the political additionality of food, targeting efficacy — affect the optimal policy for improving the well-being of food insecure households. We find that improved targeting by operational agencies is crucial to advancing food security objectives. At the donor level, the key policy variable under most model parameterizations is ocean freight costs associated with cargo preference restrictions on US food aid.

8. Do Free Goods Stick to Poor Households? Experimental Evidence on Insecticide Treated Bednets
July 2008
Hoffmann, Vivian, Christopher B. Barrett, and David R. Just
Forthcoming in *World Development*

If the market allocates goods to those willing and able to pay the most for them, efforts to target durable health goods such as insecticide-treated bed nets (ITNs) to poor populations may prove ineffective, with the poor reselling donated goods to the non-poor who value them more highly. However, low market demand may be due to liquidity constraints rather than low valuation of nets. The endowment effect also militates against the resale of in-kind transfers. We quantify these two effects through a field experiment in Uganda. Our results indicate that very few nets will be resold by recipient households.

9. Measuring Intra-Household Inequality: Explorations Using the Body Mass Index
June 2008
Sahn, David E. and Stephen D. Younger
Forthcoming in *Health Economics*

This paper tests for relationships between level of well-being and inequality at both inter-country and intra-household levels, but using a different indicator of well-being, the body mass index (BMI). BMI captures individual’s consumption relative to their needs, and reflects a combination of both consumption (of calories, sanitation, and health care) and health status, two important dimensions of well-being. We do not find any evidence to support either the across country Kuznets curve or the intra-household Kuznets curve. Instead, we find consistent evidence for an increase in BMI inequality as average living standards (of countries or households) improve. A distinct and surprising result is that between one half and two-thirds of BMI inequality is accounted for by within-household BMI. This finding clearly suggests that a large share of the inequality that is measured using household
surveys which assumes that the well-being of all household members is the same, is likely grossly under-estimating overall inequality in a given country. In examining the within-household ratios of adult to child body mass indexes we also find some evidence that health shocks are both large and affect children more than adults; although, there are also indications that in households with chronic food deficits, there is an attempt to protect young children from food and related stresses that contribut to low BMI. It is thus clear that policies and programs that target households, not individuals, will be largely ineffective.

Presented at the WIDER Conference on Advancing Health Equity, Helsinki, Finland, September 29-30, 2006, and the CIRPÉE Conference on Health Economics, Université Laval, March 30, 2007

10. **Determinants of HIV Knowledge and Condom Use among Women in Madagascar: An Analysis Using Matched Household and Community Data**

June 2008

**Glick, Peter, Josée Randriamamonjy, and David E. Sahn**

*Forthcoming in* African Development Review

We estimate the determinants of HIV/AIDS knowledge and related behavior (use of condoms) among women in Madagascar, a country where prevalence remains low but conditions are ripe for a rapid increase in infections. In both rural and urban areas, more educated and wealthier women are more likely to know about means of preventing infection, less likely to have misconceptions about transmission, and more likely to use condoms. Community factors such as availability of health centers and access to roads also are associated with greater HIV knowledge. However, most of the large rural-urban difference in mean knowledge is due not to location per se but to differences in schooling and wealth; rather than simply being geographically targeted, AIDS education efforts must be designed to target and be understood by uneducated and poor subpopulations.

11. **Agricultural Technology, Productivity, and Poverty in Madagascar**

May 2008

**Minten, Bart and Christopher B. Barrett**

*In World Development* 36(5): 797-822, 2008

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 and food insecurity rates currently prevalent in rural Madagascar.

12. **Poverty Traps and Resource Dynamics In Smallholder Agrarian Systems**

April 2008

**Barrett, Christopher B.**


Poverty traps and resource degradation in the rural tropics appear to have multiple and complex, but similar, causes. Market imperfections, imperfect learning, bounded rationality, spillovers, coordination failures and economically dysfunctional institutions all play a role, to varying degrees in different places and times. Pinning down these mechanisms empirically remains a challenge, however, but one essential to the design of appropriate interventions for reducing poverty and environmental degradation in areas where livelihoods depend heavily on natural resources.
13. Policy Impacts on Schooling Gender Gaps in Developing Countries: The Evidence and a Framework for Interpretation
February 2008
Glick, Peter
This is an expanded version of a paper in World Development 36(9): 1623-1646, 2008. (What Policies will Reduce Gender Schooling Gaps in Developing Countries: Evidence and Interpretation)

In many regions of the developing world girls continue to receive less education than boys. This paper reviews the evidence on the effects of policies in the education sector and outside it on household schooling investments in girls and boys, distinguishing between policies that are ostensibly gender neutral and those that explicitly target girls. It is frequently (but certainly not universally) found that the demand for girl’s schooling is more responsive than boys’ to gender neutral changes in school cost or distance as well as quality. Although these patterns can be interpreted in terms of parental preferences, this paper shows that they can also plausibly be explained within a human capital investment framework through assumptions about the nature of schooling cost and returns functions. Among these policies, increasing the physical accessibility of schools emerges as a measure that may result in disproportionate enrollment gains for girls. Where gender gaps are large or persistent, however, direct targeting of girls is probably necessary. Formal evidence from a number of demand or supply side interventions, including subsidies to households and to schools to enroll girls and the provision of girls-only schools, suggests the potential for targeted measures to yield substantial gains for girls. Many other policies, such as subsidized childcare or flexible school scheduling that address the opportunity costs of girls’ time, hold promise but for the most part have yet to be subject to rigorous assessment. The paper discusses methodological problems in such assessments and concludes with suggestions for future research on policies to close schooling gender gaps.

14. Understanding Declining Mobility and Inter-household Transfers among East African Pastoralists
February 2008
Huysentruyt, Marieke, Christopher B. Barrett, and John G. McPeak
Forthcoming in Economica (published online February 2008)

We model inter-household transfers between nomadic livestock herders as the state-dependent consequence of individuals’ strategic interdependence, resulting from the existence of multiple, opposing externalities, more specifically, a public-good security externality among individuals sharing a social (e.g. ethnic) identity in a potentially hostile environment, and a resource appropriation externality related to the use of common property grazing lands. Our model augments the extant literature on transfers, and is more consistent with the limited available empirical evidence on heterogeneous and changing transfers’ patterns among east African pastoralists. The core principles of our model possibly apply more broadly, for example to long-distance migrants or even ‘foot soldiers’ in street gangs.
In this paper we test for risk pooling within and among social networks to see if the extent of informal insurance available to individuals in rural Ghana varies with their social visibility. We identify a distinct subpopulation of socially invisible individuals who tend to be younger, poorer, engaged in farming, recent arrivals into the village who have been fostered and are not members of a major clan. While we cannot reject the null hypothesis that individual shocks do not affect individual consumption and that individual consumption tracks network and village consumption one-for-one among the socially visible, risk pooling fails for the socially invisible subpopulation. These results have important implications for the design of social protection policy.

We use repeated rounds of Demographic and Health Survey data from eight African countries to examine changes in and determinants of three HIV risk behaviors: age at first intercourse; number of current sexual partners, and use of condoms. As a prelude, we assess the within-country comparability of DHS surveys over time. We find some evidence of changes in sample composition, which is easily handled in a multivariate framework, and find evidence as well of changes in how people respond to questions about HIV behavior. Because of the latter, which likely represents an increase in social desirability bias over time, our estimates of risk reduction may be upper bounds on the true effects. Overall the picture is one of reductions in risk behaviors over recent 4-6 year intervals, especially with respect to condom use; in some cases the changes seem large given the short time periods involved. With some exceptions, however, the extent and pervasiveness of these changes seems inadequate in relation to the urgency of the public health crisis represented by AIDS. With respect to the determinants of behaviors, schooling and wealth have contradictory impacts on risk behavior: they both tend to increase the likelihood of using condoms while (for men) also increasing the demand for additional sexual partners.

This study explores the constraints on agricultural productivity and priorities in boosting productivity in rice, the main staple in Madagascar, using a range of different data sets and analytical methods, integrating qualitative assessments by farmers and quantitative evidence from panel data production function analysis and willingness-to-pay estimates for chemical fertilizer. Nationwide, farmers seek primarily labor productivity enhancing interventions, e.g., improved access to agricultural equipment, cattle, and irrigation. Shock mitigation measures, land productivity increasing technologies, and improved land tenure are reported to be much less important. Research and interventions aimed at
reducing costs and price volatility within the fertilizer supply chain might help at least the more accessible regions to more readily adopt chemical fertilizer.

*Invited panel paper prepared for presentation at the International Association of Agricultural Economists Conference, Gold Coast, Australia, August 12-18, 2006*

18. **Are Client Satisfaction Surveys Useful? Evidence from Matched Facility and Household Data in Madagascar**

September 2007

Glick, Peter

*This is an expanded version of a paper forthcoming in* Social Science and Medicine

Client satisfaction surveys in developing countries are increasingly being promoted as a means of understanding health care quality and the demand for these services. However, concerns have been raised about the reliability of responses in such surveys: for example, ‘courtesy bias’ may lead clients, especially if interviewed upon exiting clinics, to provide misleadingly favorable responses. This study uses unique data from Madagascar to investigate these and other issues. Identical questions about satisfaction with local health care centers were asked in user exit surveys and in a population based household survey; the latter would be less contaminated by courtesy bias as well as changes in provider behavior in response to being observed. We find strong evidence that reported satisfaction is biased upward in exit surveys for subjective questions regarding (for example) treatment by staff and consultation quality, but is not biased for relatively objective questions about facility condition and supplies. The surveys do provide useful information on the determinants of consumer satisfaction with various dimensions of provider quality. Still, to obtain reliable estimates of consumer perceptions of health service quality, household based sampling appears to be far superior to the simpler exit survey method.

19. **Living Standards in Africa**

August 2007

Sahn, David E. and Stephen D. Younger


This paper substantiates two claims — that Africa is poor compared to the rest of the world and that poverty in Africa is not declining consistently or significantly, in contrast to other regions of the world. We consider poverty in the dimensions of health and education, in addition to income, stressing the inherent conceptual and measurement issues that commend such a broader perspective. We note a lack of consistency in the movement of the poverty measures. During similar periods, we often find them moving in opposite directions. We therefore discuss the need go beyond examining each poverty measure individually, and present an approach to evaluating poverty reduction in multiple dimensions jointly. The results of the multidimensional poverty comparisons reinforce the importance of considering deprivation beyond the material standard of living and provide insight into how to reconcile differing stories that arise from examining each indicator separately.
August 2007
Munyao, Kioko and Christopher B. Barrett


“Growing concerns about persistent poverty and environmental sustainability have helped fuel efforts at decentralizing governance throughout the developing world. The 1992 Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro brought widespread calls for greater community participation and equity in natural resources management and sustainable development planning, and these pressures have grown amid institutional reforms fostered by movements towards democratization and market-based economic policy, spurred by, among others, the Bretton Woods institutions (the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank) in the last two decades of the twentieth century (Goumandakoye 2003). Ironically, however, in many cases decentralization has been used by national governments not as a means to cede authority to local subjects, but rather to extend control still deeper into local community life and resource management, while still reaping the political capital associated with the rhetoric of bringing government services and development closer to the people. Often this involves the subtle but real transfer of influence, even control, from customary users of the resource to newcomers with better connections to government representatives...”

21. The Unfulfilled Promise of Microfinance in Kenya: The KDA Experience
August 2007
Osterloh, Sharon M. and Christopher B. Barrett


“Microfinance offers promise for alleviating poverty by providing financial services to people traditionally excluded from financial markets. Small-scale loans can relieve capital constraints that might otherwise preclude cash-strapped entrepreneurs from investing in profitable businesses, while savings services can create opportunities to accumulate wealth in safe repositories and to manage risk through asset diversification. While this promise of microfinance is widely touted, it is infrequently subject to careful evaluation using detailed data. This chapter examines the extension of microfinance institutions emerging in these challenging environment...”

22. Displaced Distortions: Financial Market Failures and Seemingly Inefficient Resource Allocation in Low-income Rural Communities
July 2007
Barrett, Christopher B.


Poor households in rural areas of the developing world commonly lack access to (formal or informal) credit or insurance. These financing constraints naturally spill over into other behaviours and (asset, factor and product) markets as households rationally exploit other market and non-market resource allocation mechanisms to resolve, at least partly, their financing problems. These displaced distortions
of financing constraints commonly manifest themselves in allocative inefficiency that may lead researchers and policymakers to mistakenly conclude that poor households routinely make serious allocation errors and to direct policy interventions towards the symptoms manifest in other markets rather than towards the root financial markets failures cause.

July 2007 draft for festschrift volume in honor of Arie Kuyvenhoven

23. **Cognitive Skills among Children in Senegal: Disentangling the Roles of Schooling and Family Background**

   June 2007

   **Glick, Peter and David E. Sahn**

   *This is an expanded version of a paper forthcoming in Economics of Economics Review*

   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 surprisingly modest effects on test performance. Instead, family background primarily affects skills indirectly through its impacts on years 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.

   Presented at the Regional Conference on “Education in West Africa: Constraints and Opportunities” in Dakar, Senegal, November 1-2, 2005.

24. **Changes in HIV/AIDS Knowledge and Testing Behavior in Africa: How Much and for Whom?**

   April 2007

   **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.


25. **Reproductive Health and Behavior, HIV/AIDS, and Poverty in Africa**

   May 2007

   **Glick, Peter**

   *Forthcoming in edited volume published by the African Economic Research Consortium, Nairobi, Kenya*

   This paper examines the complex linkages of poverty, reproductive/sexual health and behavior, and HIV/AIDS in Africa. It addresses the following questions: (1) what have we learned to date about these links and what are the gaps in knowledge to be addressed by further research; (2) what is known about the effectiveness for HIV prevention of reproductive health and HIV/AIDS interventions and
policies in Africa; and (3) what are the appropriate methodological approaches to research on these questions. With regard to what has been learned so far, the paper pays considerable attention in particular to the evidence regarding the impacts of a range of HIV interventions on risk behaviors and HIV incidence. Other sections review the extensive microeconomic literature on the impacts of AIDS on households and children in Africa and the effects of the epidemic on sexual risk behavior and fertility decisions. With regard to methodology, the paper assesses the approaches used in the literature to deal with, among other things, the problem of self-selection and non-randomness in the placement of HIV and reproductive health programs. Data requirements for different research questions are discussed, and an effort is made to assess what researchers can learn from existing sources such as Demographic and Health Surveys.

Presented at the AERC/Hewlett Foundation Workshop, “Poverty and Economic Growth: The Impact of Population Dynamics and Reproductive Health Outcomes in Africa” in Brussels, Belgium, November 5-6, 2006

26. **Bayesian Herders: Updating of Rainfall Beliefs In Response To External Climate Forecasts**
March 2007

Lybbert, Travis J., Christopher Barrett, John G. McPeak, and Winnie K. Luseno


Temporal climate risk weighs heavily on many of the world’s poor. Model-based climate forecasts could benefit such populations, provided recipients use forecast information to update climate expectations. We test whether pastoralists in southern Ethiopia and northern Kenya update their expectations in response to forecast information. The minority of herders who received these climate forecasts updated their expectations for below normal rainfall, but not for above normal rainfall. This revealed preoccupation with downside risk highlights the potential value of better climate forecasts in averting drought-related losses, but realizing any welfare gains requires that recipients strategically react to these updated expectations.

27. **Epistemology, Normative Theory and Poverty Analysis: Implications for Q-Squared in Practice**
February 2007

Kanbur, Ravi and Paul Shaffer


The turn to the use of mixed qualitative and quantitative (Q-Squared) methods in the analysis of poverty is a welcome development with large potential payoffs. While the benefits of mixing are not in doubt, the tensions involved in so doing have not received adequate attention. The aim of this paper is to address this gap in the “Q-Squared” literature. It argues that there are important differences between approaches to poverty which operate at the levels of epistemology and normative theory. These differences have implications for the numerical transformation of data, the selection of validity criteria, the conception/dimension of poverty adopted and interpersonal comparisons of well-being.

