Upcoming Events!

- IFPRI/ESSP-II will host a one day session during the Ninth International Conference on Ethiopian Economy to be held at Ethiopian Economic Association (EEA) in June 2011.
- Poverty Analysis Training will be conducted in collaboration with Oxford University in April 2011.

News!

- The new Program Leader for IFPRI-ESSP II, Dr. Bart Minten, officially assumed duty in February 2011 and made an institutional visit to ESSP II at the beginning of February 2011.
- The Deputy Division Director of the Development Strategy Governance Division (DSG) of IFPRI, Dr. Paul Dorosh, visited ESSP II on the beginning of February 2011.
- The National Advisory Committee meeting of ESSP II was held on February 2, 2011.
- ESSP II Donor’s meeting was held on February 4, 2011

Highlights of Presentations in January - February 2011:

**Economic Impacts of Climate Change on the Livestock Revenues of Farmers in Nile basin of Ethiopia: Evidence from Ricardian Model:** Meseret Molla. ILRI Campus, January 12, 2011.
- Increased temperature and decreased rainfall are the principal perceptions of the selected farmers in the Nile basin of Ethiopia; few farmers have adjusted farming to perceived climate changes; lack of information and money are the key limiting factors to adjusted farming.
- The simulation models show that climate has a nonlinear effect on net revenues, with changes in temperature and changes in precipitation giving various effects on crop, livestock and mixed agriculture.

**Road Transport in Ethiopia: Trends, Stock of Achievements, and Impact on Overall and Sectoral Economic Growth:** Ibrahim Hassen. EDRI Meeting Room, January 21, 2011
- Despite the growth in the last decade, the current road density is still much below the average road density of Africa; the necessary expanding requires about four fold of the existing road network.
- Asphalt roads have a significant positive influence on overall GDP growth, whereas the effect of gravel roads is statistically significant. The impact of the road network on agricultural GDP growth is less strong and addresses the issue of accessibility to the rural poor; there is a pronounced positive impact on industrial and service sector GDP growth.

**Socioeconomic Determinants of Fertility in Ethiopia:** Fanaye Tadesse. ILRI Campus, January 26, 2011.
- Urbanization plays a key role in reducing fertility
- Improving economic status of women leads to lower fertility
- Education of women beyond primary level has a strong effect in reducing fertility
- Lowering child mortality through better access to health services could reduce fertility

- Progress on the implementation of the Productive Safety Net Program (PSNP) and the Household Asset Building Program (HABP).
- Discussion of institutional and logistical implementation issues, as well as several quantitative and qualitative evidences regarding the implementation of the two programs.
- Presentation of how living standards are evolving in PSNP and non-PSNP beneficiary households.

**Publications:**


Visit our website to download up-to-date working papers and presentations! [http://www.ifpri.org/publications/results/taxonomy%3A302](http://www.ifpri.org/publications/results/taxonomy%3A302)
Policy Related Analysis at ESSP II:

Seed, Fertilizer, and Agricultural Extension in Ethiopia

- Over the past four decades, decision-makers in Ethiopia have pursued a range of policies and investments to boost agricultural production and productivity, particularly with respect to the food staple crops that are critical to reducing poverty in the country.
- A central aim of this process has been to increase the availability of improved seed, chemical fertilizers, and extension services for small-scale, resource-poor farmers.
- While there is some evidence to suggest that the process has led to improvements in both agricultural output and yields, decision-makers still recognize that there is an urgent need for more substantial improvement.

A schematic of the Ethiopian seed system

This study synthesize the lessons learned from Ethiopia’s past experiences with providing smallholders with access to seed, fertilizer and extension services, identifies challenges facing the country’s continuing efforts to strengthen its input systems and markets, and recommends policy solutions for the future.