



Malaria: Breaking the Cycle



Getting to the heart of reducing malaria in the developing world is a major priority for DFID. It is developing a plan looking at what to tackle and where it is best placed to make a difference, and has launched a 12-week consultation to find out more about the views,

opinions and experiences of people around the world. The consultation is available on the DFID website and will run until 25 October.

Choice for Women: Wanted Pregnancies, Safe Births



The Secretary of State has launched an online consultation to inform DFID's forthcoming business plan on reproductive, maternal and newborn health. DFID wants to gather in-depth feedback and

expertise from researchers and academics across the world. This will help it to understand different viewpoints, how these issues might vary in different countries, and how DFID could work better with partners. The consultation is available on DFID's website and will run for 12-weeks until 20 October 2010.

Research Fellows



David Grimshaw is one of DFID's new Senior Research Fellows, focusing on 'new and emerging technologies'. He has been at Practical Action for more than six years and is looking forward to the opportunity to work at national policy level.



Systematic Reviews: An Initiative to Strengthen Evidence-Informed Policy Making

An important step in strengthening the international development community's capacity for evidence-informed decision making is the production and dissemination of systematic reviews.

Latest Blogs

A New Dawn for Reproductive, Maternal and Newborn Health Policy?

DFID has worked hard with the UN and its member countries to meet the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), but progress against MDGs 4 and 5 (Maternal Health and Child Health) has not been as good as in other areas.

Climate Change Related Migration Estimates Described as 'Guesswork'

Estimates predicting the number of people that will be displaced by climate change over the coming years range from 150 million to one billion people.

Social Media



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Understanding the Tipping Point of Urban Conflict: Violence, Cities, and Poverty Reduction in the Developing World

This research project cuts across two of the three thematic areas identified in the ESRC–DFID Joint Scheme for Research on International Development (Poverty Alleviation): ‘Cities and Development’ and ‘Security, Conflict, and Development’. It challenges existing policy assumptions, and seeks to identify the dynamics underlying urban violence to provide a more robust evidence-base for decision-making.

Sanitation and Hygiene Applied Research for Equity (SHARE)



This programme aims to develop and adopt new and existing knowledge of policies and practices to improve sanitation and hygiene services and behaviour in poor households. It grew out of two scoping studies that recommended that inadequate and unsafe sanitation remains a major constraint on health and livelihoods, particularly of poor households where women and disadvantaged groups often suffer disproportionately, and is a major constraint on meeting several MDG targets; there are significant, but manageable, knowledge gaps in the sanitation sector, particularly on how to improve sanitation and hygiene for poor people; and by prioritizing sanitation research and supporting research-into-use (RIU), DFID would raise awareness of and action on key issues for this very important sector.



Achieving Policy Coherence in Challenging Environments: Risk management and aid culture in Sudan and Afghanistan

How risk management affects organisational culture and policy outcomes is under-researched. For policymakers such knowledge contributes to the debate on appropriate forms of management and security policy in conflict-affected fragile states. If system fragmentation is unavoidable, it should be viewed positively as providing an opportunity to consider alternative approaches to inter-agency cooperation.



Challenging the Investment Climate Paradigm: Governance, investment and poverty reduction in Vietnam

This project challenges and rigorously tests whether improving the investment climate, through reforms in the quality of governance, actually stimulates private investment, or whether, in fact, it is investment and investors that drive governance reform. This matters because the main policy approach to reducing poverty is to boost growth by improving the investment climate.



The Development of Migrant Villages under China's Rapid Urbanization: Implications for poverty and slum policies

This research will investigate the dynamics of migrant village formation to examine redevelopment practices and policies and identify the scope for progressive upgrading as an alternative approach. It aims to inform Chinese policymakers and provide learning feedback to the wider international development community, offering new experiences in coping with the 'challenge of slums'. The study is specific to China, but

the theoretical perspective and methodology is transferable to other developing countries experiencing rapid urbanization.