28. **Livelihood Strategies in the Rural Kenyan Highlands**
December 2006

Brown, Douglas R., Emma C. Stephens, James Okuro Ouma, Festus M. Murithi and Christopher B. Barrett


The concept of a livelihood strategy has become central to development practice in recent years. Nonetheless, precise identification of livelihoods in quantitative data has remained methodologically
elusive. This paper uses cluster analysis methods to operationalize the concept of livelihood strategies in household data and then uses the resulting strategy-specific income distributions to test whether hypothesized outcome differences between livelihoods indeed exist. Using data from Kenya’s central and western highlands, we identify five distinct livelihood strategies that exhibit statistically significant differences in mean per capita incomes and stochastic dominance orderings that establish clear welfare rankings among livelihood strategies. Multinomial regression analysis identifies geographic, demographic and financial determinants of livelihood choice. The results should facilitate targeting of interventions designed to improve household livelihoods.

29. Export Processing Zone Expansion in Madagascar: What are the Labor Market and Gender Impacts?
December 2006
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 the EPZ (or Zone Franche) grew very rapidly during the 1990s. Employment in the Zone Franche 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 represent a significant step up in pay for women who would otherwise be found in poorly remunerated informal sector work. Because it provides relatively high wage opportunities for those with relatively low levels of schooling, export processing development may also eventually have significant impacts on poverty. 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), the EPZ has 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. Paper prepared for the conference “African Development and Poverty Reduction: The Macro-Micro Linkage” Cape Town, South Africa October 2004

December 2006
Stifel, David C. and Jean-Claude Randrianarisoa
In Journal of Policy Modeling 28(9):1023-1027, 2006

We describe the main features and results of a multi-market model for Madagascar that focuses on income generating activities in an agricultural sector that is characterized by seasonal variability. We find evidence that investments in rural infrastructure and commercial food storage have both direct and indirect benefits on poor households.
31. The Complex Dynamics of Smallholder Technology Adoption: The Case of SRI in Madagascar
November 2006
Moser, Christine M. and Christopher B. Barrett

This paper explores the dynamics of smallholder technology adoption, with particular reference to a high-yielding, low-external input rice production method in Madagascar. We present a simple model of technology adoption by farm households in an environment of incomplete financial and land markets. We then use a probit model and symmetrically censored least squares estimation of a dynamic Tobit model to analyze the decisions to adopt, expand and disadopt the method. We find that seasonal liquidity constraints discourage adoption by poorer farmers. Learning effects—both from extension agents and from other farmers—exert significant influence over adoption decisions.

32. An Ordered Tobit of Market Participation: Evidence from Kenya and Ethiopia
May 2006
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.

33. Robust Multidimensional Spatial Poverty Comparisons in Ghana, Madagascar, and Uganda
April 2006
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.
34. The Demand for Primary Schooling in Madagascar: Price, Quality, and the Choice Between Public and Private Providers
February 2006
Glick, Peter, and David E. Sahn

We estimate a discrete choice model of primary schooling and simulate policy alternatives for rural Madagascar. Poor households are substantially more price-responsive than wealthy ones, implying that fee increases for public schools will have negative effects on equity in education. Among quality factors, multigrade teaching (several classes being taught simultaneously by one teacher) has a strongly negative impact on public school enrollments. Simulations indicate that providing teachers to reduce by half the number of multigrade classes in public schools would lead to modest improvements in overall enrollments, would be feasible in terms of costs, and would disproportionately benefit poor children. In contrast, consolidation of primary schools combined with quality improvement would be ineffective because of the negative effect of distance to school. Other simulations point to limits to a strategy of public support for private school expansion as a means of significantly increasing enrollment rates or education quality; such an expansion may also reduce overall education equity.

35. Understanding and Reducing Persistent Poverty in Africa
February 2006
Barrett, Christopher B., Michael R. Carter and Peter D. Little
In Journal of Development Studies 42(2): 167-177, lead article

This paper introduces a special issue exploring persistent poverty in sub-Saharan Africa. As a set, these papers break new ground in exploring the dynamics of structural poverty, integrating qualitative and quantitative methods of analysis and adopting an asset-based approach to the study of changes in well-being, especially in response to a wide range of different (climatic, health, political, and other) shocks. In this introductory essay, we frame these studies, building directly on evolving conceptualisations of poverty in Africa.

36. The Economics of Poverty Traps and Persistent Poverty: An Asset-Based Approach
February 2006
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.

37. *Moving in Place*: Drought and Poverty Dynamics in South Wollo, Ethiopia
   February 2006
   **Little, Peter D., Priscilla Stone, Tewodaj Mogues, Peter Castro, and Workneh Negatu**

   This article discusses the impact of drought on poverty dynamics in the South Wollo area of northeastern Ethiopia. Using both survey and anthropological/qualitative data covering a six-year period, the paper assesses which households were able to hold on to assets and recover from the 1999-2000 drought and which were not. It suggests that while the incidence of poverty changed very little during 1997 to 2003 despite the occurrence of a major drought, the fortunes of the poorest improved, but not enough to keep them from poverty. The study concludes by asking how current policies affect patterns of poverty and inequality and what might be done to improve welfare in South Wollo.

38. Exploring Poverty Traps and Social Exclusion in South Africa Using Qualitative and Quantitative Data
   February 2006
   **Adato, Michelle, Michael R. Carter, and Julian May**

   Recent theoretical work hypothesises that a polarised society like South Africa will suffer a legacy of ineffective social capital and blocked pathways of upward mobility that leaves large numbers of people trapped in poverty. To explore these ideas, this paper employs a mix of quantitative and qualitative methods. Novel econometric analysis of asset dynamics over the 1993-98 period identifies a dynamic asset poverty threshold that signals that large numbers of South Africans are indeed trapped without a pathway out of poverty. Qualitative analysis of this period and the period 1998-2001 more deeply examines patterns of mobility, and confirms the continuation of this pattern of limited upward mobility and a low-level poverty trap. In addition, the qualitative data permit a closer look at the specific role played by social relationships. While finding ample evidence of active social capital and networks, these are more helpful for non-poor households. For the poor, social capital at best helps stabilise livelihoods at low levels and does little to promote upward mobility. While there is thus some economic sense to sociability in South Africa, elimination of the polarised economic legacy of apartheid will ultimately require more proactive efforts to assure that households have access to a minimum bundle of assets and to the markets needed to effectively build on those assets over time.
39. **Welfare Dynamics in Rural Kenya and Madagascar**
February 2006
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

*In Journal of Development Studies 42(2): 248-277, 2006*


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 behaviour consistent with poor households’ defence of a critical asset threshold through asset smoothing.

40. **Persistent Poverty in North East Ghana**
February 2006
Whitehead, Ann

*In Journal of Development Studies 42(2): 248-277, 2006*


This paper explores local poverty and wealth inequality in the Upper East Region of northern Ghana in the period from 1975-89. Land was not scarce and the social management of household membership and household labour were critical to household security, but this social management was not independent of wealth status. There was a virtuous circle between wealth and household labour supply and a vicious circle between poverty and small household size. Poverty traps existed so that those with too little labour and too little wealth engaged in strategies which entrenched them in poverty.

41. **Shocks and Their Consequences Across and Within Households in Rural Zimbabwe**
February 2006
Hoddinott, John

*In Journal of Development Studies 42(2): 301-321, 2006*


Increasing attention is now being paid to poverty dynamics in developing countries. This work links the extent to which households smooth consumption or smooth assets given income shocks, the empirical evidence on the churning of households in and out of poverty, and the possibility that temporary shocks can have permanent consequences. Using longitudinal data from rural Zimbabwe, this paper extends the discussion of these issues by disaggregating the impact of shocks by levels of asset holdings, by disaggregating the impact of shocks on individual level welfare and by assessing the extent to which such shocks have permanent consequences. By doing so, it assesses the validity of distinguishing between asset and consumption smoothing and provides insights into whether poverty dynamics assessed at the household level provide an adequate picture of dynamics at the individual level.
42. **Rural Income and Poverty in a Time of Radical Change in Malawi**  
February 2006  
Peters, Pauline E.  

Malawi is one of the poorest countries in Africa. There is widespread, though not universal, agreement about the shape of poverty in the country and the policy challenge this sets. Agriculture continues to be the most obvious means to stimulate broad-based rural growth and to provide levels of food security and income needed for the majority rural population. A longitudinal study over a decade during which radical policy and political changes occurred provides the data and basis for discussing the appropriate policy directions for reducing poverty.

43. **Escaping Poverty and Becoming Poor in 36 Villages of Central and Western Uganda**  
February 2006  
Krishna, Anirudh, Daniel Lumonya, Milissa Markiewicz, Firminus Mugumya, Agatha Kafuko, Jonah Wegoye  

Twenty-four per cent of households in 36 village communities of Central and Western Uganda have escaped from poverty over the past 25 years, but another 15 per cent have simultaneously fallen into poverty. A roughly equal number of households escaped from poverty in the first period (ten to 25 years ago) as in the second period (the last ten years) examined here. However, almost twice as many households fell into poverty during the second period as in the first period. Progress in poverty reduction has slowed down as a result. Multiple causes are associated with descent into poverty and these causes vary significantly between villages in the two different regions. For nearly two-thirds of all households in both regions, however, ill health and health-related costs were a principal reason for descent into poverty. Escaping poverty is also associated with diverse causes, which vary across the two regions. Compared to increases in urban employment, however, land-related reasons have been more important for escaping poverty in both regions.

44. **Fractal Poverty Traps**  
January 2006  
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 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.
45. Poverty and Well-Being in Post-Apartheid South Africa
January 2006
Bhorat, Haroon and Ravi Kanbur

“The end of the first decade of democracy in South Africa naturally resulted in a wide-ranging set of political events to mark this date. South Africa’s formal baptism as a democracy in April 1994 received international acclaim and recognition — and to this day serves a model for other countries undergoing difficult and protracted political transitions. However, perhaps the greatest struggle since the early post-apartheid days has been the attempt to undo the economic vestiges of the system of racial exclusivity. Alongside the political evaluation and praise, therefore, there has been a vigorous local research programme broadly aimed at measuring the changes in well-being that occurred during this ten-year period. In addition, a number of studies have also concentrated on measuring the performance of the government in meeting its stated objectives of reducing poverty, inequality and unemployment. This volume brings together some of the core pieces of academic research that have been prominent in this ten-year review, focusing on poverty and policy in post-apartheid South Africa...”

46. Measuring Recent Changes in South African Inequality and Poverty Using 1996 and 2001 Census Data
October 2005
Leibbrandt, Murray, Laura Poswell, Pranushka Naidoo, and Matthew Welch

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.
47. Does City Structure Cause Unemployment? The Case Study of Cape Town  
October 2005  
**Rospabe, Sandrine and Harris Selod**  
*Cape Town, South Africa: HSRC Press, 2006.*

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.

48. Half Measures: The ANC’s Unemployment and Poverty Reduction Goals  
October 2005  
**Meth, Charles**  
*Cape Town, South Africa: HSRC Press, 2006.*

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.

49. Internal Labour Migration and Household Poverty in Post-Apartheid South Africa  
October 2005  
**Posel, Dorrit and Daniela Casale**  
*Cape Town, South Africa: HSRC Press, 2006.*

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.
50. 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.

51. 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.

52. Poverty and Inequality in Post-Apartheid South Africa: 1995-2000  
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

In Poverty and Policy in Post Apartheid South Africa, edited by Haroon Bhorat and Ravi Kanbur.

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 is 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.

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

In Poverty and Policy in Post Apartheid South Africa, edited by Haroon Bhorat and Ravi Kanbur.

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)...

55. From Chimera to Prospect: South African Sources of and Constraints on Long-term Growth  
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.

56. Reforming the Formula: A Modest Proposal for Introducing Development Outcomes in IDA Allocation Procedures  
September 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.

57. 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.
August 2005
Glick, Peter
*In Evaluation Review* 29(4): 331-357, August 2005

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.

59. 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.

60. Growth, Inequality and Poverty: Some Hard Questions
March 2005
Kanbur, Ravi
*In Journal of International Affairs* 58(2): 223-232, 2005

This commentary poses a series of progressively harder questions in the economic analysis of growth, inequality and poverty. Starting with relatively straightforward analysis of the relationship between growth and inequality, the first level of hard questions come when we ask what policies and institutions are causally related to equitable growth. Some progress is being made here by the economics literature, but relatively little is known about the second level, harder questions—how a society comes to acquire "good" policies and institutions, and what exactly it is that we are buying into when we accept the number one Millennium Development Goal of the United Nations—halving the incidence of income poverty by the year 2015.

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

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.

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

We analyze intertemporal labor market behavior of women in urban Guinea, West Africa using two distinct methodologies applicable to a short (two-year) panel. A multi-period multinomial logit model with random effects provides evidence of unobserved individual heterogeneity as a factor strongly affecting labor market sector choices over time. Results from simpler single period models that condition on prior sector choices are consistent with either heterogeneity or state dependence. Both approaches perform equally well in predicting individual labor market behavior conditional on past choices. In terms of observable characteristics, the estimates confirm the heterogeneous structure of the urban labor market: informal and formal employment appear to differ significantly in terms of skill requirements, compatibility with child care, and costs of entry.

63. 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.


64. On the Relevance of Identities, Communities, Groups and Networks to the Economics of Poverty Alleviation
January 2005
Barrett, Christopher B.

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.

65. **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.

66. **Dynamic Poverty Traps and Rural Livelihoods**  
December 2004  
Barrett, Christopher B. and Brent M. Swallow  

This chapter brings together two concepts in development economics: (1) the concept of poverty traps, which explains the co-existence of groups of national economies that continually grow, invest and become prosperous with other groups of economies that stagnate, under-invest and remain poor; and (2) the concept of livelihood strategies, which is used to explain the interconnections between asset portfolios, multiplex strategies of groups and individuals, and outcomes for the welfare of the poor. Implications for applied research, rural development policy and planning are drawn out.

December 2004  
Bhorat, Haroon, and Morné Oosthuizen  

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.

68. The African Peer Review Mechanism (APRM): An Assessment of Concept and Design
November 2004
Kanbur, Ravi
In Politikon 31(2):157-166, November, 2004

The African Peer Review Mechanism (APRM) has been proposed as a key element of the New Partnership for Africa’s Development (NEPAD). It is important that the APRM be thoroughly debated in terms of concept and design. This paper is a contribution to the debate. The paper derives design criteria for peer review mechanisms after looking at some functioning examples. These criteria are—Competence, Independence, and Competition. It is argued that while the APRM is a welcome addition to pan-African institutional structure, its design will have to be improved for it to be truly successful. First, APRM should greatly narrow the scope of its reviews if it is to deliver competent assessments. Second NEPAD should devote significant resources to allow civil society in the reviewed country to do assessments of their own, and to critique the APRM assessment.

69. Better Technology, Better Plots or Better Farmers? Identifying Changes In Productivity And Risk Among Malagasy Rice Farmers
November 2004
Barrett, Christopher B., Christine M. Moser, Oloro V. McHugh, and Joeli Barison

We introduce a method for properly attributing observed productivity and risk changes among new production methods, farmers, and plots by controlling for farmer and plot heterogeneity. Results from Madagascar show that the new system of rice intensification (SRI) is indeed a superior technology. Although about half of the observed productivity gains appear due to farmer characteristics rather than SRI itself, the technology generates the estimated average output gains of more than 84%. The increased estimated yield risk associated with SRI would nonetheless make it unattractive to many farmers within the standard range of relative risk aversion.

