



March 2009

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Bringing you information about DFID-funded research

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New DFID White Paper

Later this year DFID will publish a new White Paper on International Development setting out how the UK Government aims to continue helping deliver better lives for the world's poorest and most vulnerable people. A world shocked by recent global events and more connected than ever before means new approaches are required for the challenges we now face in pursuit of our mission.

The consultation document, *Eliminating World Poverty: Assuring our Common Future*, is available on the [DFID public consultation website](#). The website enables you to leave comments about any of the key questions raised in the document, whose themes are:

- Building our common future: How to address the emerging challenges?
- Global economic growth: How do we minimise the impact of the downturn on the poor?
- Climate change: How do we build a low carbon and climate resilient world?
- Fragile and conflict-affected countries: How can we create a safer world and the right conditions for poverty reduction?
- International institutional reform: How can we work in partnership to deliver development?

DFID Research contributes valuable insights into each of these topics, and it is the intention of the consultation process to tap into existing knowledge, and the academic communities that produce cutting-edge thinking.

The White Paper consultation process will continue until 27 May, 2009. Events are planned or have already taken place in DFID offices in Kenya and Somalia, South Africa, China, Jamaica, India and Bangladesh, and there are a number of regional events in the UK.

At these events you'll hear from a DFID Minister, one of the many organisations that work hard to help eliminate global poverty, and from volunteers who have worked on an international development project. You can ask questions of the speakers and debate a particular topic at your table, all of which will inform the direction of DFID's work. To register to attend an event visit the [consultation website](#).

- Bristol, Wednesday 8 April 2009
- Sheffield, Thursday 16 April 2009
- Newcastle, Thursday 23 April 2009
- Southampton, Thursday 7 May 2009
- Belfast, Monday 18 May 2009
- Cardiff, Wednesday 15 April 2009
- Manchester, Friday 17 April 2009
- London, Tuesday 5 May 2009
- Leicester, Wednesday 13 May 2009
- Edinburgh, tbc

[New Projects](#)

[New Research Documents](#)

[Recent News Stories](#)

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New Projects

Going to Scale: The Potential of Community-led Total Sanitation (CLTS)

This project aims to make a difference by reducing the deprivation and enhancing the wellbeing of poor people through research to generate knowledge and insights concerning CLTS, through participatory action research engaging with practice, and through the sharing of knowledge, experience and insights across communities, organisations and countries.

Ecosystems Services and Poverty Alleviation Research Programme

The programme aims to understand why ecosystems are becoming degraded and how to reverse this, then ascertain what institutional changes are needed in ecosystem management to benefit the poor.

The Strengthening of Agricultural Research Capacity in Africa (SCARDA)

The objective of the study is to provide an overall assessment of the progress that has been made by SCARDA in achieving its purpose, assess the likelihood that the project will be successful and, where appropriate, to recommend changes to the project needed to ensure success.

Missing dimensions of poverty data and development goals

This project aims to build and advance a more systematic multidimensional framework for reducing poverty grounded in Amartya Sen's capability approach.

[*More projects*](#)

New Research Documents

Seasonality and Social Protection in Africa. Growth and Social Protection Working Paper 7 S. Devereux, Future Agriculture and Centre for Social Protection, 2009, 28 pages

This working paper draws on nearly 20 years of research in Africa on the inter-related themes of food insecurity, seasonality, coping strategies, famine, formal and informal safety nets, and social protection. It aims to document and synthesise evidence on the nature and consequences of seasonality across rural Africa, highlighting the similarities and convergences across contexts; explore the various policy interventions that have been implemented in response to seasonality, with particular reference to the emerging social protection agenda; and argue that current approaches to social protection are misconceived and inadequate for addressing the seasonal dimensions of rural vulnerability.

The Challenge of Positive Discrimination in India

J. Heyer and N. Gopal Jayal, CRISE Working Paper No. 55, 2009, 33 pages

This paper discusses the positive discrimination programme in India (which is directed at members of the Scheduled Castes (SCs), the Scheduled Tribes (STs), and more recently members of the 'other backward classes' (OBCs), and which is confined largely to the state and does not extend to the private sector). It discusses the principles underlying these programmes and policies, and some of the debates around them. It then looks at the achievements, both political and economic, and highlights their limited nature. The paper ends by reviewing some of the challenges the programme faces today.

Independent North–South Child Migration in Ghana: The decision-making process

S.O. Kwankye, J.K. Anarfi, C.A. Tagoe and A. Castaldo, Working Paper T29, DRC on Migration, Globalisation and Poverty, 2009, 38 pages

This working paper explores the reasons for the phenomenon of independent child migration from the North to the South in Ghana, looking particularly at how the decision for the child to migrate is made, and who is involved in the process. Most of the findings of the research focus on what children themselves think and say about the decision-making processes and their experiences, and the final section makes policy recommendations that build on the findings of the paper.

