

**CDD "What's happening" vol. 15 (June 2013)**

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To: CDD Community of Practice Group - Bank, CDD Community of Practice Group -Non-Bank

Cc: SDV-SAccDFGG

Dear CDD Community of Practice,

Please find the June 2013 edition of the CDD "What's happening" monthly email. This month, we have several interesting blogs that have come out on different CDD projects in Afghanistan, Benin, India, and Ghana. As you would have seen earlier this week, the new external CDD website is also now up and running and we would welcome CoP feedback on what can be done to improve it.

As always, we are eager to learn from you about any news happening around you as they will enrich this communication among the CoP - so, please share any information or updates you have on CDD (e.g. papers, blogs, project updates, videos, events, etc.) with us, by sending them to either me (jsingh1@worldbank.org) or Kaori Oshima (koshima@worldbank.org). We will incorporate those in the future summaries.

Regards,
Janmejay

CDD "WHAT'S HAPPENING"

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BLOGS, RESEARCH & REPORTS

[Blog: Grassroots Leaders: Empowering Communities is Resilience Building](#)

By Margaret Arnold on World Bank "Development in a Changing Climate" on May 24

[Blog: Benin Shows How Community-Managed Projects Can Build Infrastructure Faster and More Cost-Effectively](#)

By Kaori Oshima on World Bank "Voices" on June 10

[Managing Groundwater in Rural India](#)By Abhilaksh Likhi on *The Tribune*

Since groundwater development is demand driven, it can be geared up through appropriate agricultural, credit, subsidy and energy support policies along with the creation of suitable markets, first and foremost, for small and marginal farming communities

[Evidence on Community-Driven Development from an Indian Village](#)By ARNAB MUKHERJI at Center for Public Policy, IIM Bangalore, on *The Journal of Development Studies***Abstract:**

This article examines the functioning of a community-driven development (CDD) project that, unlike most CDDs, was set in a homogeneous community, consisted of simple tasks, had a year-long pre-intervention planning period, and maintained records of its decisions. To identify the impacts of the intervention on agricultural outcomes, and on strategies to manage risk, we use a semi-parametric difference-in-difference model that collected retrospective panel data on programme participants and non-participants over multiple seasons. Our findings suggest that the CDD project led to greater exposure to risk and no gains in productivity for the community.

[Community-managed reconstruction after the 2012 fire in Old Fadama, Ghana](#)By Mesah Owusu on *Environment and Urbanization***Abstract:**

This paper describes how the residents of Accra's largest informal settlement, Old Fadama, responded to a disastrous fire on 21 May 2012. Although they received no official support for reconstruction, they organized to rebuild using permanent materials, which reduced fire risks and also demonstrated to city authorities their capacities.

[Empowering Women through Development Aid: Evidence from a Field Experiment in Afghanistan](#)

By Andrew Beath, Fotini Christia and Ruben Enikolopov on CEFIR Working Paper Series No. 191

Abstract:

In societies with widespread gender discrimination, development programs with gender quotas are considered a way to improve women's economic, political, and social status. Using a randomized field experiment across 500 Afghan villages, we examine the effects of a development program that mandates women's community participation. We find that even in a highly conservative context like Afghanistan, such initiatives improve female participation in some economic, social, and political activities, including increased mobility and income generation. They, however, produce no change in more entrenched female roles linked to family decision-making or in attitudes towards the general role of women in society.

[Community savings that mobilize federations, build women's leadership and support slum upgrading](#)By Celine D'cruz and Patience Mudimu on *Environment and Urbanization***Abstract:**

This paper describes how in urban areas in many nations, community savings groups not only help meet the individual and collective needs of the poorest groups but also underpin the growth of citywide and national shack/slum(1) dweller federations where these groups have influence. As most savers and savings group managers are women, this helps ensure that their priorities are addressed; but as savings managers represent their savings groups, they also seek improvements that benefit all, including upgrading. Although the amount that each individual saves is modest, when aggregated in community savings funds it is often large enough to attract external resources that allow support for larger-scale initiatives. Savings groups also draw inspiration from visiting other savings groups, including those that have large, successful partnerships with local governments. This paper includes commentaries from women community leaders in Zimbabwe, India, South Africa, Uganda and Bolivia on why they began saving and how savings are organized and managed in their groups. The paper also discusses how external agencies can support these processes.