70. Decomposing Producer Price Risk: A Policy Analysis Tool With An Application to Northern Kenyan Livestock Markets
August 2004
Barrett, Christopher B., and Winnie K. Luseno
In Food Policy 29(4):393-40, 2004

This paper introduces a simple method of price risk decomposition that determines the extent to which producer price risk is attributable to volatile inter-market margins, intra-day variation, intra-week (day of week) variation, or terminal market price variability. We apply the method to livestock markets in northern Kenya, a setting of dramatic price volatility where price stabilization is a live
policy issue. In this particular application, we find that large, variable inter-market basis is the most important factor in explaining producer price risk in animals typically traded between markets. Local market conditions explain most price risk in other markets, in which traded animals rarely exit the region. Variability in terminal market prices accounts for relatively little price risk faced by pastoralists in the dry lands of northern Kenya although this is the focus of most present policy prescriptions under discussion.

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

   We begin this paper by taking a look back at the adjustment, growth, and poverty debate. Our analysis suggests that while the poor do not bear the disproportionate costs of adjustment policies, it is also the case that policy reforms have largely failed to contribute to the alleviation of poverty. We therefore explore the microeconomic, structural, and institutional constraints to growth and poverty reduction. The three areas that we concentrate on in terms of removing the structural and fundamentally microeconomic constraints that impede growth and poverty alleviation are human resource development, vulnerability and risk management, and fiscal management through decentralization.

72. **Smallholder Identities and Social Networks: The Challenge of Improving Productivity and Welfare**
   April 2004
   **Barrett, Christopher B.**

   This paper proposes a general framework for resolving the puzzle of how to reconcile the mass of recent evidence on the salutary effects of social capital at the individual level with the casual, larger-scale observation that social embeddedness appears negatively correlated with productivity and material measures of welfare. It advances an analytical framework that not only explains individual productivity or technology adoption behavior as a function of the characteristics or behaviors of others, but that also explains the aggregate properties of social systems characterized by persistently low productivity. Examples from Kenya and Madagascar are used to illustrate the phenomena discussed.

73. **Urban-Rural Inequality in Africa**
   July 2003
   **Sahn, David E. and David C. Stifel**

   In this paper we examine the relative importance of rural versus urban areas in terms of monetary poverty and seven other related living standards indicators. We present the levels of urban-rural differences for several African countries for which we have data and find that living standards in rural areas lag far behind those in urban areas. Then we examine the relative and absolute rates of change for urban and rural areas, and find no overall evidence of declining differences in the gaps between urban and rural living standards. Finally, we conduct urban-rural decompositions of inequality, examining the within versus between (urban and rural) group inequality for asset inequality, education inequality, and health (height) inequality.
SAGA COLLECTIONS:

1. **Q-Squared: Combining Qualitative and Quantitative Methods in Poverty Appraisal**  
   Ravi Kanbur, editor  
   ISBN 81-7824-053-X  
   Permanent Black, 2003

2. **Qualitative and Quantitative Methods for Poverty Analysis**  
   Proceedings of the Workshop Held on 11 March 2004, Nairobi, Kenya  
   Walter Odhiambo, John M. Omiti, and David I. Muthaka, editors  
   The project was directed by Christopher Barrett of Cornell University  
   ISBN 9966 94981X  
   Kenya Institute for Public Policy Research and Analysis, 2005

3. **The Social Economics of Poverty**  
   Christopher Barrett, editor  
   Routledge, September, 2005

   Understanding and Reducing Persistent Poverty in Africa  
   Guest editors: Christopher Barrett, Michael Carter, and Peter Little

5. **Poverty and Policy in Post-Apartheid South Africa**  
   Haroon Bhorat and Ravi Kanbur, editors  
   HRSC Press, 2006

6. **Special Issue: African Development Review, Vol. 18, No. 3, December, 2006**  
   Special issue from Shared Growth Conference in Accra, Ghana, 2006  
   Guest editors: Ernest Aryeetey, Ravi Kanbur, John Page

7. **Special Issue: Journal of African Economies, Vol. 15, No. 4, December, 2006**  
   Special Issue on Poverty, Trade and Growth in Africa  
   Guest Editors: Haroon Bhorat, Stephen Hanival and Ravi Kanbur

8. **Decentralization and the Social Economics of Development – Lessons from Kenya**  
   Christopher B. Barrett, Cornell University, USA; A. G. Mude, International Livestock Research Institute, Kenya; J. M. Omiti, Kenya Institute of Public Policy Research and Analysis (KIPPR), editors  
   ISBN: 9781845932695  
   CABI, 2007
   **Experiences of Combining Qualitative and Quantitative Approaches in Poverty Analysis**
   Edited by Ravi Kanbur and Paul Shaffer

10. *Understanding and Reducing Persistent Poverty in Africa*
    Christopher Barrett, Peter Little, and Michael Carter, editors
    Routledge, September, 2007

11. *Conversations on Poverty*
    Audio files available on the PASSN’s (Poverty Analysis and Social Safety Nets)
    PovertyFrontiers website. Eleven conversations with Ravi Kanbur, David Sahn, Stephen Younger, Christopher Barrett, and Peter Glick share key findings from the SAGA project.

12. *The Economy of Ghana Analytical Perspectives on Stability, Growth and Poverty*
    Ernest Aryeetey and Ravi Kanbur, editors
    ISBN: 9781847010032
    James Currey Ltd., Publishers, 2008
Appendix II
SAGA WORKING PAPERS:

1. Social Learning, Social Influence and Projection Bias: A caution on inferences based on proxy-reporting of peer behavior
   October 2008
   Hogset, Heidi and Christopher B. Barrett
   This paper explores the consequences of conflating social learning and social influence concepts and of the widespread use of proxy-reported behavioral data for accurate understanding of learning from others. Our empirical analysis suggests that proxy-reporting is more accurate for new innovations, about which social learning is more plausible, than for mature technologies. Furthermore, proxy-reporting errors are correlated with respondent attributes, suggesting projection bias. Self- and proxy-reported variables generate different regression results, raising questions about inferences based on error-prone, proxy-reported peer behaviors. Self-reported peer behavior consistently exhibits statistically insignificant effects on network members’ adoption behavior, suggesting an absence of social effects.

2. Empirical Forecasting of Slow-Onset Disasters for Improved Emergency Response: An Application to Kenya’s Arid North
   October 2008
   Mude, Andrew, Christopher B. Barrett, John G. McPeak, Robert Kaitho and Patti Kristjansen
   Mitigating the negative welfare consequences of crises such as droughts, floods, and disease outbreaks, is a major challenge in many areas of the world, especially in highly vulnerable areas insufficiently equipped to prevent food and livelihood security crisis in the face of adverse shocks. Given the finite resources allocated for emergency response, and the expected increase in incidences of humanitarian catastrophe due to changing climate patterns, there is a need for rigorous and efficient methods of early warning and emergency needs assessment. In this paper we develop an empirical model, based on a relatively parsimonious set of regularly measured variables from communities in Kenya’s arid north, that generates remarkably accurate forecasts of the likelihood of famine with at least three months lead time. Such a forecasting model is a potentially valuable tool for enhancing early warning capacity.

3. Spatial Integration at Multiple Scales: Rice Markets in Madagascar
   August 2008
   Moser, Christine, Christopher B. Barrett, and Bart Minten
   The dramatic increase in the price of rice and other commodities over the past year has generated new interest in how these markets work and how they can be improved. This paper uses an exceptionally rich data set to test the extent to which markets in Madagascar are integrated across space at different scales of analysis and to explain some of the factors that limit spatial arbitrage and price equalization within a single country. 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 to determine whether non-integration 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 rates, remoteness, and lack of information are among the factors limiting competition.
4. **The Evolution of Horizontal Inequalities in Madagascar, 1999-2005**  
July 2008  
**Stifel, David, Felix Forster, and Christopher B. Barrett**  
This paper explores whether there exist persistent horizontal inequalities in Madagascar; that is, whether there is a pattern over time of consistently poorer performance among subpopulations readily identifiable by one or more identity markers. Three key messages come out of this analysis. First, there exists a core group of households that remained persistently poor over the 1999-2005 period. These households were largely not members of the dominant ethnic group, land poor, lived in remote areas, and were headed by uneducated individuals, most commonly women. Second, in addition to establishing the existence of horizontal inequalities across groups, relative differences in returns to education, land and remoteness underscore the existence of vertical inequalities within groups, as one characteristic affects the returns to another. Third, persistent horizontal inequalities are associated with multiple different identities, some of which are offsetting and some of which are reinforcing. For example, women’s higher education tends to offset the disadvantages associated with being a head of household, while remoteness compounds the disadvantages associated with living in female-headed households.  
*Paper presented at workshop hosted by the Centre for Research on Inequality, Human Security and Ethnicity (CRISE): The Persistence of Inequalities, Department of International Development, University of Oxford, April 4, 2008*

5. **Food Systems and the Escape from Poverty and Ill-Health Traps in Sub-Saharan Africa**  
May 2008  
**Barrett, Christopher**  
Millennium Development Goal #1 is to halve extreme poverty ($1/day per person) and hunger. Progress toward this goal has been excellent at global level, led by China and India, but woefully insufficient in sub-Saharan Africa. In Africa, a disproportionate share of the extreme poor are “ultra-poor”, surviving on less than $0.50/day per person, a condition that appears both stubbornly persistent and closely associated with widespread severe malnutrition – “ultra hunger” – and ill health. Indeed, ill health, malnutrition and ultra-poverty are mutually reinforcing states that add to the challenge of addressing any one of them on its own and make integrated strategies essential. Food systems are a natural locus for such a strategy because agriculture is the primary employment sector for the ultra-poor and because food consumes a very large share of the expenditures of the ultra-poor. The causal mechanisms underpinning the poverty trap in which ultra-poor, unhealthy and undernourished rural Africans too often find themselves remain only partially understood, but is clearly rooted in the food system that guides their production, exchange, consumption and investment behaviors. Four key principles to guide interventions in improving food systems emerge clearly. But there remains only limited empirical evidence to guide detailed design and implementation of strategies to develop African food systems so as to break the lock of poverty and ill-health traps.  
*This paper was prepared for the Cornell University and United Nations University Symposium on The African Food System and its Interactions with Health and Nutrition, held at the United Nations, New York City, November 13, and at Cornell University, November 15, 2007.*

6. **Incomplete Credit Markets and Commodity Marketing Behavior**  
May 2008  
**Stephens, Emma C. and Christopher B. Barrett**  
We develop a simple theoretical model of market participation over multiple seasons in the presence of liquidity constraints and transactions costs to explain the ‘sell low, buy high’ puzzle wherein certain households forego opportunities for intertemporal price arbitrage through storage and are observed to sell output post-harvest at prices lower than observed prices for purchases in the subsequent lean season. We test our model with data from western Kenya using maximum likelihood
estimation of a multivariate sample selection model of market participation. Access to off-farm income and credit indeed seem to influence crop sales and purchase behaviors in a manner consistent with the hypothesized patterns.

7. **Ability, Grade Repetition, and School Attainment in Senegal: A Panel Data Analysis**  
March 2008  
**Glick, Peter and David E. Sahn**

Little is known about the relationship of early ability and subsequent educational outcomes in developing country environments, because the panel data needed to analyze this question have been lacking. In this study we take advantage of unique data from Senegal, combining test score data for children from the second grade with information on their subsequent school progression from a follow-up survey conducted seven years later. We find that measures of early cognitive ability, corrected for measurement error using multiple test observations per child, are very strongly positively associated with later school progression. A plausible interpretation is that parents invest more in a child’s education when the returns to doing so are higher. The results point to the need for remedial policies to target lagging students early on to reduce early dropout. A current policy targeting poorly performing students is grade repetition, which is pervasive in Francophone Africa. Using variation across schools in test score thresholds for promotion to identify the effects of second grade repetition, we find that a repeated student is more likely to leave school before completing primary than a student with similar ability who is not held back, pointing to the need for alternative measures to improve skills of lagging children.

8. **Inequality and Poverty in Africa in an Era of Globalization: Looking Beyond Income to Health and Education**  
August 2007  
**Sahn, David E. and Stephen D. Younger**

This paper describes changes over the past 15-20 years in non-income measures of well-being – education and health – in Africa. We expected to find, as we did in Latin America, that progress in the provision of public services and the focus of public spending in the social sector would contribute to declining poverty and inequality in health and education, even in an environment of stagnant or worsening levels of income poverty. Unfortunately, our results indicate that in the area of health, little progress is being made in terms of reducing pre-school age stunting, a clear manifestation of poor overall health. Likewise, our health inequality measure showed that while there were a few instances of reduced inequality along this dimension, there was, on balance, little evidence of success in improving equality of outcomes. Similar results were found in our examination of underweight women as an indicator of general current health status of adults. With regard to education, the story is somewhat more positive. However, the overall picture gives little cause for complacency or optimism that Africa has, or will soon reap the potential benefits of the process of globalization.  
*Presented at the UNU-WIDER Conference on “The Impact of Globalization on the Poor in Africa,” Johannesburg, South Africa, 1-2 December, 2005*

9. **Decomposing World Education Inequality**  
August 2007  
**Sahn, David E. and Stephen D. Younger**

We decompose global inequality in educational achievement into within- and between- country components. We find that the former is significantly larger. This is different than results for international income inequality, but similar to results for international health inequality.
10. **Understanding the Formation of Social Networks**  
April 2007  
*Santos, Paulo and Christopher B. Barrett*  
This paper reviews the growing literature that uses social networks as a method to analyze social context, paying special attention to how methods of sampling data on relationships aspects inference with respect to the formation of social networks. We use original data from southern Ethiopia to demonstrate a new approach to collecting data on relationships, that starts with a random sample of individuals and then randomly samples from the prospective relationships among sample respondents. We show that this method yields estimates of the structure of social relations that are statistically indistinguishable from those generated using more expensive and time-consuming methods that trace respondents’ social networks. We then use Monte Carlo simulation to test the value of this approach and show that introducing this second level of sampling improves the accuracy of the inference on the determinants of network formation.

11. **The Relationship between Poverty and Maternal Morbidity and Mortality in Sub-Saharan Africa**  
December 2006  
*Meyerhoefer, Chad and David E. Sahn*  
“Good maternal health is of fundamental importance to a country’s well-being and ability to prosper, and there are few times when maternal health is more at risk than in the period surrounding childbirth. Protecting the health of mothers during reproduction safeguards their future contributions to society and ensures the health and productivity of future generations. If either the health of mothers or their newborn offspring is compromised, there will be serious negative consequences for their families, communities, and the entire process of economic and social development. This is why the United Nations has set as one of its eight Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), the reduction of the maternal mortality ratio (MMR) by two-thirds in the developing world by the year 2015...”  
*Presented at the AERC/Hewlett Foundation Workshop, “Poverty and Economic Growth: The Impact of Population Dynamics and Reproductive Health Outcomes in Africa” in Brussels, Belgium, November 5-6, 2006*

12. **Labor Market Activities and Fertility**  
December 2006  
*Younger, Stephen D.*  
“This paper focuses on one aspect of the demographic transition, women’s labor market activity, and how it relates to the basic variables of fertility and poverty. Just as there are differences in fertility and mortality in rich and poor countries, there are differences in women’s time use. In rich countries, women tend to work outside the home, usually in wage employment on a fixed hourly schedule. In poor countries, women tend to work at home or, especially in Africa, on their family’s farm or at own-account activities where time use is more flexible. Understanding the relationship between the demographic transition and these differences in time use is our main theme...”  
*Presented at the AERC/Hewlett Foundation Workshop, “Poverty and Economic Growth: The Impact of Population Dynamics and Reproductive Health Outcomes in Africa” in Brussels, Belgium, November 5-6, 2006*

13. **An Assessment of Changes in Infant and under-Five Mortality in Demographic and Health Survey Data for Madagascar**  
September 2006  
*Glick, Peter, Stephen D. Younger, and David E. Sahn*  
Repeated rounds of nationally representative surveys are an important source of information on changes in the welfare of the population. In particular, policymakers and donors in many developing
countries rely heavily on the Demographic and Health Surveys (DHS) to provide information on levels and trends in indicators of the health status of the population, including child survival. The reliability of observed trends, however, depends strongly on the comparability across survey rounds of the sampling strategy and of the format of questions and how interviews ask them. In Madagascar, the most recent (2003/4) DHS indicated very sharp declines in rates of infant and under-five mortality compared with the previous survey from 1997. However, retrospective under-one and under-five mortality data in 1997 and 2003/4 for the same calendar years also show large differences, suggesting that this trend may be spurious. We employ a range of descriptive and multivariate approaches to investigate the issue. Despite evidence of significant interviewer recording errors (with respect to date of birth and age at death) in 2003/4, the most likely source of problems is that the two samples differ: comparisons of time-invariant characteristics of households and of women suggests that the later DHS sampled a somewhat wealthier (hence lower mortality) population. Corrections to the data using hazard survival model estimates are discussed. These suggest a much more modest reduction in infant and under-five mortality than indicated by the raw data for the two surveys.

