



Research Themes

Research on Poverty Alleviation, REPOA's research programme continues to be concerned with **pro-poor growth** and **poverty reduction**. There are seven themes; three of which: **gender, governance and technology, are cross-cutting**. The themes are below, along with some suggested areas for research.

Researchers are not limited to these areas, but their research must be centred on one or more of the seven themes.

Growth and Poverty

Suggested sub themes:

- Fiscal policy
- Foreign aid
- Foreign direct investment
- Globalisation
- Human resources development
- Income distribution
- Infrastructure
- Public – private partnerships

Suggested areas for research:

Trade/foreign investment liberalisation for developing national technological capacity

The role of the informal sector/growth and the State;

The effects of reforms on the poor and most vulnerable

The implications and uses of modern information technology, as well as its accessibility and training

The effects of structural adjustment/liberalisation on income distribution and poverty

Issues relating to the skills, training and capacity building, and/or indigenous knowledge, informal/ formal education for human resource development

Process, regulation and impacts of foreign direct investment in rural areas

Vulnerability and Social Protection

Suggested sub themes:

- Chronic poverty
- Food security
- Safety nets
- Social exclusion
- Social impacts
- Social service provision

Suggested areas for research:

Marginalised populations

The 'new poor'

Investment patterns of rural citizens

-HIV/AIDS, TB, malaria –access to health services, orphans, stigma, the use of indigenous healers & traditional medicines

Water, education, health, shelter & sanitation

The emergence of beggars and street children

Rural-urban migrants

Changing attitudes on the role of the extended family, family size, mutual assistance

Governance in education structures

Social / Political / Cultural Issues

Suggested sub themes:

- Attitudes
- Human Rights
- Power relations
- Social impacts, adaptations
- Values, beliefs, social practices

Suggested areas for research:

The local government poverty reform and development programmes

Changing attitudes of and towards women; women as household heads

The effects of witchcraft and other traditional practices on development

Differences in motivation & enterprise between ethnic groups; *Uswahili/laissez faire* approach to life

Influence of religion on poverty, ideologies and forms of control and cultural expression, power and income

Theft, embezzlement & corruption

The deterioration in national commitment, culture & self-reliance (dependence on the government)

The effects of socialisation and education processes on gender stereotyping and attitudes

Class: relationships between successful women and the poor; urban and rural women

Interaction of class, gender and poverty

The effects of HIV/AIDS on women's and elders' workloads, commercial sex, and relationships between men and women

The effects of rural to urban migration on women

Non-income poverty

Unequal representation in education, the cash economy and government

Uneven burden of macro-economic 'adjustment'/policy on women and children (due to restricted access to services, resources, and control over assets, traditional patriarchal division of labour, power & responsibility by gender)

Laws and property rights

How decentralisation impacts women and small traders

Local government stability and accountability

Monitoring and oversight of the judiciary

Environment and Agriculture

Suggested sub themes:

- Extension services
- Food security
- Land tenure
- Marketing
- Population dynamics
- Production, productivity

- Rights to resources

Suggested areas for research:

Land reform, effects / implications for the poor of Land Acts policies

Statutory rights, especially those concerning women

Grassroots / local knowledge and adaptations

Problems / benefits of technology transfers and employment

Resource-poor environments & impacts on residents of land alienation and tourism

The science and technology climate in TZ

Reasons for resistance to change and cultural attitudes to new technologies

How other countries overcome resistance to innovation, application in developing countries

Implications & forecasting of appropriate technologies and relevant techno-econ development policy, sustainability and modern bio-technologies.

Indigenous intellectual property rights, indigenous technology, traditional and modern agro-ecology practices

Lessons from the Asian technological revolution

Livestock keepers, pastoralism, land alienation, mobility and land conflicts with peasants

Policy-based lending

Impacts of reforms on privatisation and links of increasing agricultural development to health and poverty

The deterioration of environment

Roles of institutions – ministries, local governments, and NGOs – in safeguarding the environment

Biotechnological impacts on environment and agricultural output

Impacts on the well-being of people who live near mining and tourism sites / land and resource alienation and displacement

Uneven environmental resource access and impacts

And the cross-cutting themes of:

Gender

Governance

Technology