



## CBMS study reveals social impacts of crisis not as large as initially anticipated

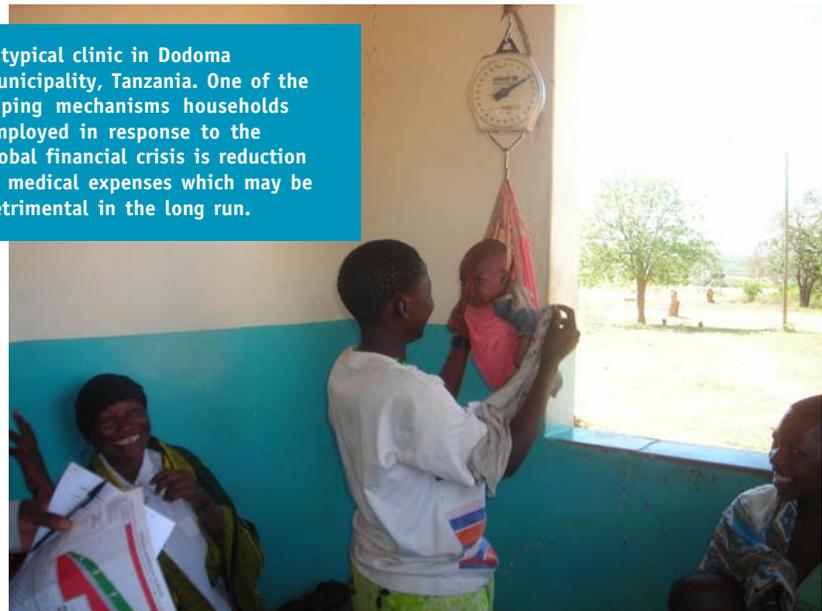
### Editor's Note:

The recent global financial and economic crisis which started in the United States and expanded to other developed countries has, to some extent, affected developing countries as well. Given the vulnerability of most developing countries, it is important to monitor the impact of this global crisis on poverty. In response, the CBMS Network started the initiative titled "Monitoring and Mitigating the Impact on Poverty of the Global Financial Crisis" which aims to monitor the impact of the global financial crisis on poverty in selected developing countries in Asia, Africa and South America. The results of this initiative would serve as inputs for policymakers in prioritizing mitigation measures that would address the impact of the crisis.

The project involves an analysis of the impact of the global financial crisis on poverty. Selected countries in the following regions serve as poverty observatories or sentinels in monitoring the impact: *Asia*: the Philippines, Indonesia, Cambodia, Lao PDR; *Africa*: Benin, Burkina Faso, Nigeria, Kenya, Tanzania, Zambia; *South America*: Peru.

The CBMS Teams involved in the project conducted studies in their respective countries using the standard CBMS core indicators as well as additional indicators that were identified based on the relevant key transmission channels for each of the participating countries. These include outcome and impact indicators. Indicators of coping mechanisms are also being monitored to determine the coping mechanisms

A typical clinic in Dodoma municipality, Tanzania. One of the coping mechanisms households employed in response to the global financial crisis is reduction in medical expenses which may be detrimental in the long run.



used by households in response to the crisis.

Preliminary results from the sentinel sites in the Philippines and Tanzania are presented in the succeeding sections.

### **The Philippines Uneven Impacts on Overseas Employment, Remittances and Local Employment Seen in the Philippines**

Table 1 shows the number of households and population surveyed in the sentinel sites in the Philippines for the impact study. It shows the specific barangays and municipalities included in the study categorized as urban NCR (National Capital Region), urban outside NCR and rural sites.