Healthy Urbanisation: Tackling child malnutrition through intervening to change the social determinants of health in informal settlements and slums

The project aims to find out whether malnutrition in young children living in informal settlements and slums can be reduced through small-scale interventions operating to change the social determinants of health (SDH) through broadening participation. The SDH are a broad range of social and environmental factors operating at multiple levels of social organisations that can lead to inequities in the level and distribution of health and nutrition in a population.



Alcohol Control, Poverty and Development in South Africa

This research will ask three questions: What are the lived relationships between the alcohol control agenda, poverty and development in South Africa? How are the lived experiences of drinking understood and taken up in the policymaking process? How, why and where do the poor drink and under what conditions do these practices become 'problematic'?



DFID Met Office Hadley Centre Climate Science Research Partnership

This project aims to provide improved knowledge and evidence on current and probable future climate conditions for use by decision-makers in Africa. It will also enhance the capacity of key African institutions to undertake climate science. Beneficiaries of the project will be scientists and researchers at meteorological institutions in Africa and the North; policy and decision-makers in Africa; and donors interested in humanitarian assistance, disaster risk reduction, and climate change in Africa.



Improving Teacher Development and Educational Quality in China: Examining Schools as Professional Learning Communities

This study will investigate the nature and extent of teachers' professional development and learning in China, as well as the significance of the concept of professional learning communities to evaluate and enhance teacher quality and school effectiveness in rural

and urban senior secondary schools.



Climate and Development Knowledge Network (CDKN)

The objective of the CDKN is to enhance developing-country access to high-quality, reliable and policy-relevant information on climate change and development. It will do this through a combination of knowledge management; research; advice and information services to support policymaking and practice on adaptation and low-carbon resilient development in developing countries; and strengthening developing-country research capacity and supporting emerging international climate change knowledge systems.

New Documents:

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Weak Institutions, Rights Claims and Pathways to Compliance: The transformative role of the Peruvian Human Rights Ombudsman

T. Pegram, CRISE Working Paper No.78. Centre for Research on Inequality, Human Security and Ethnicity (CRISE), 2010, 35 pages

This paper examines the contribution of the Peruvian human rights ombudsman toward upholding an important component of an inclusive democratic political regime – a stable and enforceable rights framework.



ZAMBART Research Briefing. TB in the 21st Century: the impact of new diagnostic tools and approaches

Zambart, 2010, 4 pages

This briefing covers the need for new TB diagnostics, the use of technology to improve TB diagnostics in Zambia, and the implications for policy and practice.

Broadening Spaces for Citizens in Violent Contexts

L. McLean-Hilker, N. Benequista and G. Barrett, Citizenship DRC Policy Briefing, 2010, 4 pages



Violence and everyday insecurity are amongst the root causes of poverty: a simple and true statement that has at last been acknowledged in several international agreements, including the Geneva Declaration on Armed Violence (2008) and Dili Declaration (2010). For policymakers and practitioners eager to move beyond top-down approaches to reducing insecurity and violence, this policy briefing offers insights into how local residents can be directly involved in finding solutions for their security and livelihood needs.



Interventions to improve disposal of human excreta for preventing diarrhoea

T.F. Clasen, K. Bostoen, W.P. Schmidt, S. Boisson, I.C.H. Fung, M.W. Jenkins, B. Scott, S. Sugden and S. Cairncross. Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews, 2010

This review examined trials of interventions to improve the safe disposal of human faeces to prevent diarrhoea. The trials studied provide some evidence that excreta disposal interventions are effective in preventing diarrhoeal diseases. However, major differences among the studies, including the conditions in which they were conducted and the types of interventions deployed, as well as methodological deficiencies in the studies themselves, makes it impossible to estimate with precision the protective effective of sanitation against diarrhoea. Further research, including randomized controlled trials, is necessary to understand the full impact of these interventions.



