

Training Workshop on “Econometric Impact Evaluation Methods”

26-28 November, 2014
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia



On November 26-28, 2014, IFPRI in conjunction with ESSP, delivered impact evaluation training to over 35 participants from Ministry of Agriculture, Ethiopian Institute of Agricultural Research, Addis Ababa and other regional universities who were committed to extend their knowledge and skills.

This training workshop was organized in collaboration with IFPRI’s “3iE research project” on the Productive Safety Net Programme (PSNP) and child outcomes in Ethiopia. It explored best practices in impact evaluation methods and techniques, with the aim to improve the quality of impact evaluation research in Ethiopia. - See more on the website.

PSNP Lowland Survey 2015

IFPRI-ESSP discussed the household questionnaire of the “PSNP lowland survey 2015” with the Central Statistical Agency (CSA) team on December 23-24, 2014. The survey will commence in Afar and Somalia regions in January 2015.



New ESSP Publications

- Teff: nutrient composition and health benefits. 2014. Kaleab Baye. *ESSP Working Paper 67 and Research Note 34*.
- Social networks and factor markets: Panel Data Evidence from Ethiopia. 2014. Kibrom A Abay, Goytom A. Kahsay & Guush Berhane *ESSP Working Paper 68*.
- Agricultural production and children’ diets, 2014. Kalle Hirvonen and John Hoddinott *Working Paper 69*
- An analysis of trends and determinants of child undernutrition. 2014. Derek Headey *Working Paper 70*

Upcoming events:

- Regional GIS Training in Tigray region from 14-16 January, 2015
- 15th Annual Conference of the Agricultural Economics Society of Ethiopia (AESE) on ‘Performance of the Ethiopian agriculture in the face of climate change: Development challenges and options’. Scheduled on March 27, 2015.

Presentation highlights in October - December 2014

Nutrition knowledge and diet diversity: Evidence from rural Ethiopia. Kalle Hirvonen. October 13, 2014. ILRI Campus, Addis Ababa.



Who benefits from rapidly increasing Voluntarily Sustainability Standards (VSS)? Evidence from coffee in Ethiopia. Bart Minten - October 17, 2014. EDRI meeting room.

Tigray region's soil fertility and new fertilizer recommendation. Hailu Shiferaw. October 24, 2014. EDRI meeting room



Can agriculture traders be trusted? Evidence from Ethiopia. Bart Minten and Thomas Woldu. November 18, 2014. EDRI meeting room.

Local spillovers from foreign direct investment in the Ethiopian manufacturing sector. Inigo Verduzco Gallo. December 05, 2014. EDRI meeting room.



Communal land and agricultural productivity. Charles Gottlieb and Jan Gbobovsek. December 08, 2014. EDRI meeting room

Conference presentations sponsored by other programs

- **Women’s empowerment in agriculture and nutritional outcomes in Ethiopia.** NNP related research finding dissemination workshop, Adama, Ethiopia. Fanaye Tadesse. 24-Oct-2014.
- **Diet diversity, production diversity and access to markets in rural Ethiopia.** NNP related research finding dissemination workshop, Adama, Ethiopia. Kalle Hirvonen. 24-Oct-2014.
- **Quality and the coffee value chain: Recent evidence from coffee production and exports in Ethiopia.** 3rd Annual Ethiopian Coffee Conference, Hilton, Addis Ababa. Bart Minten. 06-Nov-2014
- **Who benefits from voluntary sustainability standards? Evidence from coffee in Ethiopia.** Conference on the Effectiveness of Sustainability Standards University of Leuven. Bart Minten. 01-Oct-2014.
- **Targeting - Some Lessons from Ethiopia’s PSNP.** Policy forum on Integrating Agriculture and Food Risk Management and Innovative Financial Services in Ethiopia. Alemayehu Seyoum Taffesse. 11-Nov-2014.
- **Natural capital.** 18th Annual General Managers’ Conference MIDROC Ethiopia. Alemayehu Seyoum Taffesse. 21-Nov-2014.
- **Welfare changes in Ethiopia.** Symposium for Ethiopia’s Outstanding Progress towards Fulfilling the MDG-1 target, UNCC’s conference hall, Addis Ababa. Bart Minten. 13-Dec-2014.
- **Agricultural transformation in Ethiopia: The case of teff.** Agri-profocus Ethiopia program, annual network day 2014, Ghion Hotel, Addis Ababa. Bart Minten. 21-Dec-2014.