14. **Heterogeneous Wealth Dynamics: On the Roles of Risk and Ability**
   June 2006
   **Santos, Paulo and Christopher B. Barrett**
   This paper studies the causal mechanisms behind poverty traps, building on evidence of nonlinear wealth dynamics among a poor pastoralist population, the Boran from southern Ethiopia. In particular, it explores the roles of adverse weather shocks and individual ability to cope with such shocks in conditioning wealth dynamics. Using original data, we establish pastoralists’ expectations of herd dynamics and show both that pastoralists perceive the nonlinear long-term dynamics that characterize livestock wealth in the region and that this pattern results from adverse weather shocks. We estimate a stochastic herd growth frontier that yields herder-specific estimates of unobservable ability on which we then condition our simulations of wealth dynamics. We find that those with lower ability converge to a unique dynamic equilibrium at a small herd size, while those with higher ability exhibit multiple stable dynamic wealth equilibria. Our results underscore the criticality of asset protection against exogenous shocks in order to facilitate wealth accumulation and economic growth and the importance of incorporating indicators of ability in the targeting of asset transfers, as we demonstrate with simulations of alternative asset transfer designs.

15. **Informal Insurance in the Presence of Poverty Traps: Evidence from Southern Ethiopia**
   May 2006
   **Santos, Paulo and Christopher B. Barrett**
   This paper explores the consequences of nonlinear wealth dynamics on the formation of informal insurance networks. Building on recent empirical work among a poor population that finds evidence consistent with the hypothesis of poverty traps, and using original primary data on social networks and transfers, we find that asset transfers respond to recipients’ losses, but only so long as the recipients are not “too poor”. The persistently poor are excluded from social networks and do not receive transfers in response to shocks. We also find some evidence that the threshold at which wealth dynamics bifurcate may serve as a focal point at which transfers are concentrated. Our results suggest that, in the context of poverty traps, asset transfers may aim to insure the permanent component of income generation, rather than the transitory component, as standard insurance models assume.
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.

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.

18. 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 for better co-ordination 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.

19. **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.

20. **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.

21. **Food Aid Targeting, Shocks and Private Transfers Among East African Pastoralists**  
July 2005  
*Lentz, Erin and Christopher B. Barrett*  
Public transfers of food aid are intended largely to support vulnerable populations in times of stress. We use high frequency panel data among Ethiopian and Kenyan pastoralists to test the efficacy of food aid targeting under three different targeting modalities, food aid’s responsiveness to different types of covariate shocks, and its relationship to private transfers. We find that, in this region, self-
targeting food-for-work or indicator-targeted free food distribution more effectively reach the poor than do food aid distributed according to community-based targeting. Food aid flows do not respond significantly to either covariate, community-level income or asset shocks. Rather, food aid flows appear to respond mainly to more readily observable rainfall measures. Finally, food aid does not appear to affect private transfers in any meaningful way, either by crowding out private gifts to recipient households nor by stimulating increased gifts by food aid recipients.

22. Getting the Inputs Right for Improved Agricultural Productivity in Madagascar, Which Inputs Matter and Are the Poor Different?
June 2005
Randrianarisoa, Claude and Bart Minten
We found that while farmers are willing to pay for improved irrigation infrastructure through water use associations, the amounts they are willing to contribute are significantly below the costs – and significantly below international standards – and this especially so for the poorest farmers. For chemical fertilizer, a more rational structuring of the fertilizer supply chain, with clear and consistent market signals, might help at least the more accessible regions to more readily adopt this input.

23. 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
This note suggests a behavioral approach to poverty and vulnerability that escapes the standard, troublesome dependence on an arbitrary money-metric poverty line. More importantly, our approach, which is based on an empirically estimable dynamic asset poverty threshold, has immediate implications for both the linkage between poverty, risk and growth and for the design of social protection policies. One can identify the dynamic asset poverty threshold either by testing for asset smoothing behavior or via tests for bifurcated/split accumulation dynamics. We illustrate the concept and the estimation of dynamic asset poverty thresholds through brief applications to Ethiopia and Honduras.

24. 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.
25. 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

26. The Progression through School and Academic Performance in Madagascar Study: Preliminary Descriptive Results
March 2005
Glick, Peter, Harivelo Rajemison, Arsène Ravelo, Yolande Raveloarison, Mamisoa Razakamanantsoa, and David E. Sahn
This paper is a preliminary analysis of the Etude sur la Progression Scolaire et la Performance Académique en Madagascar (EPSPAM). The study is based on a nation-wide 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.

27. Progression through School and Academic Performance in Senegal: Descriptive Survey Results
March 2005
Dumas, Christelle, Peter Glick, Sylvie Lambert, David E. Sahn, and Leopold Sarr
This report provides a preliminary descriptive analysis of some of the data from The Progression through School and Academic Performance in Senegal Study, a joint research project of Cornell University, Centre de Recherche en Economie Appliquée (CREA), and INRA. This project is based around a nation-wide household survey with a special focus on schooling, complimented by academic and life skills tests and additional surveys of local schools and communities. The topics covered in this report focus on the household survey and test score data and include: enrollment rates; school attainment; grade repetition; dropouts and progression to secondary school; academic and life skills test scores; and perceptions about education and schooling.

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.

May 2004
Eloundou-Enyegue, Parfait M., J. Mayone Stycos, and Fatou Jah
Plausible arguments suggest that policies to avoid pregnancy-related dropouts can help close gender gaps in education in Africa but these payoffs require quantification. This research uses schooling life tables to simulate how the gender gaps in secondary school completion within 23 sub-Saharan African countries would narrow if these countries reduced the incidence of pregnancy-related dropouts. Results suggest that reducing pregnancy-related dropouts is neither indispensable nor sufficient to close current gender gaps in most cases, yet it could halve these gaps in one third of the countries studied.

30. Access to Schooling and Employment in Cameroon: New Inequalities and Opportunities
April 2004
Eloundou-Enyegue, Parfait M., Ngoube Maurice, Okene Richard, V.P Onguene, Serge Bahoken, Joseph Tamukong, Moses Mbangwana, Joseph Essindi Evina, and Caroline Mongue Djongoue
This report is about recent trends in education and access to employment in Cameroon. It focuses on five questions about (1) current levels of schooling, (2) recent trends in enrolment, (3) recent trends in schooling inequalities, (4) access to employment, and (5) risks and opportunities to improve education and employment outcomes. Based on these analyses, the report discusses several challenges and opportunities in improving education and employment outcomes.

31. Public Service Provision, User Fees, and Political Turmoil
January 2004
Fafchamps, Marcel and Bart Minten
Following an electoral dispute, the central highlands of the island of Madagascar were subjected to an economic blockade during the first half of 2002. After the blockade ended in June 2002, user fees for health services and school fees were progressively eliminated. This paper examines the provision of schooling and health services to rural areas of Madagascar before, during, and after the blockade. We find that public services were more resilient to the blockade than initially anticipated, but that health services were more affected than schools. The removal of user fees had a large significant effect on public services that is distinct from the end of the blockade and the increase in school book provision.

32. The Impact of Family Literacy on the Earnings of Illiterates: Evidence from Senegal
January 2004
Sarr, Leopold R.
This paper investigates the extent to which the sharing of literacy knowledge within the household affects the labor force participation and the earnings of illiterate workers in Senegal. Using the concept of proximate and isolated illiterates recently developed by K. Basu and J. Foster, I apply an intra-household model of literacy to a Senegalese household dataset. The estimates obtained from
different selection bias models provide evidence that parental literacy and education do not capture all sources of external literacy benefits and that illiterate members also benefit from other literate members of the household. It also appears that rural workers and female illiterates tend to participate more in the labor market than their urban and male counterparts. On the other hand, an urban illiterate worker who lives in a household where at least one member is literate is expected to earn a wage that is about 88% higher than that of an isolated illiterate urban worker whereas the earnings of an illiterate female worker are on average 33% higher than the ones of another illiterate female worker whose family’s ratio of literate to illiterate members is one point lower. This suggests that policies targeting isolated illiterate households, in both rural and urban zones as well as illiterate women — who appear to be better recipients of external literacy benefits — within households, are likely to mitigate their vulnerability and thus to reduce the incidence of illiteracy and poverty.

October 2003
Younger, Stephen D.
This paper examines Uganda’s progress on poverty reduction when poverty is measured in multiple dimensions. In particular, I consider poverty measures that are defined across household expenditures per capita or household assets, children’s health status, and in some cases, mother’s literacy. The comparisons are robust to the choice of poverty line, poverty measure, and sampling error. In general, I find that multidimensional poverty declined significantly in Uganda during the 1990s, although results for the latter half of the decade are more ambiguous. While there was clear progress in the dimension of expenditures and assets, improvement in children’s height-for-age z-scores is less certain for the 1995-2000 period. I also make poverty comparisons for individual regions and urban and rural areas in the country. Rather surprisingly, progress on multivariate poverty reduction is less clear in Central region and in urban areas.

34. Water Pricing, the New Water Law, and the Poor: An Estimation of Demand for Improved Water Services in Madagascar
December 2002
Minten, Bart, Rami Razafindralambo, Zaza Randriamiarana, and Bruce Larson
Generalized cost recovery is one of the basic principles of the new Water Law that has recently been adopted by the Malagasy government. However, the effect of this change in policy is still poorly understood. Based on contingent valuation surveys in an urban and a rural area in southern Madagascar, this study analyzes the effect of changes in prices for water services. The results suggest that a minimum size of 90 households in a village is necessary to reach full cost recovery for well construction. Given that this is significantly above the current size of villages in the survey area, full cost recovery seems therefore impossible and subsidies are necessary to increase access to improved water services. Cost recovery for maintenance is relatively easier to achieve. In urban areas, water use practices and willingness to pay for water services depend highly on household income. To better serve the poor, it is therefore suggested that rich households, who rely on private taps, cross-subsidize poor households as a significant number of households is unwilling or unable to pay for water from a public tap. Given that public taps make up a small part of the total consumption of the national water company JIRAMA, lower income from public taps are shown to have only a marginal effect on its total income. However, as experiences in other countries as well as in Madagascar have shown, a fee on public taps is necessary as water for free leads to spoilage, does not give any incentive for the distributor to expand networks, and might therefore be a bad policy for the poor overall.
Appendix III
SAGA PARTICIPATION: CONFERENCES AND WORKSHOPS, PRESENTATIONS AND PAPERS

I. Presentation: THE GLOBAL BACKDROP TO SOUTH AFRICA’S ANTI-POVERTY STRATEGY: Brief Comments on the Occasion of the Launch of the Public Consultations by the Deputy President of South Africa
Ravi Kanbur
Pretoria, South Africa
October 29, 2008

II. Presentation: THREE CHALLENGES FOR GHANA’S ECONOMY
At the launch of Ernest Aryeetey and Ravi Kanbur (eds.), The Economy of Ghana: Analytical Perspectives on Stability, Growth and Poverty, James Currey, 2008
Ravi Kanbur, Cornell University
Accra, Ghana
September 12, 2008

III. UNU-CORNELL AFRICA SERIES:
Symposium: THE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC DIMENSIONS OF HIV/AIDS IN AFRICA
UN Dag Hammarskjöld Library Auditorium, UN Headquarters
New York September 9, 2008

1. David Sahn, Panelist, Roundtable/Discussion: The Way Forward and the Role of Universities and Academics: Bridging the Academia and Development in the Field of Public Health
2. Peter Glick, “Prevention Impacts of HIV/AIDS Interventions in Africa: What Have We Learned?” for Panel: Intensifying Prevention and the Role of Local Governments and Communities

IV. Presentation: THE EVOLUTION OF HORIZONTAL INEQUALITIES IN MADAGASCAR, 1999-2005
Christopher Barrett and David Stifel
Paper presented at workshop hosted by the Centre for Research on Inequality, Human Security and Ethnicity (CRISE): THE PERSISTENCE OF INEQUALITIES
Department of International Development, University of Oxford
April 4, 2008

V. Forum: YOUNG ECONOMISTS OUTREACH PROGRAMME
Co-Sponsored by Institute of Statistical, Social and Economic Research (ISSER)
Cornell University
Economy of Ghana Network (EGN)
Elmina, Ghana
January 10-11, 2008
The purpose of the forum was to expose young economists in Ghana to an international peer review process for their work and develop mentoring relationships with senior internationally known and accomplished economists, including:
Christopher Barrett
Ravi Kanbur
VI. Presentation: FOOD SYSTEMS AND THE ESCAPE FROM POVERTY AND ILL-HEALTH TRAPS IN SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA
Christopher Barrett
This paper was prepared for the Cornell University and United Nations University Symposium on The African Food System and its Interactions with Health and Nutrition, held at the United Nations, New York City, November 13, and at Cornell University, November 15, 2007.

VII. Presentation: MEASURING INTRA-HOUSEHOLD INEQUALITY: EXPLORATIONS USING THE BODY MASS INDEX (David E. Sahn and Stephen D. Younger)
Presenter: David Sahn
Presented at the CIRPÉE Conference on Health Economics, Université Laval March 30, 2007

VIII. Presentation: SMALLHOLDER MARKET PARTICIPATION: CONCEPTS AND EVIDENCE FROM EASTERN AND SOUTHERN AFRICA
Christopher Barrett
Presented at FAO workshop on Staple Food Trade and Market Policy Options for Promoting Development in Eastern and Southern Africa

IX. AERC–CORNELL CONFERENCE on BOTTOM-UP INTERVENTIONS AND ECONOMIC GROWTH IN SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA
May 31 - June 1, 2007
Hotel Intercontinental, Nairobi, Kenya
Cornell University was represented by Professors David Sahn and Ravi Kanbur

Kedir, Abbi M.