Brazilian Experiences of Participation and Citizenship: A critical look

A. Cornwall, J. Romano and A. Shankland, IDS Discussion Paper 389 (from the DRC on Citizenship, Participation and Accountability), 2008, 59 pages

The contribution that Brazil's democratic innovations could make to deepening democracy, enhancing accountability, and engaging citizens may lie not only in their innovative institutional design but also in what Brazilian experience can teach us about the pre-conditions for effective participatory governance. Focusing on the north and north east of the country, this paper draws together insights from four extended case studies that brought together activists, practitioners, and academics in a collaborative study of the meanings and practices of participation and citizenship in Brazil.

Politics and Security in Three Colombian Cities

F. Gutierrez Sanin, M. Teresa Pinto, J. Carlos Arenas, T. Guzman, and M. T. Gutierrez, Crisis States Research Centre Working Paper No.44 (Series 2), 2009, 29 pages

This paper discusses the 'metropolitan miracle' that has taken place in Colombia since the early 1990s and which consists of the radical improvement of security in two of Colombia's three major cities (Bogotá and Medellín) – an improvement that experts considered highly unlikely. This phenomenon has been described, but not explained, and this is the purpose of our paper: to provide a political explanation of the miracle. We suggest here that the explanation lies in politics: coalitions, organisation, and state building.

The Vulnerability of 'Self-Help': Women and micro-finance in South India,

K. Kalpana, Centre for the Future State Research Summary 25 (of IDS Working Paper 303), 2008, 2 pages

Recent research in villages of Tamil Nadu, South India, suggests that microfinance is not automatically empowering, and that poor people can be vulnerable when caught up in unequal power relations with banks and local organisations implementing credit-based development schemes. How microfinance actually works depends on a web of formal and informal relationships between bank managers, NGOs, local officials and women's groups, which can distort the original aims and create tension and conflict. This Research Summary considers the issues.

Drug Discovery for Neglected Diseases

***Nature Reviews Drug Discovery* (2008) 7 (11) page 955**

This brief feature is on two people involved in public–private partnerships for the development of new medicines to treat neglected diseases, and is based on interviews with them. One of them is Tim Wells, the Chief Scientific Officer of the Medicines for Malaria Venture, the other is Rashmi Barbhaiya, CEO and Managing Director of Advinus Therapeutics, Bangalore, India.

Does Deworming Improve Growth and School Performance in Children?

D. Taylor-Robinson, A. Jones, and P. Garner, *PLoS Neglected Tropical Diseases* (2009) 3(1)

In 2000, reliable evidence from relevant controlled trials about the effects of anthelmintic drugs for soil-transmitted helminth infection on child growth and cognition was reviewed and published in the Cochrane Database. It demonstrated uncertainty around the assumed benefit and concluded that it may be a potentially important intervention, but needed better evaluation. This viewpoint article

discusses the review, the criticisms it received in letters to the BMJ, and the recent update of the original Cochrane review.

Decentring Hegemonic Gender Theory: The implications for educational research

Shailaja Fennell and M. Arnot, RECOUP Working Paper 21, 2009, 19 pages

This paper compares gender education theory in Western Europe and North America with theories in Africa and South Asia. We examine the major contributions of four Southern gender theorists, through four themes: the category of 'third world woman' and by implication the 'girl child'; the othering of motherhood; the sexual/gendering of the body; and the consequence of dislocation on academic positionalities. A new feminist research agenda is indicated that aims to reduce binaries, increase bi-cultural workings, and readdress the role of positionality in the field of gender education research.

The Global Financial Crisis and Institutions: The Evolving Role of State Business Relations

A. Leftwich, N. Nattrass, Sen Kunal, and D.W. te Velde, IPPG Briefing Note, January 2009, 2 pages

Chinese trade shrank for the first time since 2001, and India's industrial output fell for the first time since 1994. These facts have dispelled any remaining hopes that developing countries would be insulated from the global financial crisis. Forecasts for 2009 suggest that developing countries will grow by at least 2 percentage points less than originally thought. This IPPG Briefing Note considers whether this global economic shock will have implications for the way state–business relations (SBRs) operate: in short what institutional implications the crisis will have.