Policy-related research – Social networks and factor markets

Markets in developing countries are characterized by a broad range of failures that affect individuals and those institutions that attempt to improve how they function. Often they are inefficient, lack clarity, and are deficient in contract enforcement and monitoring results in costly transactions. In the absence of these well-established factor markets, the role of indigenous institutions (the *iddir*) and social networks can play a substantial part in mobilizing factors for agricultural production. This research explores the role the *iddir* networks play at improving small farmer households' access to land, labor and credit transactions, significantly enabling effective functioning within communities across many aspects of their lives.

Bridging the gap

Iddir networks can bridge the information and reputation related gaps between those who would like to acquire access to land or labor and those who would like to provide these factors through land or labor sharing agreements.

The results of these investigations highlight that informal indigenous networks can help the formation of physical and social capital that can improve factor market transactions among smallholder farmers. Specifically, joining an *iddir* network is found to improve households' access to land, labor and credit transactions between 7 and 11 percentage points. Furthermore, these findings also indicate that *iddir* networks crowd-out borrowing from local moneylenders (locally referred as *Arata Abedari*), a relatively expensive credit source, virtually without affecting borrowing from formal credit sources.

Policy implications

These research results help improve our understanding of the role non-standard market arrangements, such as social networks, can play in mitigating market inefficiencies in poor rural markets. The results also have important policy implications for designing alternative policy measures which aim to improve these markets.



These policy considerations include:

- New thinking regarding ways of supporting these *iddir* networks, given their direct and indirect importance in factor markets and other development issues
- Focus on scaling up the institutional capacity of these networks without diluting their institutional strength
- Forming partnerships between *iddir* networks and other government and non-government organizations
- Expanding formal credit institutions by combining the desirable qualities of *iddir* networks with the institutional capacity of the formal organizations
- Creating an initiative to tap the potential of *iddir* networks
- Research into the efficiency of transactions through *iddir* networks to design better policy interventions

Read more in the ESSP Working Paper 68 and on the website

Research Initiatives 2014:

- Productivity, technology adoption, and agricultural transformation
- Agricultural markets, value chains, and agro-industry
- Food and agricultural prices
- Risk, insurance, and investment
- Land and water management
- Poverty, nutrition, and safety nets
- Productive Safety Net Program (PSNP) Impact Evaluation
- Agricultural Growth Program (AGP) Impact Evaluation
- Feed the Future (FTF) Program Impact Evaluation
- Social Cash Transfer Program (SCTP)

Capacity Building Initiatives 2014:

- **Ethiopian Development Research Institute (EDRI)**
 - Support to EDRI SAM/CGE analysis
 - Support policy analysis on agricultural productivity, markets, and economic growth
 - Coffee value chain analyses
 - Cereal market analyses
 - Manufacturing sector analyses
- **Central Statistical Agency (CSA)**
 - Support to GIS analysis and federal and regional GIS training
 - Support impact evaluation of FTF and PSNP
- **Ministry of Agriculture (MoA)**
 - Support analysis of impact of agricultural extension and impact of new agricultural technologies
 - Support impact evaluation of the Agricultural Growth Program (AGP)
- **Agricultural Transformation Agency (ATA)**
 - Support the Ethiopian Soil Information System (EthioSIS) geo-database and survey through GIS analysis and training support
 - Technical support in predicting and developing the soil nutrient status
 - Support the teff research
 - Support in identifying high agricultural potential woredas and nutrient deficient areas for soil fertility mapping and producing fertilizer recommendations for policy inputs
- **Ethiopian Economics Association (EEA)**
 - Technical and financial support to the Price Dynamics Hub
 - Support the annual conference

IFPRI – ETHIOPIA STRATEGY SUPPORT PROGRAM

<http://essp.ifpri.info>

Contact:

Bart Minten

IFPRI c/o ILRI

P.O. Box 5689, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

Tel: +251 11 6 17 25 55 Fax: +251 11 6 46 23 18

Email: mahlet.mekuria@cgjar.org

INTERNATIONAL FOOD POLICY RESEARCH INSTITUTE

<http://www.ifpri.org>

Contact:

2033 K Street, NW • Washington, DC

20006-1002 USA

Tel: +1 202 862 5600

E-mail: ifpri@cgjar.org

ETHIOPIAN DEVELOPMENT RESEARCH INSTITUTE

<http://www.edri-eth.org>

Contact:

P.O. Box 2479,

Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

Tel: +251 11 5 50 60 66; +251 11 5 52 53 15

Fax: +251 11 5 50 55 88

Email: info@edri-eth.org