### *Impact on Households through Overseas Employment and Remittances*

- The CBMS data confirm that there were some overseas Filipino workers (OFWs) who were retrenched during the period November 2008 to April 2009. About 499 of the 4,954 surveyed households have at least one previous member who was working abroad. This translates to about 10.1

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<sup>1</sup> Source: The Impact of the Global Financial Crisis on Poverty in the Philippines by Celia Reyes, Alellie Sobreviñas and Jeremy de Jesus

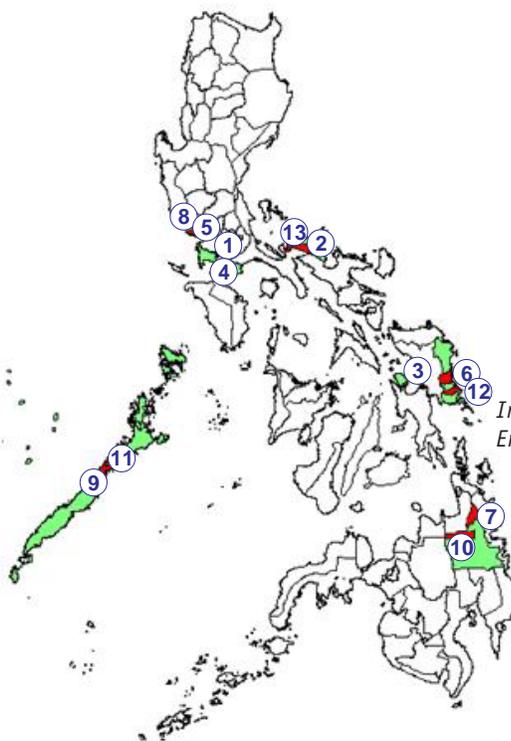
percent of all households interviewed.

- Although 212 households or 42.5 percent of the respondents with OFW reported that they had an OFW who returned during the period, only 25 households (or about 11.8%) were affected through OFW retrenchment. This translates to a total of 29 OFWs who pointed to retrenchment or lay-off as the reason for their homecoming.
- Data for the thirteen sentinel sites revealed that about 24.1 percent of OFWs who were retrenched came from Saudi Arabia, followed by 13.8 percent coming from the United States. Most of the retrenched OFWs used to work in private households with employed persons. In fact, these workers represent about 20.7 percent of the retrenched OFWs.
- About 8.6 percent of the households (or 43 households) with OFW reported that their OFW experienced wage reduction during the period November 2008-April 2009. This represents 44 OFWs who experienced a reduction in wage. Some of the major reasons mentioned by the OFWs for the decrease in wage are the following: 1) reduced working hours (31.8%); 2) the firm where the OFW works is cutting costs (27.3%); and 3) the firm where the OFW works is incurring losses (13.6%).
- Most of the OFWs who experienced wage reduction are service workers and shop and market sales workers. About 29.5 percent of affected OFWs work in this type of job.
- Based on the CBMS data, however, not all of the households with OFW actually received remittances during the 6-month period covered by the study. In fact, about 24.2 percent of them reported that they did not receive remittance. In addition, about 9.0 percent of the households with OFW

**Table 1. Total Number of Households and Total Population of Sentinel Sites in the Philippines**

Barangay	Municipality/ City	Province	Household		Population	
			Magnitude	Proportion	Magnitude	Proportion
<b>Urban NCR</b>			<b>856</b>	<b>17.3</b>	<b>2,941</b>	<b>13.7</b>
1. 192	Pasay City	NCR-4	856	17.3	2,941	13.7
<b>Urban Outside NCR</b>			<b>1,511</b>	<b>30.5</b>	<b>6,777</b>	<b>31.6</b>
2. Gumamela	Labo	Camarines Norte	432	8.7	2,060	9.6
3. Magbangon	Cabucgayan	Biliran	259	5.2	1,230	5.7
4. Poblacion III	Santo Tomas	Batangas	466	9.4	2,086	9.7
5. Villa Angeles	Orion	Bataan	354	7.1	1,401	6.5
<b>Rural</b>			<b>2,587</b>	<b>52.2</b>	<b>11,736</b>	<b>54.7</b>
6. Ando	Borongan	Eastern Samar	174	3.5	892	4.2
7. El Rio	Sibagat	Agusan del Sur	244	4.9	1,180	5.5
8. Maligaya	Mariveles	Bataan	938	18.9	3,661	17.1
9. Masikap	Puerto Princesa City	Palawan	227	4.6	952	4.4
10. Piglawigan	Esperanza	Agusan del Sur	273	5.5	1,452	6.8
11. Salvacion	Puerto Princesa City	Palawan	237	4.8	1,084	5.1
12. San Miguel	Llorente	Eastern Samar	269	5.4	1,372	6.4
13. San Vicente	Santa Elena	Camarines Norte	225	4.5	1,143	5.3
<b>Total</b>			<b>4,954</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>21,454</b>	<b>100.0</b>