Sexuality, Power Dynamics and Abuse Among Female, Male and Transgender Sex Workers in Pakistan

M. Collumbien and A. Qureshi, Poster presented at the 19th World Congress for Sexual Health, Göteborg, Sweden, 21–25 June, 2009, 1 page

This study aimed to understand how power dynamics and abuse shape the risk environment of men, women and transgenders who sell sex in Pakistan, and compare the levels of abuse by different actors according to the gender and orientation of the sex workers.

Communicating Empowerment: Countering the cardboard woman



T. Lewin, *Development* (2010) 53(2), 5 pages

This paper draws on the work done by the Pathways of Women's Empowerment Research and Communications Consortium from 2007 to date. She explores both the broad approach to communicating empowerment and highlights the work of various projects undertaken.



Access to What? Access, diversity and participation in India's schools

N. Juneja, *CREATE Pathways to Access Series, Research Monograph Number 32, 2010, 57 pages*

India has witnessed enormous expansion of its facilities for elementary education in the recent past. This expansion has not been limited merely to an increase in the number of state-aided private schools. A diversity of schooling options are now available provided both by the state and the private sectors. This paper attempts to examine, through review of recent literature, what this diversity of provisioning means in terms of meaningful access of children to elementary education.



Lived Experiences: Adaptation to climate change in Gogonyo Sub-County, Palisa District, Uganda

S. Nanduddu, *Centre for Technology Studies, February 2010, 16 pages*

This report presents the results of a study that was conducted to assess the effects of climate change on rural livelihoods in Gogonyo with the aim of identifying practical adaptation and mitigation strategies for the population. The study assesses community perceptions on climate change vulnerability. It also examines the impacts on livelihoods and the socio-economic situation of the Gogonyo sub-county.



Building ownership of research in Ghana

J. Gyapong, *Health Insights* (2009) No.78 (October), 3 pages

This brief article describes the work of the Research and Development

Division (RDD), the research arm of the Ghana Health Service, with regard to work on HIV and orphans and vulnerable children conducted as part of the ABBA Research Programme Consortium. RDD brought together key stakeholders to plan the research and disseminate findings to those likely to benefit from them.



A Guide to Peer to Peer Mentorship in Science Journalism. Lessons from the SjCOOP Project

K. O'Hara, World Federation of Science Journalists, 2009, 58 pages

16 experienced science journalists from 15 African, Arab, European and North American countries became companions to sixty of their colleagues in 33 African and Arab countries for two years. This was essentially a mentoring project at a distance, across multiple cultures, across countries and continents. This guidebook shares the lessons learned, examples of the themes worked on, the exercises and tools used, including practical advice for a training programme, Do's and Don'ts of mentoring, and troubleshooting advice for common relationship problems. It also includes useful questionnaires, surveys, reporting forms, contracts and letters.



Maximizing the Benefits of Water Research to International Development: What research programmers can do

SPLASH Briefing Note 1, 2010, 2 pages

To maximize the return on funding investments into water research, it is important that research results are made known to potential users. Evidence suggests, however, that this is rarely the case, due to the gap that exists between those carrying out research and research users, such as practitioners and policymakers. This briefing note summarizes how good practice can be incorporated into programme design through consideration of the research partnerships, research management processes, and research products.

Iron and Malaria: Addressing potential risks from food-based approaches to alleviate iron deficiency among children less than two years of age exposed to malaria

HarvestPlus Position Paper, 2010, 15 pages

The goal of this document is to address concerns about the potential risks of biofortification and develop a consensus statement concerning policy recommendations. Potential risks from food-based approaches to



alleviate iron deficiency among children less than two years of age exposed to malaria are discussed.



Access, Adoption, and Diffusion: Understanding the long-term impacts of improved vegetable and fish technologies in Bangladesh

N. Kumar and A.R. Quisumbing, IFPRI Discussion Paper 995, 2010, 35 pages

This paper assesses long-term impacts of vegetable and polyculture fish production technologies on a variety of measures of household and individual well-being in Bangladesh.