The Effects of Parental Death and Chronic Poverty on Children's Education and Health: Evidence from Indonesia

D. Suryadarma; Y. Medina Pakpahan, and A. Suryahadi, CPRC Working Paper No.133, 2009, 22 pages

Using a sufficiently long-spanning longitudinal dataset, we find that young maternal orphans have worse educational outcomes compared with non-orphans, with the effect getting worse over time. However, we find no significant health effects of orphanhood. Meanwhile, chronically poor children have worse health and education outcomes. Among young children, the adverse effect of maternal orphanhood on education is significantly worse than that of chronic poverty. Lastly, chronically poor orphans do not suffer adverse effects beyond the effects of chronic poverty.

Barriers to Access Immunization Services: A study in Murshidabad, West Bengal

Barun Kanjilal, Debjani Barman, Swadhin Mondal, Sneha Singh, Moumita Mukherjee, Arnab Mandal, and Nilanjan Bhor, Research Brief No. 3, Institute of Health Management Research (part of the Future Health Systems consortium), 2008, 4 pages

West Bengal has demonstrated an impressive record of progress in immunisation coverage. Nevertheless there are difficult pockets where severe barriers to accessing public health services exist. This research brief attempts to explore the role of these barriers based on the outcomes of a study recently carried out in Murshidabad, one of the most backward districts of India. Policy implications are presented.

Human Capital, Poverty, Educational Access and Exclusion: The case of Ghana 1991–2006

C. Rolleston, CREATE Research Monograph No.22, 2009, 49 pages

Since 1991 there has been a general improvement in both household welfare and schooling participation in Ghana. This monograph explores the patterns among descriptive indicators and uses regression analysis to examine possible causal relationships with special reference to the role of education in determining welfare and its reciprocal, the role of welfare and other aspects of economic privilege in the determination of school attendance and progression. The results suggest that education levels play an important role in determining household welfare and that, for higher levels of education, these effects may be strengthening.

Fostering Trust and Transparency in Governance: Investigating and addressing the requirements for building integrity in public sector information systems in the ICT environment
International Records Management Trust, 2009, 91 pages

This project addressed an issue with significant implications for development in the electronic environment: the absence, in most developing countries, of the infrastructure and capacity needed to manage records input to or generated by information communication technology (ICT) applications. This report summarises the findings and achievements of the project between February 2006 and October 2008. It describes the research methodology, the research findings, the outputs and outcomes and the management structure for the project.

Urban Pauperization Under China's Social Exclusion: A case study of Nanjing

Yuting Liu, Shenjing He, and Fulong Wu, *Journal of Urban Affairs* 30(1), 2008, 16 pages

This article articulates how two new urban poverty groups, namely the new urban poor and poor rural migrants, are pauperised under China's social exclusion. We argue that the two poverty groups experience different pauperisation processes and are subjected to distinctive social exclusions with relevance to their institutional-based status and changes in it. Positive social policies should be considered and a social security system should be established to pay more attention to the development issues of the urban poor.

Linkages Between Young People's Physical Mobility, Health And Well-being: Studies from rural and urban Malawi

E. Robson, A. Munthali, G. Porter, and K. Hampshire, 2008, poster

This poster describes the objectives, setting, methods, results, conclusions and recommendations of a Malawi-based component of the project 'Children, Transport and Mobility in Sub-Saharan Africa: Developing a child-centred evidence base to improve policy and change thinking across Africa'.

Working Paper 46. Is There a Boy Bias in Household Education Expenditure? The case of Andhra Pradesh in India based on Young Lives data

R. Himaz, *Young Lives Working Paper 46*, 2009, 24 pages

Our results show that there is a bias favouring boys in school enrolment as children get older, captured by age categories 10–14 and 15–19. There is also a bias favouring boys in household education expenditure allocation, given positive expenditure, when children are 10-14, driven mainly by extra tuition fees. Quite notably, once the households have decided to educate a child beyond the upper primary level (i.e., beyond grade 8), there is no gender-based expenditure bias and an equal proportion of boys and girls are sent to private schools that provide better quality education.

Surveillance and Control of Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) in Ethiopia: An assessment of institutions and actors

Eva Schiffer, Clare Narrad and Klaus von Grebmer, HPAI Africa/Indonesia Team Working Paper No.19, 2008, 23 pages

How does information about a suspected outbreak of avian influenza on a farm reach the respective authorities? How and through which actors is the response to a confirmed outbreak implemented on the ground? These questions guided representatives of the Ministry of Food and Agriculture, poultry producers, traders, and the research sector in mapping the information and response networks for Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza in Ethiopia. This report describes the networks, showing the actors, their linkages, and the influence they have on making sure that information reaches the national authorities and that an appropriate and timely response is implemented.

