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IPC NEWS

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Español/Português



IPC is a global centre for applied research and training on poverty and development

IPC has 8 different publication series

IPC has already produced 180 innovative research publications

IPC's Research Projects are supported by UNDP, IPEA and development agencies

IPC's knowledge-sharing network reaches 189 countries

IPC hosts Study Tours for representatives of developing countries

IPC promotes extensive training in poverty and inequality reduction policies

IPC provides research support through Advisory Missions to developing countries

IPC hosts an online Directory of Research Centres in the developing world

IPC fosters cooperation between Brazil and Africa on Social Protection

IPC has a strategic partnership with the United Nations Volunteers

Press Room

IPC launched a new resource on its website featuring the most recent highlights from the Centre.

Click: <<http://www.undp-povertycentre.org/pressRoom>>

Training

IPC carries out extensive training on poverty reduction issues as a means to bring together researchers and policymakers, under the spirit of South-South cooperation. The IPC's training programmes tailored for policy-makers in developing countries as well as UNDP specialists. The programme promotes partnerships to fight poverty through advocacy and capacity strengthening. A new section in our website was launched to highlight IPC's training sessions and Study Tours that covered a wide array of topics in the development field.

Click: <<http://www.undp-povertycentre.org/training>>

IPC features a discussion on utility provision

In its *One Pager* series, IPC recently featured a discussion on utility provision as part of a new research programme on access to financial and basic services by the poor. Please refer to the *One Pagers* below:

Equitable Access to Financial Services: Is Microfinancing Sufficient?
Degol Hailu. One Pager # 59. July 2008.

Click: <<http://www.undp-povertycentre.org/pub/IPCOnePager59.pdf>>

The author acknowledges the importance of Micro-finance institutions in ensuring access to financial services. However, he argues, public policy must include direct lending to reach enough of the poor.

Tariff Hikes with Low Investment: The Story of the Urban Water Sector in Zambia

Hulya Dagdeviren and Degol Hailu. One Pager # 57. June 2008.

Click: <<http://www.undp-povertycentre.org/pub/IPCOnePager57.pdf>>

The authors argue that Zambia is unlikely to meet the MDG on water. The lack of investment and high tariffs are the main causes for the decline in access to safe water.

Lessons from the South African Electricity Crisis

Kate Bayliss. One Pager # 56. June 2008.

Click: <<http://www.undp-povertycentre.org/pub/IPCOnePager56.pdf>>

According to the author lack of public investment is the major cause of the electricity crisis in South Africa.

Equitable Access to Basic Services: Who will Guarantee it?

Degol Hailu. One Pager # 55. June 2008.

Click: <<http://www.undp-povertycentre.org/pub/IPCOnePager55.pdf>>

The author argues that the preconditions for successful utility service privatisation are high levels of initial access.

New Publications

Research Programme on Economic Policies, MDGs and Poverty

Title: Towards an Employment-centred Development Strategy for Poverty Reduction in The Gambia: Macroeconomic and Labour Market Aspects

Authors: James Heintz, Carlos Oya and Eduardo Zepeda

Series: Country Study # 16

Click: <<http://www.undp-povertycentre.org/pub/IPCCountryStudy16>>

According to the authors, growth in The Gambia has not been pro-poor. Weak productivity and the low quality of employment explain why. They recommend policies to increase the supply of credit to the economy, particularly to employment-intensive sectors.

Title: The Effectiveness of Monetary Policy Reconsidered

Author: John Weeks

Series: Technical Paper # 3

Click: <<http://www.undp-povertycentre.org/pub/IPCTechnicalPaper3.pdf>>

In this Technical Paper, the author argues that fiscal policy is more effective than monetary policy, whether the exchange rate is flexible or not.

Research Programme on Gender Equality

Title: What Do We Mean by "Feminization of Poverty"?

Authors: Marcelo Medeiros and Joana Costa

Series: One Pager # 58

Click: <<http://www.undp-povertycentre.org/pub/IPCOnePager58.pdf>>

The authors define the feminization of poverty as a change in poverty levels that is biased against women or female-headed households. This definition provides a simple but effective tool for conducting policy analysis.

Advisory Missions

3 July: Eduardo Zepeda Miramontes presented the results of the Country Study "Employment, Growth and Poverty Reduction in The Gambia" to representatives from the social, business and government sectors and international organizations in Banjul, The Gambia. This development stakeholder meeting benefited from the participation of senior government officials, namely: Secretary of State for Trade, Industry and Employment; Permanent Secretary of State for Trade, Industry and Employment; National Project Coordinator of GAMJOBS; and Director General of the National Planning Commission.

7-22 June: Milko Matijascic took part in the Regional Experts Meeting on Social Protection in Senegal. He also presented the paper "Social Protection in Brazil in a post-Industrial World: A Comparative Perspective in the FISS seminar "Social Protection in a Post Industrial Society" in Stockholm, Sweden. In Switzerland, he had meetings with representatives of UNCTAD, ILO, ISSA and University of Lausanne with the objective of strengthening cooperation among IPC, IPEA and these institutions. He also took part in a consultation session on the South African Social Security Reform in Johannesburg.

10-11 June: Melissa Andrade took part in the Regional Experts Meeting on Social Protection in Senegal as part of the Brazil-Africa Cooperation Programme on Social Protection.

2-3 June: Joana Costa took part in the workshop "Tools and Methodologies to Better Integrate Gender Analysis into DFID and World Bank Country-level Analytic Work" in London, UK.

Recent Events

June, 15

IPC Seminar: Opportunity NYC - New York's brand-new Conditional Cash Transfer Programme: A Qualitative Analysis
Speaker: Michelle Morais de Sá e Silva (Teachers College, Columbia University, USA, and IPC Visiting Researcher)
Further information: <http://www.undp-povertycentre.org/paper-seminar/PressRelease_Seminar_Opportunity_ENG.pdf>



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