**Figure 1. Map Showing Sentinel Sites for the Philippines**



### Impact on Households through Local Employment

- experienced reduction in the amount of remittances received during the period.
- The largest proportion of households which experienced a decline in the amount and frequency of receipt of remittance is reported in urban NCR, with about 18.3 percent of households experiencing a decline in the amount of remittance they received during the period. This is higher compared with the reported figures for households in rural and urban outside NCR areas, amounting to 5.8 percent and 8.3 percent, respectively.
- Only a few households engaged in a new business during the period, with a meager 2.4 percent of the households surveyed actually engaging in new entrepreneurial activity during the 6-month period. Majority of the households which engaged in a new business are in the urban areas.
- A few households also closed their existing business during the period, with 28 households (or 1.1%) in fact reporting that

they closed their business during the period.

- About 6.6 percent (or 169) of households engaged in entrepreneurial activity experienced a significant change in their monthly income from their business. A majority of these households reported a decline in their monthly income from the business.
- A meager 0.3 percent of households engaged in at least one entrepreneurial activity reported a significant change in the number of employed persons in their business. Fifty percent of these households said that they decreased the number of their employees during the period covered by the study.

#### Wage Earners and Salaried Workers

- Based on the CBMS data, 98 households reported job loss of at least one of their members during the period November 2008 to April 2009, representing 2.0 percent of all households surveyed.

- Most of the affected individuals used to work as service workers and shop and market sales workers accounting for 23.5 percent of all affected members.
- In addition, many of the affected individuals used to work in the manufacturing industry, accounting for about 19.1 percent of the total number of persons who lost their jobs.
- Some of the employed individuals also experienced a reduction in wage, number of working hours and employment benefits. Based on the responses given during the survey, about 1.2 percent (or 88 persons) suffered a decline in wage. In addition, 80 persons experienced a reduction in working hours while 8 persons suffered a reduction in benefits.

Details of the above numbers are shown in Table 2.

#### Coping Mechanisms Adopted by the Households

Households usually cope with shocks (e.g., the global crisis) by increasing receipts, reducing consumption or shifting to cheaper substitutes of their consumption goods. During the period covered by the study, a majority of the households (i.e., 86.0%) reported that they modify their consumption of food to cope with the impact of the crisis.

Another common strategy adopted by the households is by buying food in retail and smaller portions/packages. Next to food, clothing is another major expense affected when households try to cope with the shocks.

It should also be noted that some of the coping strategies adopted by households may have negative long-term consequences, especially on women and children. For instance, about 57.0 percent of the surveyed households reported that they modified their expenses related to health while a quarter of the surveyed households said that they modified some of their expenses related to education.

**Table 2. Households Affected by the Global Financial Crisis (GFC) through Overseas Employment and Remittance and Local Employment, by Site**