Researching the Practical Norms of Real Governance in Africa

Jean-Pierre Olivier de Sardan, *Africa Power and Politics Programme (APPP) Discussion Paper No.5*, 2008, 24 pages, English and French

In Africa a particularly significant discrepancy exists between the official norms of the state and the public services on the one hand, and the behaviour of political elites and officials on the other. Terms like

'clientelism', 'neopatrimonialism' and 'informality' are used to characterise this discrepancy. But 'real governance' remains poorly understood, particularly at the level of the delivery of public or collective goods and services. We propose to use the concept of 'practical norms' to focus attention on the question, to be addressed without value judgements, of what rules actually govern the actions of public actors.

The Health Research Centre in Kenya and Malawi: A collaborative model

G. Kokwaro, A. Mwansambo, J. Ager, V.A. Mulligan, C. Snewin, C. Zarowsky, and J. Whitworth, 2008, 1 page, poster

This poster describes the background, planning, support structure, learning, and conclusions so far of the Health Research Capacity Initiative in Kenya and Malawi.

Political Science? Strengthening science–policy dialogue in developing countries

N. Jones, H. Jones, and C. Walsh, ODI Working Paper 294, 2008, 57 pages

This study is a multi-layered analysis of the science–policy interface in developing countries. It draws on work by ODI's RAPID programme, commissioned by SciDev.Net. The analysis combines theoretical and empirical strands and compare Northern and Southern contexts. It focuses on three broad questions: What is the patterning of relationships among scientific researchers, policy decision-makers, and intermediaries in developing-country contexts? What are the challenges and opportunities for strengthening these linkages? What types of strategies exist or could potentially be adopted to improve evidence-informed policy processes?

Payments for Environmental Services and Household Behaviour: The case of carbon in Mozambique's Agro-forests

R. Hegde, Presentation at 'PEN: The Long Walk to Impact', 4th PEN workshop, Barcelona, 8-12 January 2008, 11 pages

Rural households face numerous shocks – both individual/idiosyncratic (e.g. sickness, loss of livestock) and common (e.g. drought, flood). As household responses vary (e.g. increasing labour supply, sale of agricultural products, increased forest use), this presentation uses survey data from 1,100 households, covering five villages in the Gorongosa National Park buffer zone of Mozambique, to consider whether economic incentives influence household behaviour. It is concluded that Miombo woodlands are important to the household economy considering their support to livelihoods.

The Contribution of Higher Education to Transformation, Development and Poverty Reduction: Overview of the South African higher education context

A. Dison, M. Walker, M. McLean, Working Paper, 2008, 16 pages

This paper sets out the background to developments in higher education in South Africa which have taken place since the change to a democratic government in 1994. It contextualises these developments, firstly, within the broad context affecting higher education internationally, including globalisation and the neo-liberal economic paradigm that has become dominant. Secondly, it outlines the South African political, social and economic context and provides background on the extent of poverty and inequality in South African society.

Linking Migration, Reproduction and Wellbeing: Exploring the reproductive strategies of low-income rural-urban migrants in Vietnam

C. Locke, Short Research Summary, 2008, 2 pages

The summary includes the research focus, research questions, methodology, outputs and partner details for the project 'Linking Migration, Reproduction and Wellbeing: Exploring the Reproductive Strategies of Low-Income Rural-Urban Migrants in Vietnam'.

Improving Educational Evaluation and Quality in China

S. Thomas, Leaflet, The 'Improving Educational Evaluation and Quality in China' Project, 2008, 2 pages

This leaflet covers the IEEQC project and its aims; improving educational quality; the concept of value added by schools; the project's activities and outputs. The project team and contact details are also outlined.

Community-led Total Sanitation

N. Jones, H. Jones, and C. Walsh, *Global Futures – A World Vision Journal on Human Development* 1 (2008) 2 pages

This short article argues that the provision of sanitation facilities does not guarantee improved or sustainable sanitation, and that behavioural change is also required.

Situation Analysis of Ecosystem Services and Poverty Alleviation in Arid and Semi-arid Africa Consortium for Ecosystem Services and Poverty Alleviation in Arid and Semi-arid Africa (CEPSA), 2008, 91 pages

This report is a situation analysis of the links between ecosystem services and poverty alleviation in the arid and semi-arid lands of sub-Saharan Africa (SSA). It reviews the available evidence and focuses on the opportunities for poverty alleviation through the provision and management of ecosystem services. The study was undertaken between September 2007 and March 2008.

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Recent News Stories

Research shows misoprostol could make home births safer

Post-partum haemorrhage accounts for about one quarter of the estimated 535,000 women who die each year after childbirth. Future Health Systems researchers Tori Sutherland and David M. Bishai used a computer simulation to find out whether administering the commonly used and widely available ulcer medication, misoprostol, was a cost-effective way to save mother's lives in India. According to Dr Bishai, with misoprostol, a maternal death can be prevented for just US\$1,400. This means that misoprostol could be one of the most cost-effective interventions in public health today.