2. Heterogeneous Impacts of Cooperatives on Smallholders’ Commercialization Behavior: Evidence from Ethiopia
Tanguy, Bernard, Eleni Gabre-Madhin and Alemayehu Seyoum Taffesse

3. Trade Reforms, Human Capital and Poverty: A Pseudo-Panel Analysis for Ghana
Ackah, Charles

4. Sex Work as a Response to Risk in Western Kenya
Robinson, Jonathan and Ethan Yeh

5. Boda Bodas Rule: Non-agricultural Activities and Their Inequality Implications in Western Kenya
Lay, Jann, George Michuki M’Mukaria and Toman Omar Mahmoud

6. Can Information Campaigns Eradicate AIDS? The Effect of HIV Knowledge and Risk Behavior on HIV Status: The Case of Three Sub-Saharan Countries
Frölich, Markus and Rosalia Vazquez-Alvarez
7. HIV/AIDS and Rural Livelihoods in Zambia: A Test of the New Variant Famine Hypothesis
   Mason, Nicole M., Antony Chapoto, Thomas S. Jayne and Robert J. Myers

8. Malaria in Rural Nigeria: Implications for the Millennium Development Goals
   Alaba, Olufunke A. and Olumuyiwa B. Alaba

9. Understanding the Differential Impact of Institutions and Institutional Interventions on
   Smallholder Behavior and Livelihoods in Rural Ethiopia
   Liverpool, Saweda Onipede, Alex Winter-Nelson and Shahidur Rashid

10. The Economic Impact of AIDS Treatment: Labor Supply in Western Kenya
    Thirumurthy, Harsha, Joshua Graff Zivin, and Markus Goldstein

X. SAGA Presentation: UNDERSTANDING POVERTY IN NORTHERN UGANDA
    Sponsored by USAID Office of Poverty Reduction/PASSN
    May 16, 2007
    Washington, DC
    Stephen Younger

XI. Workshop: NATIONAL TREASURY WORKSHOP ON POVERTY REDUCTION AND
      SOCIAL SECURITY
    Presented by the The Development Policy Research Unit
    Cape Town, South Africa
    December 11-14, 2006
    Ravi Kanbur and Stephen D. Younger, workshop planning and guest lecturers

XII. SAGA Presentation: RISK PERCEPTIONS IN NORTHERN KENYA AND SOUTHERN
      ETHIOPIA
    Sponsored by USAID’s Office of Poverty Reduction/Poverty Analysis and Social Safety Nets (PASSN)
    November 20, 2006
    Washington, DC
    Christopher Barrett

XIII. International Conference:
      POVERTY AND ECONOMIC GROWTH: THE IMPACT OF POPULATION DYNAMICS
      AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH OUTCOMES IN AFRICA
      Presented by The William and Flora Hewlett Foundation and the African Economic Research Consortium (AERC)
      November 5-6, 2006
      Brussels, Belgium

      • The Relationship between Poverty and Maternal Morbidity and Mortality in Sub-Saharan Africa
        Meyerhoefer, Chad and David E. Sahn

      • Labor Market Activities and Fertility
        Sahn, David E. and Stephen D. Younger
• Reproductive Health, HIV/AIDS and Poverty in Africa
  Glick, Peter

XIV. Dissemination Conference: POVERTY, INCOME DISTRIBUTION AND LABOUR MARKETS IN SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA
Sponsored by The African Economic Research Consortium (AERC)
Addis Adaba, Ethiopia
October 12-13, 2006

David E. Sahn, Chair, Session: Labour Markets, Poverty and Inequality Under Economic Reforms, and Panelist, Roundtable on Areas of Further Research

XV. Conference: ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND NORTHERN GHANA
Sponsored by Institute of Statistical, Social and Economic Research (ISSER), Cornell University, Economy of Ghana Network (EGN)
University of Development Studies, Tamale
Bolgatanga and Tamale, Ghana
September 11-14, 2006

Ravi Kanbur, Co-organizer

Workshop Presentations:

• Development in the North – Charles Jebuni

• Developing Market-Based Strategies for Growth in Northern Ghana – Nii K. Sowa

• Globalisation, Employment and Poverty in Ghana – Ernest Aryeetey

• Economic Development and Northern Ghana: Can the Multi-Donor Budgetary Support (MDBS) System Improve Aid Effectiveness in Ghana? – Peter Quartey

• Review of Performance of Ghanaian Economy in First Half of 2006 – ISSER

• The State of the Ghanaian Economy Report, 2005 – ISSER

• Pro-poor Growth in Ghana, and the Prospects in the North – Andy McKay

• Can the Financial System Serve the Northern Poor? Microfinance and Grants for Community Development – William F. Steel

• Accessible Information for Development Dialogue

• The Political Economy of Northern Ghanaian Development: Issues for Discussion – Saa Dittoh

• Institutional Factors, Growth and Inequality; and Possible Implications for Ghana – Andy McKay
• Technical Efficiency and Ghanaian Secondary Education – Kwabena Gyimah-Brempong

• Economic Growth in Northern Ghana

David Sahn, Presenter
September 2006
WIDER Conference on Advancing Health Equity, Helsinki, Finland

XVII. Presentation: PRODUCTIVITY IN MALAGASY RICE SYSTEMS: WEALTH-DIFFERENTIATED CONSTRAINTS AND PRIORITIES (Bart Minten, Jean Claude Randrianarisoa, and Christopher B. Barrett)
August 2006
Invited Panel Paper
International Association of Agricultural Economists Conference, Gold Coast, Australia

XVIII. Conference: PASTORALISM AND POVERTY REDUCTION IN EAST AFRICA:
Organized by the International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI)
Nairobi, Kenya
June 27-28, 2006
Co-organizers: Prof. Chris Barrett (Cornell University), Prof. Peter Little (University of Kentucky), Prof. John McPeak (Syracuse University), and the Arid Lands Resource Management Project

Invited Presentations:

• Beyond Group Ranch Subdivision: Collective Action for Livestock Mobility, Ecological Viability and Livelihoods
S. BurnSilver and E. Mwangi

• The Policy and Practice of Educational Service Provision for Pastoralists in Tanzania
Elizabeth Bishop

• Collective Action and Informal Institutions: The Case of Agropastoralists of Eastern Ethiopia
Fekadu Beyene

• Women’s Groups in Arid Northern Kenya: Origins, Governance, and Roles in Poverty Reduction
D. Layne Coppock, Solomon Desta, Adan Wako, Ibrahim Aden, Getachew Gebru, Seyoum Tezera, and Chachu Tadecha

• Is Settling Good for Pastoralists? The Effects of Pastoral Sedentarization on Children
Elliot Fratkin, Martha A. Nathan, and Eric A. Roth

• Livelihood Diversification in Borana Pastoral Communities of Ethiopia—Prospects and Challenges
Kejela Gemtessa, Bezaibih Emana, and Waktol Tiki
• **Strengthening Pastoralists’ Voice in Shaping Policies for Sustainable Poverty Reduction in ASAL Regions of East Africa**  
  Ced Hesse and Michael Ochieng Odhiambo

• **Maasai Pastoralists: Diversification and Poverty**  
  K. Homewood, E. Coast, S. Kiruswa, S. Serneels, M. Thompson, and P. Trench

• **Longitudinal Analysis of the Impact of Land Privatization on Samburu Pastoralist Livelihood Strategies**  
  Carolyn K. Lesorogol

• **Empirical Forecasting of Slow-Onset Disasters for Improved Emergency Response: An Application to Kenya’s Arid Lands**  
  Andrew Mude, **Christopher Barrett**, John McPeak, Robert Kaitho, Patti Kristjansen

**Conference Briefs:**

• **Livelihood Choices and Returns among Agro-Pastoralists in southern Kenya**  
  M. Radeny, D. Nkedianye, P. Kristjanson, M. Herrero

• **Heterogeneous Wealth Dynamics: On the Roles of Risk and Ability**  
  Paulo Santos and **Christopher Barrett**

• **Women’s Groups in Arid Northern Kenya: Origins, Governance, and Roles in Poverty Reduction**  
  D. Layne Coppock, Solomon Desta, Adan Wako, Ibrahim Aden, Getachew Gebru, Seyoum Tezera, and Chachu Tadecha

• **Cattle Breeding Strategies using Genetic Markers as a Pathway for Improving Competitiveness of Pastoral Systems in Kenya**  
  Ulrike Janssen-Tapken, Haja N. Kadarmideen and Peter von Rohr

• **Longitudinal Analysis of the Impact of Land Privatization on Samburu Pastoralist Livelihood Strategies: 2000-2005**  
  Carolyn K. Lesorogol

• **Conflict Minimizing Strategies on Natural Resource Management and Use — The Case for Managing Conflicts between Wildlife and Agro-pastoral Production Resources in Transmara District, Kenya**  
  Sospeter Onchoke Nyamwaro, Grace Adira Murilla, Miyoro O. Kennedy Mochabo and Kennedy Barasa Wajala

• **Pastoralists Preferences for Cattle Traits: Letting Them be Heard**  
  Emily Ouma, Awudu Abdulai and Adam Drucker

• **Influencing and Developing Good Policy in Early Childhood Development (ECD) amongst Pastoralist Communities in East Africa**  
  Tanja van de Linde and Stephen Lenaiyasa

• **Property Rights among Afar Pastoralists of Northeastern Ethiopia: Forms, Changes and Conflicts**  
  Bekele Hundie
• **Livelihood Diversification in Borana: Pastoral Communities of Ethiopia — Prospects and Challenges**  
  Kejela Gemtessa, Bezabih Emana (Ph.D), Waktole Tiki

• **Maasai Pastoralists: Diversification and Poverty**  
  K. Homewood, E. Coast, S. Kiruswa, S. Serneels, M. Thompson, P. Trench

• **Linkages between Biodiversity, Land Rights and Poverty in Tanzania: Increasing Incentives for Unsustainable Land Use Change through Conservation Policy**  
  Hassan Sachedina

• **Is Settling Good for Pastoralists? The Effects of Pastoral Sedentarization on Children’s Nutrition, Growth, and Health Among Rendille and Ariaal of Marsabit District, Northern Kenya.**  
  Elliot Fratkin, Martha A. Nathan, and Eric A. Roth

• **Collective Action and Informal Institutions: The Case of Agropastoralists of Eastern Ethiopia**  
  Fekadu Beyene

• **Empirical Forecasting of Slow-Onset Disasters for Improved Emergency Response: An Application to Kenya’s Arid Lands**  
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• **Beyond Group Ranch Subdivision: Collective Action for Livestock Mobility, Ecological Viability and Livelihoods**  
  S. BurnSilver and E. Mwangi

• **The Policy and Practice of Educational Service Provision for Pastoralists in Tanzania**  
  Elizabeth Bishop

• **Contextualising Conflict: Introduced Institutions and Political Networks combating Pastoral Poverty**  
  Fred Zaal and Morgan Ole Siloma

• **Strengthening Pastoralists’ Voice in Shaping Policies for Sustainable Poverty Reduction in ASAL Regions of East Africa**  
  Ced Hesse and Michael Ochieng Odhiambo

**Conference Papers:**

1. **Challenging Orthodoxies: Understanding Poverty in Pastoral Areas of East Africa**  
   Little, Peter, John McPeak, **Christopher B. Barrett**, Patti Kristjanson

2. **Beyond Group Ranch Subdivision: Collective Action for Livestock Mobility, Ecological Viability and Livelihoods**  
   BurnSilver, S. and E. Mwangi

3. **The Policy and Practice of Educational Service Provision for Pastoralists in Tanzania**  
   Bishop, Elizabeth
4. **Is Settling Good for Pastoralists? The Effects of Pastoral Sedentarization on Children’s Nutrition, Growth, and Health Among Rendille and Ariaal of Marsabit District, Northern Kenya**  
Fratkin, Elliot, Martha A. Nathan, and Eric A. Roth

5. **Livelihood Diversification in Borana Pastoral Communities of Ethiopia—Prospects and Challenges**  
Gemtessa, Kejela, Bezabih Emana, and Waktole Tiki

Lesorogol, Carolyn K.

Coppock, D. Layne, Solomon Desta, Adan Wako, Ibrahim Aden, Getachew Gebru, Seyoum Tezera, and Chachu Tadecha

8. **Influencing and Developing Good Policy in Early Childhood Development (ECD) amongst Pastoralist Communities in East Africa: The Case of Samburu in Kenya**  
van de Linde, Tanja

9. **Heterogeneous Wealth Dynamics: On the Roles of Risk and Ability**  
Santos, Paulo and Christopher B. Barrett

10. **Conservation, Land Rights and Livelihoods in the Tarangire Ecosystem of Tanzania: Increasing Incentives for Non-conservation Compatible Land Use Change through Conservation Policy**  
Sachedina, Hassan

11. **Livelihood Choices and Returns among Agro-Pastoralists in Southern Kenya**  
Radeny, M., D. Nkedianye, P. Kristjanson, and M. Herrero

12. **Pastoralists Preferences for Cattle Traits: Letting Them Be Heard**  
Ouma, Emily, Awudu Abdulai and Adam Drucker

13. **Cattle Breeding Strategies using Genetic Markers as a Pathway for Improving Competitiveness of Pastoral Systems in Kenya**  
Janssen-Tapken, Ulrike, Haja N. Kadamideen and Peter von Rohr

Nyanwaro, S.O., G.A. Murilla, M.O.K. Mochabo and K.B. Wanjala

15. **Empirical Forecasting of Slow-Onset Disasters for Improved Emergency Response: An Application to Kenya’s Arid North**  
Mude, Andrew, Christopher B. Barrett, John G. McPeak, Robert Kaitho, Patti Kristjansen

16. **Property Rights among Afar Pastoralists of Northeastern Ethiopia: Forms, Changes and Conflicts**  
Hundie, Bekele
17. Maasai Pastoralists: Diversification and Poverty
Homewood, K., E. Coast, S. Kiruswa, S. Serneels, M. Thompson, and P. Trench

18. Contextualising Conflict: Introduced Institutions and Political Networks Combating Pastoral Poverty
Zaal, Fred and Morgan Ole Siloma

Hesse, Ced and Michael Ochieng Odhiambo

Beyene, Fekadu

XIX. Presentation: POVERTY TRAPS AND RESOURCE DYNAMICS IN SMALLHOLDER AGRARIAN SYSTEMS
Presenter: Christopher Barrett
May 2006
International Conference on “Economics of Poverty, Environment and Natural Resource Use,” Wageningen University, The Netherlands

XX. Presentation: INEQUALITY AND POVERTY IN AFRICA IN AN ERA OF GLOBALIZATION: LOOKING BEYOND HEALTH AND EDUCATION (David E. Sahn and Stephen D. Younger)
Presenter: David E. Sahn
December 2005
UNU-WIDER Conference on “The Impact of Globalization on the Poor in Africa,” Johannesburg, South Africa

XXI. Presentation: ARE AFRICANS PRACTICING SAFER SEX: EVIDENCE FROM DEMOGRAPHIC AND HEALTH SURVEYS FOR EIGHT COUNTRIES (Peter Glick and David E. Sahn)
Presenter: David E. Sahn
December 2005

XXII. Regional Conference on
REGIONAL CONFERENCE ON EDUCATION IN WEST AFRICA
sponsored by Cornell University, Centre de Recherche en Economie Appliquée (CREA), and Ministère de l’Education du Sénégal
Dakar, Senegal
November 1-2, 2005

1. Cognitive Skills among Children in Senegal: Disentangling the Roles of Schooling and Family Background
Peter Glick and David E. Sahn
2. Public Education Expenditure and Defence Spending in Nigeria: An Empirical Investigation
Adebiyi, Michael Adebayo and Oderinde Oladele

3. Impact de la pauvreté sur la scolarisation et le travail des enfants de 6-14 ans au Togo (Effect of poverty on schooling and child labor in Togo)
Adjiwanou, Vissého

Ajetoamobi, J. O. and A. B. Ayanwale

5. Economic Analysis of Private Returns to Investment in Education in Cameroon
Amin, Aloysius Ajab and Wilfred J. Awung

Babatunde, Musibau Adetunji and Adefabi, Rasak Adetunji

7. Improving Schools in a Context of Decentralization: Findings from Research in West Africa – Benin, Guinea, Mali and Senegal
De Grauwe, A. and C. Lugaz (IIIEP); D. Odushina and M. Moustapha (Bénin) ; D. Baldé (Guinée); D. Dougnon (Mali); and C. Diakhaté (Sénégal)

8. L’impact des niveaux de qualification de la main d’oeuvre sur la productivité des entreprises: analyse appliquée au secteur industriel sénégalais
Dia, Abdoul Alpha

9. La dimension économique de l’efficacité externe de l’éducation en Afrique de l’Ouest
Duret, Elsa, Mathias Kuepie, Christophe Nordman, and François Roubaud

10. Causes of low academic performance of primary school pupils in the Shama Sub-Metro of Shama Ahanta East Metropolitan Assembly (SAEMA) in Ghana
Kafui Etsey

11. Strategies to Reduce Repetition in Cameroon Primary School
Fonkeng, George

12. Household Level Social Capital and Children’s Schooling Decision in Cameroon: A Gender Analysis
Johannes, Tabi Atemnkeng

13. Income Risk and School Decisions in Burkina Faso
Kazianga, Harounan

14. Les dépenses publiques d’éducation sont elles pro pauvres? Analyse et Application au cas du Sénégal
Niang, Birahim Bouna

15. Earning and Learning in the Rural Area of Sub-Saharan Africa: An Inquiry into the Cocoa Sector
Nkamleu, Guy Blaise
16. **Child Schooling in Nigeria: The Role of Gender in Urban, Rural, North and South Nigeria**  
Okpukpara, Benjamin Chiedozie and Nnaemeka A. Chukwuone

17. **L’augmentation des budgets suffit-elle à la qualité des systèmes éducatifs? Cas du Gabon** (Is a rise of public expenditures enough to improve the quality of educational systems? The Gabonese evidence.)  
Oyaya, Jean Rémy

18. **Do Mothers’ Educational Levels Matter in Child Malnutrition and Health Outcomes in Gambia and Niger?**  
Oyekale, A. S. and T. O. Oyekale

19. **Analyse critique des normes EFA-FT de production de service éducatif dans l’enseignement primaire des pays de l’UEMOA**  
Quenum, Célestin Venant C.