Barangay	Affected by GFC		Affected through Overseas Employment and Remittance		Affected through Local Employment		Households Engaged in any Agriculture Activity	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
<b>Urban NCR</b>								
Barangay 192	65	7.6	22	2.6	46	5.4	3	0.4
<b>Urban Outside NCR</b>	<b>196</b>	<b>8.3</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>2.7</b>	<b>138</b>	<b>5.8</b>	<b>244</b>	<b>10.3</b>
Villa Angeles, Orion, Bataan	79	22.3	33	9.3	50	14.1	19	5.4
Poblacion III, Sto. Tomas, Batangas	68	14.6	17	3.6	52	11.2	8	1.7
Gumamela, Labo, Camarines Norte	39	9	12	2.8	28	6.5	78	18.1
Magbangon, Cabucayan, Biliran	10	3.9	2	0.8	8	3.1	139	53.7
<b>Rural</b>	<b>114</b>	<b>4.4</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>1.1</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>3.3</b>	<b>1161</b>	<b>44.9</b>
Masikap, Puerto Princesa City, Palawan	27	11.9	7	3.1	20	8.8	10	4.4
San Vicente, Sta. Elena, Camarines Norte	23	10.2	1	0.4	12	5.3	155	68.9
Salvacion, Puerto Princesa City, Palawan	13	5.5	0	0	23	9.7	213	89.9
El Rio, Sibagat, Agusan del Sur	13	5.3	1	0.4	12	4.9	199	81.6
Maligaya, Mariveles, Bataan	11	1.2	3	0.3	8	0.9	48	5.1
San Miguel, Llorente, Eastern Samar	11	4.1	10	3.7	1	0.4	188	69.9
Piglawigan, Esperanza, Agusan del Sur	10	3.7	3	1.1	8	2.9	223	81.7
Ando, Borongan, Eastern Samar	6	3.4	4	2.3	2	1.1	125	71.8
<b>Total</b>	<b>375</b>	<b>7.6</b>	<b>115</b>	<b>2.3</b>	<b>270</b>	<b>5.5</b>	<b>1408</b>	<b>28.4</b>

Another major coping strategy adopted by households is in terms of tapping various fund sources. In fact, about 40.0 percent of the households reported that they borrowed money from various fund sources while 13.0 percent used their existing savings.

About 6.3 percent of households said that at least one member of their household looked for work in addition to their existing job. However, not all

of them were able to find and do the additional job. In fact, only 4.6 percent of the households reported that at least one of their members actually did additional work during the period. Table 3 summarizes the coping strategies adopted by the households that were affected by the crisis.

### Mitigating the Impact of the Global Crisis

In response to the global crisis, several programs were identified and implemented by the Philippine government. Some of these programs, however, were already existing even before the crisis. For instance, the conditional cash transfer program (4Ps) was already being implemented and was just stepped up in response to the crisis.

Based on the findings from the 13 sites, though, it seems that targeting is a problem of many of these programs. The long-running National Food Authority (NFA) rice access program, for one, still suffers from significant leakage and exclusion problems despite the issuance of family access cards to address mistargeting. In particular, there are relatively high leakage and exclusion rates for all sites covered in the study. In fact, about 47.9 percent of all households who access the program are considered income non-poor (leakage rate). In addition, 35.3 percent of all income poor households were not able to access the program (exclusion rate).

For the Philhealth program, based on the results of the CBMS survey in 13 sites, only 21.9 percent of all households were covered by it. Looking at the income quintiles, it can be observed that the highest quintile has the largest proportion of households who have access to the Philhealth program.

### Tanzania

#### Local Employment, Exports and Tourism Suffer Significant Setback in Tanzania

Meanwhile, preliminary results coming in from Tanzania suggest that the impact of the crisis may include, but are not limited

**Table 3. Coping Strategies Adopted by Affected Households**

Coping Strategy	No.	%
<b>Modified the following types of expenses</b>		
Food	335	89.3
Clothing	324	86.4
Electricity	321	85.6
Communication	281	74.9
Fuel	268	71.5
Health	234	62.4
Water	209	55.7
Transportation	176	46.9
Recreation	163	43.5
Education	90	24.0
<b>Tapped various fund sources</b>		
Borrowed money	184	49.1
Used savings	87	23.2
Pawned assets	29	7.7
Sold assets	15	4.0
<b>Sought additional source of income</b>		
Looked for additional work	52	13.9
Did additional work	31	8.3
Employed member not previously working	11	2.9
Looked for work abroad	15	4.0

to, potential and actual reduced economic growth, reduced remittances, reduced foreign currency earnings as a result of reduced exports, reduced tourism and reduced development assistance.

Table 4 shows the household and population distribution in the sentinel sites surveyed in Tanzania.