Call for Strengthened Humanitarian Coordination in Afghanistan

2010, NGOs and Humanitarian Reform Project, 5 pages

The NGO and Humanitarian Reform Project (NHRP) makes a number of recommendations for addressing the mounting challenges of intensifying conflict, reduced access, and complex protection issues in Afghanistan.

Global Tuberculosis Drug Development Pipeline: The need and the reality

Zhenkun Ma, C. Lienhardt, H. McIlleron, A. J. Nunn and Xiexiu Wang, The Lancet (2010) 375 (9731), 10 pages

Despite much progress, the global drug pipeline for tuberculosis is still insufficient to address the unmet needs of treatment. The key challenges in the development of new treatments are the needs for novel drug combinations, new trial designs, studies in paediatric



populations, increased clinical trial capacity, clear regulatory guidelines, and biomarkers for prediction of long-term outcome.

Other New Documents



1. [Attracting and retaining health workers in rural areas: investigating nurses' views on rural posts and policy interventions](#)
2. [Organizational and Regulatory Functions of the Nigerian Patent Medicine Vendor's Association. How can it be used to improve malaria management?](#)
3. [Media and mental health in Uganda](#)
4. [The Women's Movement in Pakistan: Challenges and achievements](#)
5. [Know Zone in school research](#)
6. [Weather and Death: Public Policy Challenges for South Asia](#)
7. [Changing Contours of Research and Development: Lessons from South Asia](#)
8. [Youth transport, mobility and security in sub-Saharan Africa: the gendered journey to school](#)
9. [Tracing Pharmaceuticals in South Asia: Regulation, distribution and consumption](#)
10. [Educational Deficits and Social Identity in India](#)
11. [Safety Certified Free-Range Duck Supply Chains Enhance both Public Health and Livelihoods](#)
12. [Local Governance and Public Goods in Malawi](#)
13. [Power, Inequality and CSR: The politics of ethical compliance in the South Indian garment industry](#)
14. [SCARDA Outcomes](#)
15. [Trends in Ex Situ Conservation of Plant Genetic Resources: A review of global crop and regional conservation strategies](#)
16. [AuthorAID: Evaluation of pilot phase 2007-2009](#)
17. [Power, Inequality and CSR: The politics of ethical compliance in the South Indian garment industry](#)
18. [Rice Germin-Like Proteins: Allelic diversity and relationships to early stress responses](#)
19. [Analysing the prospect of the 'IAR4D's innovation platforms' in improving the productive efficiencies of cereal-legume farmers in the Sudan Savanna of Nigeria](#)
20. [Making education inclusive for all](#)
21. [Literature Review on Rates of Return to Research](#)
22. [Learning for change: A logical approach for fodder innovation?](#)
23. [Climate and Development Knowledge Network: Climate Compatible Development](#)

Adaptation H₂O

IDRC's Call for Proposals – Adaptation H2O

The International Development Research Centre's Climate Change and Water programme aims to help developing country researchers to understand the consequences of climate change on water resources and to find ways to improve the ability of citizens and governments to adapt to the changing environment. The program has recently launched a call for proposals for its new graduate research awards, 'Adaptation H2O'. Applications are due 15 October, 2010.



Help shape CGIAR's livestock and fish research mega program

CGIAR is now working through a number of 'Mega Programs'. Mega Program 3.7, being developed by ILRI, WorldFish Center, CIAT and ICARDA, focuses on improving the productivity of livestock and farmed fish by and for the poor, aiming to improve food and nutrition security and enhance livelihoods in carefully selected meat, milk and fish value chains. The Centres are inviting critiques of the current concept note, which will be used to help develop a full proposal by early September.



The Economics of Adaptation to Climate Change

On 3 August 2010, the World Bank released phase two of a major study on the economics of climate change. The Economics of Adaptation to Climate Change (EACC) estimated the costs to developing countries of adapting to climate change, and aimed to help them identify, cost and prioritise adaptation initiatives and projects. The study was a joint initiative from the governments of the Netherlands, UK, Switzerland and the World Bank in partnership with the governments of Bangladesh, Plurinational State of Bolivia, Ethiopia, Ghana, Mozambique, Samoa, and Vietnam.