20. **Primary School Enrollment and Gender Gap of Rural Households’ Children in South Western Nigeria**  
Rahji, M. A. Y.

Saha, Jean Claude

22. **Corruption, Croissance et Capital Humain: Quels Rapports**  
Seka, Pierre Roche

23. **Optimiser la participation communautaire au financement et à l’accroissement de l’offre éducative**  
Wallace, Servais Edoh

XXIII. **Presentation: 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

XXIV. **Presentation: 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
XXV. **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*

   Geeta Kingdon and John Knight
   *Forthcoming in Journal of African Economies*

2. **Analysis of farmers’ preferences for development intervention programs: A case study of subsistence farmers from Eastern Ethiopian Highlands**
   Wagayehu Bekele

3. **Socioeconomic Impact of Export Oriented Agricultural Production on Farmers, in Eastern Ethiopia**
   Adem Kedir

4. **Is Sub-Saharan Africa a Convergence Club?**
   Johnson P. Asiama and Maurice Kugler

5. **An Inquiry into the role of personal wealth in the pastoralist - agropastoralist conflict resolution in Yerer and Daketa Valleys, Eastern Ethiopia**
   Ayalneh Bogale and Benedikt Korf

6. **Stochastic Technology and Crop Production Risk: The Case of Small-Scale Farmers in East Hararghe Zone of Oromiya Regional State in Ethiopia**
   Bekabil Fufa and R. M. Hassan

7. **Can Africa Reduce Poverty by Half by 2015? The Case for a Pro-Poor Growth Strategy**
   Arne Bigsten and Abebe Shimeles

8. **Shared Sectoral Growth: Evidence from Côte d’Ivoire, Ghana, and Zimbabwe**
   Niels-Hugo Blunch and Dorte Verner

   Janvier D. Nkurunziza and Floribert Ngaruko

10. **Organizational Culture, Performance and Public Sector Reforms in Africa: The Ghanaian Case**
    Francis Owusu

11. **Local Governance and Resource Allocation**
    Sagre Bambangi and Al-hassan Seidu

    Xinshen Diao and Alejandro Nin Pratt
13. How will US Reforms of Settlement Rates Affect Telecom Investments in Africa
Kwabena Gyimah-Brempong and John Agyei-Karikari

14. An Analysis of the Impact of HIPC Initiative on Poverty Alleviation in Developing Countries: Evidence from Cameroon
Arsene Honore Gideon Nkama

15. Economic Success or Human Development Failure? Development Partners or Development Parasites? The truth behind the truth: Evidence from Uganda
Diego Angemi

Michael Adebayo Adebiyi

17. Agricultural Growth, Non-Agricultural Growth and Poverty Reduction: Evidence from an African Perspective
Luc Christiaensen, Lionel Demery and Jesper Kuhl

18. Does Oil Corrupt? Theory and Evidence from Natural Experiment in West Africa
Pedro Camarinha Vincente

19. Operationalizing Pro-Poor Growth: A Country Case Study of Ghana
Andrew McKay and Ernest Aryeeetey

Raphael N. Echebiri

21. Structure of Sectoral Decomposition of Aggregate Poverty Changes in Cameroon
Francis Menjo Baye

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

23. Labor Market Flexibility, Wages and Incomes in sub-Saharan Africa in the 1990s
Geeta Kingdon, Justin Sandefur and Francis Teal

24. Institutional Foundations for Shared Growth in Sub-Saharan Africa
Machiko Nissanke and Alice Sindzingre

25. Market Structure and Productivity Growth in Ghanaian Cocoa Production
Andrew Zeitlin

26. Does Female Schooling Reduce Fertility? Evidence from Nigeria
Una Okonkwo Osili and Bridget Terry Long

27. Can Africa Achieve Millennium Development Growth Targets Through Effective Negotiations of the Doha Development Mandate?
William A. Amponsah
   Abdul-Razaq A. Olopoenia and Alarudeen Aminu

29. Social Exclusion and Insurance Failure for the Poorest: On Informal Finance through Social Networks in Kenya’s Smallholder Sector
   Heidi Hogset

30. Ghana: Recent Trends in Growth and Poverty Reduction
   Carlos B. Cavalcanti

   Aurelia N. Kamuzora

32. The Road to Pro-Poor Growth in Zambia: Past Lessons and Future Challenges
   James Thurlow and Peter Wobst

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

34. Shared Growth in Ghana: Do migrant remittances have a role?
   Peter Quartey

35. Managing Oil Rent for Shared Growth in Africa
   Afeikhena Jerome

36. Agricultural subsidies removal in North countries: what about the effects in Senegal?
   François Joseph Cabral

37. Achieving Human Development in Sub-Saharan Africa: The Role of Governance
   Augustin Kwasi Fosu

38. Labour Supply and Demand Constraints on Employment Creation: A Microeconomic
   Haroon Bhorat

   Bhorat, Haroon and Morné J. Oosthuizen

40. Operationalizing Pro-Poor Growth: A Case Study of Uganda
   John Okidi

41. The Potential for Horticultural Development in a Pro-Poor Growth Strategy for Ghana
   Jean-Michel Voisard

42. Natural Resources and Sustainable Growth and Development in Ghana
   Daniel Bruce Sarpong
XXVI. Presentation: 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

XXVII. Presentation: GETTING THE INPUTS RIGHT FOR IMPROVED AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTIVITY IN MADAGASCAR, WHICH INPUTS MATTER AND ARE THE POOR DIFFERENT?
Claude Randrianarisoa and Bart Minten

XXVIII. SAGA Workshop: UGANDA RESEARCH RESULTS
Presenters: Sarah Ssewanyana, John Okidi, Ibrahim Kasirye, and Stephen Younger
June 8, 2005
USAID Mission-Kampala, Uganda

XXIX. AGRICULTURAL TECHNOLOGY, PRODUCTIVITY, POVERTY AND FOOD SECURITY IN MADAGASCAR
Sponsored by PASSN (Poverty Analysis and Social Safety Nets)
Christopher Barrett, Cornell University
May 18, 2005
Washington, DC

XXX. AFRICAN HIV/AIDS PREVENTION KNOWLEDGE, PREVENTION BEHAVIOR AND ATTITUDES TOWARD TESTING
Co-sponsored by EGAT’s Poverty Analysis and Social Safety Net (PASSN) and HIV/AIDS Teams
David E. Sahn, Cornell University
April 22, 2005
Washington, DC

XXXI. Presentation: PROGRESSION THROUGH SCHOOL AND ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE IN MADAGASCAR STUDY
Presenters: SAGA researchers and the Ministry of Education (MENRS)
March 30, 2005
Antananarivo, Madagascar
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

XXXII. 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):

1. **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)

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

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

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

5. **Imperfections in Membership Based Organizations for the Poor: An Explanation for the Dismal Performance of Kenya’s Coffee Cooperatives**
   (Andrew Mude, Cornell University)

6. **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)

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

8. **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)

   (Christopher B. Barrett and Winnie K. Luseno, Cornell University)

XXXIII. **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

XXXIV. **PRIMARY SCHOOLING DEMAND IN RURAL MADAGASCAR**
Sponsored by PASSN (Poverty Analysis and Social Safety Nets)
**Peter Glick**, Cornell University
February 3, 2005
Washington, DC
XXXV. AFRICAN ECONOMIC RESEARCH INSTITUTIONS AND POLICY DEVELOPMENT: Opportunities and Challenges
A Conference sponsored by
The Secretariat for Institutional Support for Economic Research in Africa (SISERA)
Dakar, Senegal
January, 2005

XXXVI. SAGA Workshop on Education Analysis and Survey Design
Antsirabe, Madagascar
January, 2005
SAGA organized the three-day workshop to highlight key issues in the education sector in Madagascar, to discuss ways to collect data on them for policy analysis, and 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. Approximately ten officials and analysts from the education ministry (MENRS) and the statistics office (INSTAT) attended the sessions.

XXXVII. ASSETS, POVERTY TRAPS AND RIGHTS
USAID Seminar Series
Natural Resource Management and Poverty Reduction
Chris Barrett, Cornell University
December 9, 2004
Washington, DC

XXXVIII. AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY REDUCTION:
The Macro-Micro Linkage
A Conference sponsored by
Development Policy Research Unit & Trade and Industrial Policy Strategies
in association with Cornell University with support from USAID
October 13-15, 2004
Cape Town, South Africa

1. Banking Competition and Efficiency in Ghana
Thierry Buchs and Johan Mathisen

2. Changes in HIV/AIDS Knowledge and Testing Behavior in Africa: How Much and for Whom?
Peter Glick and David E. Sahn

3. Export Processing Zone Expansion in Madagascar: What are the Labor Market and Gender Impacts?
Peter Glick and François Roubaud

4. Infant Mortality in Uganda: Determinants, Trends, and the Millennium Development Goals
Sarah Ssewanyana and Stephen D. Younger
5. Modelling pro-poor agricultural growth strategies in Malawi: lessons for policy and analysis  
   Andrew Dorward and Jamie Morrison

6. Growth and redistribution effects of poverty changes in Cameroon  
   Francis Baye  

   Stephen Gelb

8. Are wealthier nations healthier nations? A panel data approach to the determination of human  
   development in Africa  
   Issidor Noumba

9. Macroeconomic growth, sectorial quality of growth and poverty in developing countries: measure  
   and application to Burkina Faso  
   Dorothee Boccanfuso and Tambi Samuel Kabore

10. Budget Reform as a Means to Strengthen the Link Between Macro and Micro Policies  
    Taz Chaponda, Neil Cole, Mickie Schoch, and Chris Gadsden

11. How responsive is capital formation to its user cost? An exploration of corporate tax effects  
    Stephen F. Koch and Albert de Wet

12. An Improved Data set for Demographic Research: The KwaZulu-Natal Income Dynamics Survey  
    (KIDS) 3rd Wave  
    Julian May

13. The Road to Pro-Poor Growth in Zambia  
    James Thurlow and Peter Wobst

14. Financial Services and the informal economy  
    Cally Ardington and Murray Leibbrandt

15. The Missing Links—Uganda’s Economic Reforms and Pro-Poor Growth  
    Robert Kappel, Jann Lay and Susan Steiner

16. Impact of HIV/AIDS on saving behaviour in South Africa  
    Sandra Freire

17. Exporting from Manufacturing Firms in Sub-Saharan Africa  
    Neil Rankin, Måns Söderbom and Francis Teal.  

18. Economic Growth without Poverty Reduction: Identifying the Missing Links in Tanzania during  
    Economic Reform  
    Anders Danielson

19. Labour force withdrawal of the elderly in South Africa  
    David Lam, Murray Leibbrandt and Vimal Ranchhod
   Rashid M. Mfaume and Wilhelm Leonard

21. **Agricultural Sector Investment and the Role of Public-Private Partnership**  
   David J. Spielman

22. **Macro-Micro Linkages in Trade: Trade, Efficiency and Competitiveness of Manufacturing Firms in Durban, South Africa**  
   Imraan Valodia and Myriam Velia  

23. **Industrial Strategy and Local Economic Development: Manufacturing Policy and Technological Capabilities in Ekurhexen**  
   Thandi Phele, Simon Roberts and Ian Steuart

24. **Prospects and Challenges of Agricultural Technology Market Linkage under Liberalization in Ghana: Evidence from a micro-data**  
   Tsegaye Yilma, Ernst Berg and Thomas Berger

25. **Analysis of Farmers’ Preferences for Development Intervention Programs: A Case Study of Subsistence Farmers from Eastern Ethiopian Highlands**  
   Wagayehu Bekele

26. **Institutional Framework, Interest Rate Policy and the Nigerian Manufacturing Sub-sector**  
   Michael Adebayo Adebiyi and Babasammi Babatope-Obasa

27. **Labour Migration and Households: A Reconsideration of the Effects of the Social Pension on Labour Supply in South Africa**  
   Dorrit Posel, James Fairburn and Frances Lund

28. **Alleviating Rural Poverty through Efficient Small Holders Farming Systems in Ethiopia: Relevance of Macro Policies with Ground Realities**  
   D. K. Grover and Anteneh Temesgen

29. **Multilateral Organisations: Instruments for Donors’ Foreign Policy?**  
   Espen Villanger

   Daniela Casale, Colette Muller and Dorrit Posel

31. **Infrastructure Privatisation and Poverty Reduction in Africa**  
   Afeikhena Jerome and Ademola Ariyo

   December 2004  
   Bhorat, Haroon, and Morné Oosthuizen  
33. Estimating utility consistent poverty lines  
   Channing Arndt and Kenneth Simler

34. Has the New Zealand/Australian Closer Economic Relationship (CER) been trade widening or deepening?  
   Ron Sandrey and Dirk van Seventer

35. Food Security, Agricultural Technology and Policy - The Case of Maize in Sub-Saharan Africa  
   Göran Djurfeldt and Rolf Larsson

36. Swaziland: In the pursuit of economic liberalization and growth. How poverty is reproduced at the micro-level under changing labour market regimes?  
   Gabriel Tati

37. The conjuncture of poverty microsimulation linked to a macroeconomic forecasting model: A case study in Senegal  
   Thierry Latreille

38. The Global Market Place: How far can Nigeria go with the present non-oil product mix?  
   Rosemary N. Okoh

39. South African Trade Reform since Democracy  
   Rashad Cassim and Dirk van Seventer

40. Youth labour markets in Africa  
   Murray Leibbrandt and Cecil Mlatsheni

41. The Demand for Education for Orphans in Zimbabwe  
   Craig Gundersen, Thomas Kelly and Kyle Jemison

42. The mystery of South Africa’s ghost workers in 1996: measurement and mismeasurement in the manufacturing census, population census and October Household Surveys  
   Martin Wittenberg

43. Geography as Destiny: Considering the spatial dimensions of poverty and deprivation in South Africa  
   Ronelle Burger, Servaas van der Berg, Sarel van der Walt and Derek Yu

44. The dynamics of job search and the microfoundations of unemployment: Evidence from Duncan village  
   Patrick Duff and David Fryer

45. Genocide and land scarcity: Can Rwandan rural households manage?  
   Marijke Verpoorten and Lode Berlage

46. Implications of Genetically Modified Food Technology Policies for Sub-Saharan Africa  
   Kym Anderson and Lee Ann Jackson

47. Have Minimum Wages Benefited South Africa’s Domestic Service Workers?  
   Tom Hertz
48. Well-Being poverty versus income poverty and capabilities poverty in South Africa?  
   Geeta Kingdon and John Knight

49. Trade liberalisation and factor returns in South Africa, 1988-2002  
   Lawrence Edwards

50. Foreign aid and population growth: evidence from Africa  
   Leonid Azarnert

51. Community, comparisons and subjective well-being in a divided society  
   Geeta Gandhi Kingdon and John Knight

52. The economy-wide impacts of the labour intensification of infrastructure expenditure  
   Anna McCord and Dirk van Seventer

53. Credit demand and credit rationing in the informal financial sector in Uganda  
   Nathan Okurut, Andrie Schoombee and Servaas van der Berg

   Seeraj Mohamed and Kade Finnoff

55. Have labour market outcomes affected household structure in South Africa? A preliminary descriptive analysis of households  
   Farah Pirouz