NEWS FROM THE ANCHOR

New CDD External Website has been launched!!

Please browse the brand-new CDD External Website. It was one of the first "topic" page of the World Bank's website renewal effort. We would welcome any feedback from you!

[Click here to go to the site >>](#)

NEWS FROM THE REGION

Lao Poverty Reduction Fund (PRF) II, Impact Evaluation Baseline Findings

The Laos PRF II team has shared the findings from the baseline survey of their on-going impact evaluation. The IE is rigorously structured meeting the gold standards: Randomized controlled design; Mixed methods; Pre-analysis plan and; Representative sample - in order to obtain credible evidence on impact of the project on key indicators attributable to the project; to understand why and how these impacts are occurring, and; to provide evidence-based recommendations to support future policy decision-making.

[Please find the summary PPT of the baseline survey findings from here >>](#)

PAST EVENTS

BBL: Social Resilience: Churning State Fragility and Climate Change on June 4

Climate change is real, and its effects are particularly severe for the populations of poor countries. This is even truer for the populations of fragile states that often find it even more difficult to adapt to environmental change. Major obstacles mostly include ethnic tensions, corruption, and exclusion. This presentation focuses on fragile regions within countries and argues that regional fragility exists even in politically stable states. It further examines autonomous strategies and assesses bottom-up approaches that can facilitate adaptation at the local level and enhance social resilience. You can download the document "Exploring Social Resilience in State Fragility: A Climate Change Perspective", written by Rajeev Ranjan and Vivek Prasad [here](#). [PPT, event recording and the background paper are available from here >>](#)

Community-Based Targeting: A Way Forward in Reaching the Poor? on June 26

By Human Development Network, The Social Safety Nets Global Experts Team and Social Protection at Africa Region
CBT is a prominent design feature of safety net programming in low-income countries. In Africa, around 71% of Conditional Cash Transfers (CCTs) and 49% of Unconditional Cash Transfers (UCTs) programs (including pilot programs) employ some form of CBT combined with geographic, categorical or Proxy Means Test (PMT) targeting. While the Bank and its clients have already accumulated significant knowledge regarding other household targeting methods, not much is known about the various forms of (and approaches to) CBT, nor about the governance and operational aspects related to implementation.

Despite the growth of safety net operations in low-income countries, where CBT is one of the dominant mechanisms to identify and select beneficiaries, no systematic review was attempted in the last 10 years by the Bank. Then information is scattered in operational documents or unpublished notes. Likewise, not much is known about the implementation arrangements of integrating CBT with other targeting approaches (e.g., Proxy Means Test, PMT). The event comes at the heel of HD Anchor recent partnership with ODI to produce a global stock-taking review of CBT. The Bank is also looking at ways to close the implementation arrangements gap of CBT in its various hypostases and contexts. The Africa Region, in partnership with SSN GET, is taking an initiative to support a similar review of CBT in Africa targeted to audience in the region. The team is also launching discussion on CBT among practitioners and will be using this background work for the upcoming SPARCS assessment tool on targeting.

[Check out the event announcement page here >>](#)

COP QUERIES & RESPONSES

**This section highlights questions from the CoP members and the answers the secretariat and other CoP members provided.

Q: Is there any operationally-oriented guidance on measuring typical project-level social development outcomes?

A: Here are some of the documents that we've been giving out on M&E and capturing social development outcomes (they are mostly for CDD projects because that's the bulk of Social Development portfolio)... [Please follow the link here for relevant materials >>](#)

If you have anything to share with the CoP (including papers, project news, interesting blogs, or upcoming events) please email me (jsingh1@worldbank.org) and Kaori Oshima (koshima@worldbank.org) and we'll incorporate these in the next "What's happening in CDD" email.

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