#### Impact on Households through Overseas Employment and Remittances

- There were 55 household members working abroad of whom 31 are male and 24 are female. During the survey, 20 members had already returned from overseas and 5 of them were female. It was observed that most of the female members were married in the country they were working (Table 5).
- Not all of the households received remittances during the 6-month period covered by the study and it

was also reported that 26 households had their remittances reduced.

- Some of the major reasons mentioned for the decrease in wage are: job loss (42%), salary cut (17%), change or transfer to an inferior job (8%), and return of one of the household members (for those which had more than one member working abroad).

#### Impact on Households through Local Employment

- A total of 26,159 persons lost their job during the period. Most of the affected individuals were working with private firms owned or supported by foreigners, accounting for 63.9 percent of all those affected by the job loss.

#### Impact on Asset Loss

- The survey showed that only 18 percent of the households were able to have savings in the past six months.
- Thirty-three percent of the households also had access to loans from their employers to pay for school fees and medical services. This was linked to the high costs charged as a result of escalated prices of the items related to the services.

#### Impact on Exports

- Most of the households which were engaged in cash crop production reported that they could not easily sell their crops. The most affected were growers of coffee, cotton and fruits.
- On average, the coffee industry suffered a 32 percent decline in export earnings due to the crisis.

#### Impact on Tourism

- The households that are engaged in making and selling souvenirs and other tourist-

<sup>2</sup> Source: Monitoring the Impact of the Global Financial Crisis on Poverty in Tanzania by Rangya Muro and Flora Kessy

**Table 4. Population and Household Distribution**

Ward Name	Municipality/ District	Households	Population
K_Ndege	Dodoma-Urban	2,378	11889
Nala village	Dodoma-Rural	2,498	12490
Viwandani	Dodoma-Urban	1308	6673
Uhuru	Dodoma-Urban	1084	5526
Chamwino	Dodoma-Urban	8780	44777
Makole	Dodoma-Urban	4537	23138
Miyuj	Dodoma-Urban	3527	17986
Msalato	Dodoma-Urban	1927	9637
Nzuguni	Dodoma-Urban	2352	11758
Dodoma Makulu	Dodoma-Urban	1335	6676
Tambuka Reli	Dodoma-Urban	2162	10810
Kilimani	Dodoma-Urban	965	4826
Kikuyu Kaskazini	Dodoma-Urban	1362	6812
Kikuyu Kusini	Dodoma-Urban	968	4839
Hazina	Dodoma-Urban	2499	12495
Madukani	Dodoma-Urban	798	3992
Majengo	Dodoma-Urban	1537	7686
Kizota	Dodoma-Urban	3537	17687
Sultani	Morogoro-Urban	2934	14668
Chake Chake	Lushoto-Urban	3195	15974
<b>Total</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>49683</b>	<b>250339</b>

related commodities were reported to have suffered an income decline during the study period. About 58 percent of the respondents had a decline of more than 500,000TZS (about 500US\$).

- The decline, among other things, has led to reduced employment in the whole tourism commodity chain. The chain includes travel agents, transporters (taxis, buses, car rentals, safari/tour operators), hotels, restaurants, and camping sites which reported a 60 percent cancellation in bookings.

*Reduced Employment in Foreign Direct Investment (FDI)*

- The data obtained from the Ward profile questionnaire revealed that foreign investment ventures have not developed for the past six months prior to the survey. Apparently, the crisis is leading to reduced investment funds and lower incentives for multinationals undertaking FDI's.