56. Trade liberalisation and regional integration in SADC: policy synergies assessed in an industrial organisation framework  
   Martine Visser and Trudi Hartzenberg

57. Financial Intermediation and Access to Finance in African Countries South of the Sahara  
   Neren Rau

XXXIX. International Conference on
   GHAANA AT THE HALF CENTURY
   Sponsored by ISSER, University of Ghana, and Cornell University
   July 18-20, 2004, Accra, Ghana

1. Banking Competition and Efficiency in Ghana  
   Thierry Buchs and Johan Mathisen  

2. The Evolution of Welfare in Ghana: A Rural-Urban Perspective  
   Louis Boakye-Yiadom

3. Export Performance and Investment Behaviour of Firms in Ghana  
   Susanna Wolf and Daniel Bruce Sarpong  
4. Maternal Literacy and Numeracy Skills and Child Health in Ghana
   Niels-Hugo Blunch

5. Poverty Reduction Strategies in a Budget-Constrained Economy: The Case of Ghana
   Maurizio Bussolo and Jeffery I. Round

6. Effects of Exchange Rate Volatility and Changes in Macroeconomic Fundamentals on Economic Growth in Ghana
   Stephen Kyereme

   Lawrence Arbenser

8. Financial Sector Liberalization on the Labour Market in Ghana
   Augustine Fritz Gockel and Nora Amu

   Francis Teal and Marcella Vigneri

10. Household Asset Choice Among the Rural Poor in Ghana
    Ernest Aryeetey

11. Adult Literacy Programmes in Ghana: An Evaluation
    Niels-Hugo Blunch and Claus C. Pörtner

12. Terms and Access to Credit: Perceptions of SME/Entrepreneurs in Ghana
    Kwadwo Ansah Ofei

13. Coping with Performance Below Expectations
    Blair Rourke

    George A. Dampare and Jennifer Piesse

15. Real Exchange Rate Response to Capital Inflows: A Dynamic Analysis for Growth
    Oliver Morrissey, Tim Lloyd and Maxwell Opoku-Afari

16. Survival and Success Among African Manufacturing Firms
    Alan Harding, Måns Söderbom and Francis Teal

17. The North-South Divide and the Disappearing Middle Class: An Analysis of Spacial Inequality and Polarization in Ghana
    Jacqueline Vanderpuye-Orgle
18. Persistent Public Sector Deficits and Macroeconomic Instability in Ghana
   Curtis E. Youngblood and David L. Franklin

   Ernest Aryeetey and Augustin K. Fosu

20. Selective Poverty Reduction in a Slow Growth Environment: Ghana in the 1990s
    Harold Coulombe and Andy McKay

21. Poverty Reduction Efforts in Ghana: The Skill Development Option
    George Botchie and William Ahadzie

22. Ghana’s Exchange Rate Reform and its impact on Balance of Trade
    Frank W. Agbola

23. Decentralization and Poverty Reduction
    Felix A. Asante and Joseph R. A. Ayee

24. Rural and Micro Finance Regulation in Ghana: Implications for Development of the Industry
    William F. Steel and David O. Andah

25. Understanding Poverty in Ghana: Risk and Vulnerability
    Appiah-Kubi, Kojo, Abena D. Oduro, and Bernardin Senadza.

26. A Small Macroeconometric Model of Trade and Inflation in Ghana
    Samuel Donyina Ameyaw and Philip Abru-Otoo

27. Technical Efficiency in Ghanaian Secondary Education
    Kwabena Gyimah-Brempong and Elizabeth N. Appiah

    Markus Goldstein and Rikhil Bhavnani

29. Healthcare Provision and Self Medication in Ghana
    G. J. M. van den Boom, N. N. N. Nsowah-Nuamah and G. B. Overbosch
30. Does Inflation in Ghana Hit the Poor Harder?
Andy McKay and Nii K. Sowa

31. Household Savings in Ghana: Does Policy Matter?
Peter Quartey and Theresa Blankson

32. Policy Dynamics, Trends in Domestic Fish Production & Implications for Food Security in Ghana
A. Wayo Seini, V. K. Nyanteng and A. Asantewah Ahene

33. Budget Implementation and Poverty Reduction in Ghana
Anthony Tsekpo and Charles D. Jebuni

34. Mitigating the Impact of HIV II
John K. Anarfi and Ernest N. Appiah

Q-SQUARED IN PRACTICE: A Conference on Experiences of Combining Qualitative and Quantitative Methods in Poverty Appraisal
Centre for International Studies, University of Toronto
May 15-16, 2004
Organized by Ravi Kanbur

Policy Seminar: GROWTH, INEQUALITY, AND POVERTY: SOME HARD QUESTIONS
Presenter: Ravi Kanbur, Cornell University
International Food Policy Research Institute
Washington, DC
April 22, 2004

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
©KIPPRA 2005
1. **Quantitative Poverty Analysis**
   Germano Mwabu

2. **Bridging the Qualitative-Quantitative Methods of Poverty Analysis**
   Enos H.N. Njeru

3. **Mixing Qualitative and Quantitative Methods of Analyzing Poverty Dynamics**
   Christopher B. Barrett

4. **Poverty Mapping: The Case of Kenya**
   Anthony K.M. Kilele and Godfrey K. Ndeng’e

5. **Social Aspects of Dynamic Poverty Traps: Cases from, Vihiga, Baringo and Marsabit Districts, Kenya**
   Nelson Mango, Josephat Cheng’ole, Gatarwa Kariuki and Wesley Ongadi

6. **Indices and Manifestations of Poverty: Informing Anti-Poverty Policy Choices**
   Willis Oluoch-Kosura, Paswel P. Marenya, Frank Place and Christopher B. Barrett

**XLIII. Workshop on Analysis and Measurement of Poverty and Inequality, South Africa**
March, 2004
The success of the June 2003 training workshop at the Development Policy Research Unit (DPRU) of the University of Cape Town led to demand for more such workshops. **Ravi Kanbur**, Paul Cichello, Ching-Mei Chen, and **Stephen Younger** worked with the DPRU to offer a two-week training course in poverty and inequality analysis for the Department of Social Development (DSD), the government agency charged with design and management of most of South Africa’s transfer payments. The workshop was held in Pretoria at the government’s information technology training center. The course covered both theoretical and empirical aspects of poverty and inequality analysis, with daily hands-on training with Stata software in a computer lab.

**XLIV. ISSER-SAGA Conference on UNDERSTANDING POVERTY**
January 2004
Accra, Ghana
*The authors’ conference on the first drafts of papers for Understanding Poverty in Ghana*

**XLV. Presentation: RURAL POVERTY DYNAMICS: DEVELOPMENT POLICY IMPLICATIONS**
Christopher Barrett
Invited presentation to the 25th International Conference of Agricultural Economists, August 17, 2003, Durban, South Africa.

**XLVI. Workshop: IAAE—Analytical and Empirical Tools for Poverty Research, South Africa**
August 16, 2003
This one-day learning workshop was co-sponsored by SAGA in Durban, South Africa, as a lead in to the 25th triennial meeting of the International Association of Agricultural Economists (IAAE). The workshop, co-organized by SAGA co-PI **Chris Barrett** (Cornell) and Csaba Csaki (World Bank), featured five hour-long sessions by leading poverty researchers introducing frontier techniques in poverty research and a 90-minute panel featuring shorter remarks by five
distinguished scholars on research and policy priorities for addressing rural poverty. A range of international donors, including GTZ, IDRC, the World Bank, the Kellogg Foundation and others, supported the registration and travel costs of delegates from developing countries. More than 110 participants from at least 22 different countries registered for the learning workshop, including economists and other poverty researchers or program managers from line ministries in various African governments, universities from six continents, USAID, the World Bank, CGIAR centers, and other national and multinational organizations.

XLVII. Workshop on Analysis and Measurement of Poverty and Inequality, South Africa
June 23-July 4, 2003
SAGA researchers Paul Cichello, Ravi Kanbur, and Stephen Younger worked with the Development Policy Research Unit (DPRU) and the National Institute for Economic Policy (NIEP) to present a two-week poverty and inequality workshop for faculty at South Africa’s historically disadvantaged universities. The aim of this course was to provide participants with competences in working with South African survey datasets, particularly in the fields of labour markets, and the analysis of poverty and inequality. The course included formalized reading time and lectures based on the assigned readings. Practical computer-based exercises using the statistical software package STATA drew on the readings and lectures. Program content for poverty analysis included household surveys as an instrument for measurement, derivation of poverty lines, alternative classes of poverty measures, poverty decompositions, and uses of poverty measures with applications to developing countries. Topics for analysis of inequality included building and choosing an inequality measure, modelling inequality, decompositions of inequality measures, and the application of inequality measures to developing countries. The workshop, held in Capetown, South Africa, involved about 25 participants.

XLVIII. Qual-Quant Workshop, Ghana
May 2003
The disconnect between qualitative and quantitative approaches to poverty analysis in Ghana is quite marked. We began to address this problem, at the workshop attended by approximately 30 participants, including economists, sociologists, anthropologists, geographers, and statisticians. Participants came from academia, think tanks, government, NGO’s, and donor groups. Under the SAGA project ISSER will take the lead in forming interdisciplinary teams to address many issues that were highlighted as being best addressed by qual-quant analysis—and in seeking funding for these studies in the Qual-Quant tradition.

XLIX. SAGA Participatory Planning Workshop
March 2003
This meeting was organized by Cornell University and our SAGA partner, the Centre d’Etudes Economique (CEE). Attending from Cornell were Christopher Barrett, David Stifel and Bart Minten. The purpose of the workshop was to define the SAGA research agenda and the participation of various government agencies and stakeholders in the SAGA program.

L. Workshop on Panel Data Sets for Ghana
February 2003
There is a glaring gap in data on poverty in Ghana—the lack of panel data sets that allow us to do serious analysis of poverty dynamics. Ghana simply does not have the household panel data sets that are essential before a whole host of dynamic questions — on risk, on poverty, on health and nutrition, on informal insurance, etc., can be answered. We therefore set for ourselves the task of developing a comprehensive research proposal that will develop, for the first time, such a data set.
and such analyses, for Ghana at Yale, which included ISSER and several global leaders in the area of poverty dynamics.

L.I. Workshop: Technical Assistance for Education Analysis, Senegal
2003
In Senegal, this workshop provided training in household, community, and school-level questionnaire design to examine education outcomes, planning and design of sampling procedures and data analysis. During May 2002, SAGA researcher Peter Glick worked directly with researchers from the Centre de Recherche en Economic Appliquée (CREA), Senegal’s SISERA institute. The technical assistance team from Cornell University worked primarily with the director, Abdoulaye Diagne, and with lead researchers Gaye Daffé and Salimata Faye. We were able to advise on issues such as enumeration, sample size, questionnaire design, and survey logistics. This additionally involved providing technical assistance to the Direction de la Prévision et de la Statistique (DPS), who worked with CREA in the implementation of the survey. SAGA’s Leopold Sarr, a doctoral student at Cornell and Senegalese national, remained in Senegal through August 2003, managing and implementing the household survey being conducted by the Ministry of Education and CREA.

L.II. Workshop: Design of the SAGA-Ghana Research Program
October 2002.
A Workshop was held in Accra in October 2002, with a range of stakeholders and, in consultation with the USAID mission, it was agreed to pursue four lines of enquiry: (i) a volume of papers, primarily written by locally based Ghanaians, on “Understanding Poverty in Ghana”; (ii) launching a project on collecting and analyzing panel data sets for Ghana at the community level; (iii) building bridges between quantitative and qualitative analyses of poverty; and (iv) analyses of land tenure issues in Ghana.

L.III. Presentation: URBAN–RURAL INEQUALITY IN LIVING STANDARDS IN AFRICA (David E. Sahn and David C. Stifel)
Presenter: David Sahn

L.IV. Survey Data Analysis Workshop, Uganda
August 26-September 6, 2002
With joint coordinators Stephen Younger from Cornell and John Okidi from the Economic Policy Research Centre, Uganda’s SISERA partner in Kenya, this workshop brought together researchers from EPRC and neighboring SISERA institutes, Makere University, and the Bank of Uganda to develop skills for survey analysis. This technical assistance was designed to address the imbalance between abundant data and scarce researchers in Uganda. We discussed general poverty analysis and poverty comparisons; the incidence of public expenditures and taxes; agricultural development; and the demand for public social services. For each topic, we reviewed two or three key papers that use survey data to address a policy issue. We then worked through the steps of how to conduct a similar analysis with data available in Uganda. This latter activity was very much hands on. EPRC provided one computer for each pair of participants so that everyone could work through the program required for the analysis. This was followed by exercises in which each pair had to work through a similar problem with new data. We also included participants in a day-long consultation with government representatives, donors, university faculty and the press, to define specific policy-relevant research topics.
L.V. CREA-Ministry of Education-Cornell University Conference
with support from USAID, UNESCO and UNICEF, on
IDENTIFYING POLICY NEEDS IN EDUCATION
May 2002
Dakar, Senegal

L.VI. Workshop: Qualitative Methods and SAGA: Community Studies Meeting
April 2002.
While SAGA’s methodological and disciplinary center of gravity is very clearly quantitative and
economic, the original proposal recognized the value of a limited broadening out from this base to
take in qualitative methods and other social sciences. We therefore held a brief workshop to
discuss the way forward on integrating qualitative techniques and other social science disciplines
into our research and technical assistance.
Appendix IV
FINAL REPORT: THE SMALL GRANTS PROGRAM
Strategies and Analysis for Growth and Access

What is SAGA?

SAGA was a project of Cornell and Clark Atlanta Universities for research and technical assistance funded by a cooperative agreement with USAID.

SAGA brought together key personnel having extensive experience and interest in Africa as researchers, teachers, students and policymakers to offer a different perspective on growth and poverty reduction activities. More specifically, the project focused on the capabilities of individuals, households, and communities – their productivities, their vulnerabilities, their institutions, and their environment.

The aim was to understand further the economic, social, institutional and natural constraints that keep poor households from prospering in the context of growth-orientated reform in the developing world, Africa in particular.

Visit our websites (www.saga.cornell.edu and/or www.saga.cau.edu) to learn more about SAGA’s

- Overall goal
- Focus and study Areas
- Research Outputs/Publications
- Technical Assistance Activities, and
- Conferences
since its inception in 2001.

What follows is the Final Report of the activities completed under the Small Research Grants Program of SAGA.
The Small Grants Program

The overall goal of SAGA was to increase African capacity to produce high quality, policy-oriented research on key issues affecting economic growth and access in various countries of Africa. In support of this goal, SAGA had four main objectives: (1) strengthening of select African economic research institutes; (2) expanding the pool of highly trained African economists; (3) conducting policy-oriented research on economic growth and access issues; and (4) facilitating linkages between U.S. and African researchers. In order to achieve these goals, SAGA was developed and implemented under three components: (1) collaborative research; (2) Small Grants Program and (3) Technical Assistance.

The objectives of the Small Research Grants Program were to complement SAGA’s goals, and directly to facilitate the fourth goal of SAGA by providing small grants to graduate students and faculty members based in US institutions to carry out collaborative research with African Research Institutions. More specifically:

1. To foster productive and long-lived relationships between U.S.-based researchers and SISERA-based researchers;
2. To support policy-oriented research of the highest quality on SAGA-related themes;
3. To maximize the possibilities for complementarities between the research grants program and the research and technical assistance components of SAGA;
4. To promote the research of women and minorities who are underrepresented.

Outputs:

Given these goals and objectives, under the Small Grants Program, we were able to achieve the following:

1. Developed Guidelines for soliciting, evaluating, and implementing research proposals (www.saga.cau.edu);
2. Distributed and articulated the purpose and objectives of the Small Grants Program via websites, annual conferences, professional newsletters, and direct mail to over 200 US academic and research institutions for the purpose of soliciting competitive applied research proposals;

▲Note: Although five rounds of annual research grants were planned, according to the contractual grant awarded to us, we were only able to fund three rounds of annual research grants due to lack of funding.
3. Evaluated and selected over 97 proposals;

4. Implemented and managed 25 research grants/projects; and

5. Back-stopped all the awardees, and facilitated collaboration with the host SISERA institutions; and

6. Collected and distributed/shared outcomes and progresses of the research projects through annual in-country SAGA/SISERA supported conferences, brochures and annual meetings/reports, and websites (www.saga.cornell.edu).