The women helping to change attitudes about HIV and AIDS

The DFID-funded Microbicides Development Programme (MDP) was set up to develop vaginal microbicides to prevent HIV transmission, and is conducting a clinical trial with the Africa Centre for Health and Population Studies in Mtubatuba to evaluate the safety and efficacy of a microbicides gel. A *Zululand Observer* article focuses on the programme's women volunteers, who agree to record use of the microbicides gel before sex, condom use and other details of their sexual activity, while helping to inform their communities about the disease and good sexual health practices.

Wars, Guns and Votes. Has encouragement of democracy increased the risks of political conflict in some of the world's poorest countries?

Paul Collier's new book, *Wars, Guns and Votes*, proposes innovative ways in which rich countries can do more to support the development of the countries that are home to a billion of the world's poor. He argues that the importance of aid has been exaggerated, and that industrialised countries should use a broader range of policies – such as trade, governance, and conflict reduction – to promote economic development. He argues the partial encouragement of democracy and accountability may have increased the risks of political violence and conflict in some of the poorest countries.

CRISE workshops

Post-Conflict Economic Reconstruction – 16-17 April, Kampala, Uganda

Workshop includes 12 country case studies (including Iraq, Afghanistan, Bosnia, Mozambique, Liberia and Nepal) and 5 cross-cutting policy papers (privatisation, macro-economic policies and trade).

How can the Law Help Reduce Group-Based Inequalities? – 14-15 May, Oxford, UK

The objective of this two-day workshop is to examine and compare legal instruments that have been adopted in multiethnic countries to correct horizontal inequalities (HIs). Case studies include India, South Africa, Sudan, Peru, Guatemala and the Roma people in the EU.

Release of Young Lives Round 2 data

Young Lives is an innovative long-term project investigating the changing nature of childhood poverty in four countries: Ethiopia, India (Andhra Pradesh state), Peru, and Vietnam. It tracks the lives of 12,000 children over a 15-year period. Round 2 returned to the same children who were aged one in Round 1, but this time when they were aged approximately five, and to children aged eight then and now about twelve. Anonymised data for this Round 2 survey are now publicly available.

Science communication in the developing world

Science journalism appears to be under pressure in developed countries, with the number of science journalists on the staff of newspapers declining sharply. This is the message highlighted in a recent SciDev.Net article which reported on a meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS). SciDev.Net is also providing insights and updates from the Second African Science Communication Conference (ASCC), which brought together international science communication stakeholders and heard presentations from 49 speakers from 11 countries.

African Initiative Launched to Strengthen Health Research

Health research in Africa has received an important boost through support for two funding bodies, established through the Health Research Capacity Strengthening (HRCS) initiative and funded by DFID, the Wellcome Trust, and IDRC. The bodies will implement nationally owned strategies aimed at strengthening health research capacity. In Kenya, grant-giving will be implemented by a new non-governmental organisation, the Consortium for National Health Research; in Malawi, activities will be undertaken within the existing National Research Council of Malawi.

Improved access to full-text articles for developing country researchers

The British Library for Development Studies (BLDS) has been working with WHO to improve access to economic and social development journals for researchers in developing countries. Institutes that are HINARI and OARE members can now access the full text of more than 300 'development' journals online, including *African Development Review*, *Development and Change*, *Development in Practice*, *European Journal of Development Research*, *Gender and Development*, *Global Environmental Change*, and *World Development*. Many of these titles are searchable through the BLDS catalogue.

Improving access to financial services through new technologies

More than 2 billion people in the developing world have no access to financial services, which makes it difficult for them to improve their incomes and pay for healthcare and education. Branchless banking, using technologies such as mobile phones, smartcards and fingerprint recognition, could enable millions to save money, gain access to credit, and receive money from family members overseas. DFID's new FAST programme (Facilitating Access to financial Services through Technology), will lay the foundations to make financial services available through new technology across Africa and Asia.

Research on microbicial gels to protect against HIV/AIDS gets funding boost

DFID and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation are to give an additional £90 million funding for the funding of research into promising anti-HIV microbicides, after initial research produced very encouraging results. The preliminary phase II/III clinical trial of the PRO 2000 microbicide, which is being developed by the pharmaceutical company Indevus, suggests that the new gel, when applied

inside the vagina, may reduce the chances of women contracting HIV by a third. A second, larger, trial is being run by scientists at Imperial College, and is due to finish in August.

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