

Recent Publications

Briefs

- * *Transparency in Local Finances in Tanzania, 2003-2009*
- * *Poverty Among the Elderly and Children in Mainland Tanzania*

Special Papers

- * *Tracer Study on two Repoa Training Courses: Budget Analysis and Public Expenditure Tracking System*
- * *Social Protection of the Elderly in Tanzania: Current Status and Future Possibilities*

Research Reports

- * *Widowhood and Vulnerability to HIV and AIDS Related Shocks: Exploring Resilience Avenues*

Ongoing Projects

Below are some of the ongoing projects REPOA was involved in between January - June 2011.

Learning from Reducing Emissions, Deforestation and Forest Degradation (REDD): a global comparative analysis

REPOA is collaborating with the Centre for International Forestry Research (CIFOR) to implement this NORAD funded project. The study is one of CIFOR's national REDD initiatives in selected countries in Africa, Asia and Latin America. The aim of this study is to identify how factors that constrain the effectiveness, efficiency, and equity outcomes of REDD national strategies can be addressed. The overall objective is to inform future REDD design by providing research-based options for achieving effective, efficient and equitable REDD outcomes. REPOA is responsible for initiating the study in Tanzania.

Study on ethics, payments and maternal survival in Tanzania

This study is funded by Wellcome Trust and is being implemented by a team of researchers from REPOA, Open University UK, NIMR and ESRF. The study aims to add to knowledge about the ethical content and implications of individual payment systems for maternal care, and to generate policy-relevant evidence as to how health management can achieve more ethical and inclusive care through breaking interactive linkages between individual payments, abuse, exclusion, and collapse in staff morale.

Inflation and the growth - poverty nexus : a structuralist perspective (Ongoing, expected completion date October 2011)

REPOA in collaboration with Prof. Marc Wuyts of the Institute of Social Studies in the Netherlands have been investigating the relationship between inflation and economic growth.

The study argues that the dynamics of inflation matter in what happens to the growth-poverty nexus, particularly when it comes to explaining why strong economic growth may not necessarily go hand in hand with a reduction in the incidence of poverty.

In addition, a mere look at the behaviour of the general price level may not be the best way to come to grips with the interrelations between inflation and the growth-poverty nexus. The reason is that inflation often goes hand in hand with relative price movements across broad categories of commodities, which can be quite different in different types of inflation. In other words, it is not just the rate of inflation that matters, but also the type of inflation.

This is specifically important in a low-income country like Tanzania where agriculture, and food production in particular, still occupies a key position – both in terms of production and in terms of the share of the population that derives its livelihoods from it. In such context it is argued that the dynamics of food prices may well be very different from, but interactive with the dynamics of other prices in the economy.

Assessment of the impact of rising food prices on household welfare (Ongoing, expected completion date October 2011)

In the midst of rising commodity prices and the cost of living, this study was undertaken in an attempt to shed light on the impacts of the increase in prices of key food staples on different household groups, and to help identify vulnerable groups in the country.

An analysis is being carried out into three main components, namely country level impacts, domestic price movements and household level impacts. The key commodities for this analysis have been identified as maize, rice, and wheat based on their caloric contribution and ready availability of reliable prices.

The study makes use of household and agriculture data from the first round of the Tanzania National Panel Survey (2009)

Strengthening capacity of parliament

REPOA has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to work with the Parliamentary Center based in Ghana to facilitate strengthening the capacity of the Parliament of Tanzania to achieve the following:

- Accountability to citizens in budget oversight;
- Legislation and regulatory processes that enhance and empower the Parliament's authority and involvement in the budget process; and
- Implementation of budget oversight responsibilities.

Changes to the Grants Application Process

As a result of a review conducted last year, slight changes have been made to the application process. In the past, REPOA accepted concept notes for research grants throughout the year. From May 2011, the grants department will only be accepting concept notes submitted in response to a Special Call for Proposal, which will be advertised in local newspapers, through the e-brief and on REPOA's website.