The details on what was achieved:

We were able to select and fund 25 research grants (26 individuals). Of these, seventeen (17) were PhD students (8 females) and 9 faculties (2 females). All the recipients of the grant 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.

The SISERA institutions participated in hosting these awardees included:

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. Institut 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;
Table 1 shows the final recipients/awardees with their respective research projects titles, home institution, and where they went to carryout their field research and with whom they collaborated.

All the awardees, except two-to our knowledge, have completed their research projects and provided the expected deliverables to both their home institutions (USA) and host intuitions (the SISERA member-in country institutions). All PhD candidate awardees, except two, have completed their degree requirements - to our knowledge. And, all awardees have presented their works at various professional forums and are beginning to publish their findings from their SAGA supported research projects.

More specifically, the deliverables/outputs from these collaborative research efforts included:

- 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.

Distributions/Follow-ups: Research abstracts, policy briefs, presentations and publications from these projects have been disseminated via our websites. All research outputs from each grants year and various brochures have been summarized in Annual Reports, and, distributed and discussed at Annual SAGA and SISERA meetings. A sample of abstracts from our final awardees, and publications and presentation from selected awardees are also included here (Attachments I & II).

In an effort to ensure a successful research experience for the awardees, we remained in contact with all the awardees while carrying out their field research as well as with those returned and were completing their trip and other final reports on their projects. This required us to not only be a backstop for all awardees who have either returned or in the field collaborating with the SISERA-host institutions but also to follow up on deliverables and distribution of project outputs. Also, in making sure that all the grant recipients and the host institutions located in different countries are familiar with each others research projects, we produced and distributed a brochure containing the details of each projects including faces of those participated during the field work (see, for example, the brochure attached).
Reflection - A Summary

We are happy to report that the Small Grants Program of SAGA has been successful in attracting 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;

- Various issues of the American Economic/Agricultural Economics Associations Newsletter;

- Distribution of flyers and presentations at various professional annual meetings such as the Allied Social Sciences Association, African Studies, etc.

As a result, we had attracted over 30 proposals for each of the three funding years. However, due to funding limitation we could only select and fund 25 projects (26 PIs).

It must be said that the Small Grants Program, and the SAGA program as a whole, was in its prime time with respect to level of interests of both the collaborating in-country research institutions (SISERA) and US academic institutions while it faced financial cuts. It is unfortunate that we were not able to meet the hopes and promises that were made during the 1st year of the SAGA project.

Finally, we believe that SAGA should be used as a model for designing future development projects. The components and the steps we, the SAGA Family, undertook to design and implement each (the collaborative research, the technical assistance and the training) here as well as in the study sites by making everyone involved that each had a stake and role to play will have a long lasting effects, we hope. It was truly participatory at all levels.
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<td>Ensuring Food Security in Ghana – The Role of Maize Storage Systems</td>
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<td>Kazianga Harounan</td>
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<td>Cichello, Paul</td>
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<td>Understanding the Dynamics of Child Labor in Zone Lacustre, Mali</td>
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Note:
(S) – Student
(F) - Faculty
* - No deliverable received.
**- Was not able to take advantage of the grants offered to him.
Attachment I:

ABSTRACT – Final/Recent Awardees
ABSTRACT

Downside Risk, Variable Income Streams and a Lack of Access to Capital: Disentangling Barriers to Entry into Self-Employment in KMP South Africa

By
Paul L. Cichello

Working with researchers from the DPRU and CSSR units of the University of Cape Town, I plan to re-survey a set of individuals in the Khayelitsha area outside Cape Town, South Africa. Analysis of the 2000 KhayelitshaMitchell’s Plain survey revealed that a lack of money/access to capital was the primary reason that individuals did not increase self-employment activities. However, the 2000 survey, and a follow-up survey in 2004, did not adequately disentangle whether the hindrance is capturing: a) a lack of access to capital at reasonable interest rates (for business stocks/equipment); b) ex-ante risk mitigation behavior due to variable income streams (where risk comes from variable outcomes over time); or c) ex-ante risk mitigation behavior due to the potential downside risk (where risk comes from variable outcomes across individual business enterprises). This summer, we hope to re-survey a subset of the 2000 sample to better disentangle these effects. The distinction between these three potential issues is important for policy makers and NGOs who seek to assist self-employment activities. With over forty percent of South African’s unemployed, removing such barriers to participation in the labor market or creating pathways around them is a pressing issue. In addition to the primary goal of disentangling these three effects, we also hope to also a) better identify complimentary hindrances preventing self-employment and b) better identify the full costs to an individual for choosing to engage in self-employment activities, with particular interest on changes in access to benefits within one’s kin network.

Affiliated Institutions:
Hosting Institution: DPRU/South Africa
University: Loyola College
Current Status: In the Field
ABSTRACT

Understanding the Dynamics of Child Labor in Zone Lacustre, Mali

by

Andrew Dillon

A unique data collecting opportunity exists to extend the only Malian household panel data set, originally collected in 1997-98. Critical lacunas in the economics of child labor exist that could be addressed by analyzing these data in this arid agricultural region of Mali. To ensure that this project is indeed feasible, a preliminary research trip was undertaken from January-March 2005 where 89% of the original households were identified, community surveys to aid sample design were taken and household composition and exiting household characteristics collected. The proposed project will investigate the dynamics of child labor including cohort comparisons of the household’s decision to send children to work versus school, long-term outcomes of child labor on child laborers and household welfare, the relation between child labor and poverty traps, as well as the interactions between child labor status and child health over time. In one of the poorest countries in the world, it is imperative that high quality panel data exist to confront persistent child labor through the resolution of theoretical problems and empirical questions.

Affiliated Institutions:
Hosting Institution: GREAT/Mali
University: Cornell University
Current Status: In the field
This research proposes to examine the extent to which income shocks and risk sharing networks influence asset holdings by rural households in Burkina Faso. While there is a consensus on the connection between growth and risk (e.g. Collier and Gunning, 1999), neither the theoretical nor the empirical literature provides much guidance for quantifying the effect of risk on growth, let alone the strategies that agents develop to respond to risk. In particular, access to informal insurance is hypothesized to have two opposite effects on household economic growth, and hence on the ability to move out of poverty. A fundamental result in the precautionary savings literature is that access to risk sharing decreases savings. In the context of developing countries, characterized by poor financial instruments, access to risk sharing may, however, encourage households to accumulate more productive assets than they would do in the absence of risk sharing. With the increasing interest in providing formal risk management and coping mechanisms to poor households (e.g. Dercon, 2005; Ravallion, 2003; World Bank, 2001), an empirical assessment of the impact of risk sharing on asset accumulation and hence long term income growth is can provide useful information to policy makers. This project uses household panel data that include directly solicited information on economic shocks and risk sharing networks membership to examine the effects of economic shocks and risk sharing networks on asset accumulation in Burkina. The main objective is to test whether access to more risk sharing encourages households to hold more productive assets.
ABSTRACT

Local Government Financing and Provision in an Institutionally Constrained Decentralized System: The Case of Agricultural Extension in Uganda

by

Abdu Muwonge

This study is to examine the financing and provision of agricultural extension services in Uganda. In June 2001 a new extension programme known as the National Agricultural Advisory Services (NAADS) started replacing the old extension system, which was inefficient, unsustainable, and offered low farmer ownership. The NAADS is based on decentralized, farmer-owned private-sector-driven advisory services. The NAADS envisages that farmer empowerment and participation coupled with improved farming and management practices will increase agricultural productivity and profitability. In spite of the innovative NAADS, the current extension faces challenges. The NAADS is inadequately funded, monitored, and purportedly run by inefficient private providers with low capacity.

The objective of this study is twofold: to track the actual flow of financial resources and the execution of contractual obligations under the NAADS and to assess the impact of access to advisory services on agricultural productivity. The data methods will include a policy review, secondary and primary data collection. Data is to be collected on private providers’ contracts, flow of financial resources, on the deliverables to the farmers, agriculture outcomes and factors influencing the outcomes. This study will contribute to the knowledge of the institutional implications on the financing and provision of extension services in a decentralized system. The principal (central government)-supervisor (local government)-agent (private provider) model will be used to study what incentives are needed to induce efficient provision of extension. The outputs of this study will include a completed thesis of publishable quality in a scholarly policy journal and capacity building in executing survey based research.

Affiliated Institutions:
Hosting Institution: EPRCfUganda
University: Georgia State
Current Status: In the Field
ABSTRACT

Improving the Performance of Integrated Conservation and Development Programs Evidence from Botswana

by

Elizabeth Frances Pienaar

In an effort to mitigate the costs of wildlife conservation to rural communities, policymakers have implemented integrated conservation and development projects (ICDPs) in Africa. The purpose of these ICDPs is to attain the dual goals of increased conservation of wildlife and improved social and economic welfare in rural communities. ICDPs recognize that establishing local institutions, which empower rural households to act in their own interests, can be conducive to increased wildlife conservation. Accordingly, ICDPs promote growth and income diversification through the implementation of non-farm enterprises, which are complementary to wildlife conservation. However, despite high expectations, ICDPs have seldom been successful. Weaknesses of these programs include failed delivery of promised benefits, insufficient incentives for local communities to participate in wildlife conservation programs, lack of power devolution, and, in certain areas, continued and persistent biodiversity loss.

The implementation of ICDPs (or other programs whose purpose is to promote sustainable development) is likely to have an effect on the incentives that rural households face with respect to their consumption and production decisions. The principal purpose of my research is to investigate whether, and how, changes in shadow prices alter households’ incentives, production and consumption behavior and full incomes, which in turn will impact on wildlife conservation. Developing this knowledge is a necessary first step towards determining which ICDP arrangements generate benefit to rural communities, while ensuring conservation of wildlife stocks. Empirical analysis will be conducted using information and data that is collected in Botswana, a country that has placed particular emphasis on using wildlife-based revenues to compensate rural communities for the conservation of wildlife and wildlife habitat. The purpose of this analysis is to inform development and conservation policies in African countries.

Affiliated Institutions:
Hosting Institution: BIDPA/Botswana
University: University of California, Davis
Current Status: In the Field
Attachment II:

Publications/Papers: A sample of Deliverables
Publications/Papers: A Sample


“The role of forest dependency and heterogeneity in promoting collective action: Case study from Zambia”. Final Report.

Policy Brief
“Forest Policy and Administration in Zambia”

Maxine Downs: “Is Microcredit with Education (CEE programs) a viable solution in eradicating poverty?, presented at GREAT, Mali.

Policy Brief
“Why Don’t Women dye for Credit? A study of the impact of Social Networks on Urban Women cloth dyers in Bamako, Mali”.


“The Externalities of Pregnancy-Avoidance Programs for Girls’ Education: Theory, Simulation, and Application to Cameroon”.

“Closing Gender Gaps in Education in Africa: The Potential Contribution of Pregnancy-Avoidance Programs”

“Economic Downturns and Schooling Inequality, Cameroon, 1987-95”.

“Integrating Education and Population Policy:


Policy Brief
“Access to Schooling and Employment in Cameroon: New Inequalities and Opportunities”

Mary Gugerty: “Finding Missing Markets and Addressing Farmer Constraints: The DrumNet Project”, presented by Narva Asfah (Graduate Student) at ESRF, Tanzania.

Received Ph.D.


Policy Brief

Investigating the Relationship between Household welfare and social Capital, in Eastern Uganda


Received Ph.D.


“Access to Primary Education in Rural Uganda”. Final Report.

Jacqueline Orgie:  No information received


Received Ph.D.


Armah P., and F. Asante (2005).”Traditional Maize Storage Systems and Staple Food Security in Ghana”.

Accepted for Presentation at the Food Distribution Research Society (FDRS) Annual Conference, October 15-19th 2005, in Washington, DC.
Annah P., and F. Asante (2005).”Traditional Maize Storage Systems and Staple Food Security in Ghana”.
Program Abstract (Pending) for the Food Distribution Research Society (FDRS) Annual Conference, October 15-19th 2005, in Washington, DC.

Policy Brief
Ensuring Food Security in Ghana—The role of Maize Storage Systems.

Jean-Marc Gandanou:
“An Economic Evaluation of the Profitability and Adaptability of Precision Agriculture for Cotton Production in Benin”, presented at CORCEDO, Benin.

Policy Brief
Precision Agriculture and Cotton Production in Benin: Policy Relevance Summary

Margaret Kabahenda:
Preliminary Progress Report
“Evaluating the Nutritional Status of Young Children in Western Uganda, Kabarole District”.

Aloyce Kaliba:
“Welfare Effects of the U.S.’s African Growth and Opportunity Act on Tanzania”
Journal of Agriculture and Development Economics) Policy Brief
“Economic Potential and Limitation of AGOA in Sub-Saharan Countries”

Linda Lucas: Policy Brief
“The Work of Women in Uganda: Contributions to the Macroeconomy”

Policy Brief
“Imperfections in membership based organizations for the poor: An explanation for the dismal performance of Kenya’s coffee cooperatives”.

Received Ph.D.
Policy Brief
“Social Capital and Education: The Case of Western Kenya”.

Policy Brief
“Regional Integration of the Cereals Markets in Southern


“Progression through School and Academic Performance in Senegal: Descriptive Survey Results, July 2004.”
Attachments III

SAGA Small Grants
Recipients Contact Information
RECIPIENTS
2002-2003
Dr. Mary Gugerty
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P0 Box 353055
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Godfred Yeboah
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Frisco, TX 75035
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Washington, DC 20016

Dr. Harounan Kazianga
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Abdu Muwonge
4113 Grayson Place
Decatur, GA 30030

Elizabeth Pienaar
University of California-Davis
One Shields Ave.
Davis, CA 95616
## APPENDIX V: SAGA WEBSITE STATISTICS SUMMARY 2003-2008

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\(^a\) A "hit" is a single action on the Web server as it appears in the log file. A visitor downloading a single file is logged as a single hit, while a
\(^b\) Average Hits per Day - Number of successful hits divided by the total number of days in the log.
\(^c\) Visits - Number of times a visitor came to your site.
\(^d\) Unique Visitors - Individuals who visited your site during the report period. If someone visits more than once, they are counted only the first time they visit.

Note: PDF files for working papers are removed from web when paper is published and a link to citation is substituted. "Reprint" is noted in the first column when the PDF is no longer available for viewing.
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- A "hit" is a single action on the Web server as it appears in the log file. A visitor downloading a single file is logged as a single hit, while a visitor requesting a Web page including two images registers as three hits on the server; one hit is the request for the .html page, and two additional hits are requests for the downloaded image files. While the volume of hits is an indicator of Web server traffic, it is not an accurate reflection of how many pages are being looked at.
- Average Hits per Day - Number of successful hits divided by the total number of days in the log.
- Visits - Number of times a visitor came to your site.
- Unique Visitors - Individuals who visited your site during the report period. If someone visits more than once, they are counted only the first time they visit.

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**Working Papers**

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- **a** - A "hit" is a single action on the Web server as it appears in the log file. A visitor downloading a single file is logged as a single hit, while a visitor requesting a Web page including two images registers as three hits on the server; one hit is the request for the .html page, and two additional hits are requests for the downloaded image files. While the volume of hits is an indicator of Web server traffic, it is not an accurate reflection of how many pages are being looked at.

- **b** - Average Hits per Day - Number of successful hits divided by the total number of days in the log

- **c** - Visits - Number of times a visitor came to your site.

- **d** - Unique Visitors - Individuals who visited your site during the report period. If someone visits more than once, they are counted only the first time they visit.

Note: PDF files for working papers are removed from web when paper is published and a link to citation is substituted. "Reprint" is noted in the first column when the PDF is no longer available for viewing.
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