Call for Expressions of Interest: Artemisinin-Resistant Malaria Research Programme

DFID

DFID is seeking to appoint a service provider to plan, manage and implement an urgent 3-year programme of research to help address the emergence of artemisinin-resistant malaria. It is envisaged that up to £5.5 million will be available for the total programme over 3 years. Work is expected to start in November 2010. Prospective applications should submit their completed Pre-Qualification Questionnaire (PQQ) by 23.59 on Wednesday 25th August 2010.



Makutano Junction wins New Media Award

The One World Media Awards recognise the most outstanding media coverage of the developing world, and the unique role of journalists and filmmakers in bridging the divide between different societies and raising awareness of vital development issues. This year, Makutano Junction won the New Media Award for outstanding new media output covering issues affecting the developing world in a compelling and imaginative way.



Evidence-based Policymaking: Systematic review competition winners announced

The winning bids for the systematic review pilot have been announced. The project received nearly 200 bids and required almost 100 different technical reviewers. Seven teams are from developing countries, and a further four have principle investigators from a developing country as part of the team. There are teams from the UK, South Africa, Peru, New Zealand and the USA. There are teams with strong quantitative approaches which can tell us the magnitude and direction of change, others with a qualitative focus that can tell us how and why an intervention works or not, and still other are using a mixed-method approach.



Lessons from 10 years of research on Governance and Fragile States

Ten years of DFID-funded governance research has been brought into focus through a new report *The Politics of Poverty: Elites, Citizens and States*. Immediate focus was given to how this new knowledge can be translated into better policy, acknowledging the challenge of getting research into practice.



Scaling-up health services in low- and middle-income settings

In June 2009 the Consortium for Research on Equitable Health Systems hosted a writing workshop on Scaling up health policies and interventions. Eight of the resulting papers have been published as a supplement in *BMC Health Services Research* called 'Scaling-up health services in low- and middle-income settings'.



Second call of the DFID-ESRC Joint Scheme for Research on International Development

Phase 2 of the DFID–ESRC joint scheme for research on international development has been announced. The fund supports high-quality development research which provides a more robust conceptual and empirical basis for development and the achievement of the MDGs. As well as research excellence, researchers must identify the potential impacts of their research on policy and practice and actively consider how these will be maximised and developed. Applications for this call are invited for projects with a Full Economic Cost value of between £100,000 and £500,000 (100% FEC). The deadline for applications is 4pm UK time, 30 September, 2010.



Food or Cash: What works?

Which makes for a more effective social safety net program: transfers of food, cash, or both? The question is hardly academic. Governments, international agencies, and non-governmental organizations confront it frequently. In recent years, many have begun favoring cash transfers over food aid. Cash transfers are cheaper, require less administrative capacity, and allow poor households to decide how the money should be spent. But are they always the most effective means of improving the lives and livelihoods of very poor people?



Citizens, States and Elites in Development

Effective aid depends on whether and how governments, leaders, and citizens work together in developing countries to fight poverty and build peace and prosperity – it depends on governance. A new DFID synthesis report, *The Politics of Poverty: Elites, Citizens and States*, shows how research from four major DFID-funded research programmes that are closing this year is changing academic and policy thinking on governance.



ESRC/DFID Joint Scheme for Research on International Development (Poverty Alleviation)

In February 2010, twenty new projects were funded by the ESRC/DFID Joint Scheme for Research on International Development (Poverty Alleviation). Three thematic areas were identified as being of particular interest: Security, Conflict and Development; Economic Crisis, Poverty and Growth – The implications for Development Theory and Practice; and Cities and Development.

About R4D

R4D contains a searchable database of more than 5,000 project records and the details of more than 24,500 outputs from research funded by DFID's Research and Evidence Division during the past 10 years. It also includes research activities prior to 2005 in Rural Livelihoods, Health, Social Sciences, Education, and Infrastructure and Urban Development. Every month we add new projects, documents, and outputs.

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