*Impact on Foreign Aid*

- The ward profiles showed the decline of foreign aid in various areas that used to get the same by comparing data of 2007, 2008 and 2009. For instance, the trend

**Table 5. Households Affected through OFW and Remittance Transmission Channels**

Ward Name	Household Members Working Abroad		Household Members Returned from Abroad		Households with Reduced Remittance
	Male	Female	Male	Female	
K_Ndege	3	1	2	1	3
Nala village	0	0	0	0	0
Viwandani	1	0	1	0	0
Uhuru	0	0	0	0	0
Chamwino	2	1	0	0	2
Makole	1	1	0	0	1
Miyuj	1	2	1	0	1
Msalato	0	1	0	1	1
Nzuguni	0	2	0	1	2
Dodoma Makulu	2	2	2	0	3
Tambuka Reli	1	0	1	0	1
Kilimani	2	2	0	0	2
Kikuyu Kaskazini	0	0	0	0	0
Kikuyu Kusini	1	2	1	0	0
Hazina	3	1	1	0	1
Madukani	2	1	0	0	1
Majengo	2	2	2	1	3
Kizota	3	3	1	0	1
Sultani	2	0	1	0	1
Chake Chake	5	3	2	1	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>26</b>

shows that less support was obtained by non-governmental organizations whereby 20 organizations could no longer get funding.

**Coping Mechanisms Adopted by the Households**

- In practice, in times of crisis, households smooth consumption based on their ability to buy goods and services (income effect) and availability of cheaper alternatives in the market (substitution effect). During the period covered by the study, most of the households (67.3%) reported that they modified their consumption of food, especially the expensive ones like meat and milk (62.1%).
- Although smoothing household or personal consumption is the rational action for households and individuals, some coping strategies might be detrimental in the long run. Examples are the shift to less quality food, withdrawal of children from schooling, and reduction in the households' expenses for medical care, all of which may hamper the growth of children.

Table 6 summarizes the mechanisms/strategies adopted by the households surveyed in

**Table 6: Coping Strategies Adopted by Households**

Coping Strategy	Percentage
Reduced the number of meals/less quality	67.3
Meet and milk taken only occasionally	62.1
Private to public school	13.2
New income activity (poultry/garden)	81.2
Shifted to generic drugs	32.5
Borrow money	78.3
Pawn assets	21.2
Used private car less frequently	51.3
Reduced communication expenses	62.4
Abandoned cooking with electricity	78.2
Boiled water at home and not bottled	32.1
Clothing expenses	21.9
Reduced entertainments/recreation	57.3
Changed type of drinks	52.9

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# CBMS Team in Kenya conducts TOT workshop

A training of trainers (TOT) workshop was held on February 21-27, 2010 in Nairobi, Kenya in preparation for the expansion of the CBMS implementation in the country.

Thirty participants representing the central government, local government units and civil society organizations participated in the said event. The TOT included discussions on various topics such as the introduction of the CBMS methodology, qualitative and quantitative data collection, data management and analysis, poverty mapping, and building of a CBMS database.

The main objective of the TOT workshop was to expand the pool of people knowledgeable on CBMS in Kenya to facilitate its scaling up to include other Local Authorities (LAs) and sectors. The TOT aims to build a pool of trainers to subsequently train other stakeholders.

The TOT was facilitated by Dr. Mary Amuyunzu-Nyamongo, Executive Director of the African Institute for Health and Development (AIHD) and Team Leader of CBMS-Kenya; Alice Sinkeet, Programme Officer of AIHD; Matthew Nyamwange, Data Analyst of AIHD; and Rangya Muro, Municipal Town Planner of Dodoma, Tanzania and CBMS-Tanzania Team Leader.

Among the highlights of the TOT workshop were the discussions on the different data collection methods such as social mapping, seasonal calendars, focus group discussions, key informant interviews and the CBMS survey questionnaire. During the TOT, revisions were made to the CBMS questionnaire based on comments from the participants. The participants also did role-playing and tried answering the questionnaires to get themselves acquainted with the survey instruments.

Trainings on the Census and Survey Processing System (CSPPro) and Statistical

TOT participants with the facilitators and speakers of the workshop. Dr. Mary Nyamongo, CBMS-Kenya Team Leader facilitated the 1st TOT workshop.



Participants were asked to take part in the construction of seasonal calendars. Seasonal calendars are used to map out drought, rainfall, food shortages, crime and periods of insecurity in the community.

Package for the Social Sciences (SPSS) were also conducted. Mr. Rangya Muro of CBMS-Tanzania discussed the importance of poverty mapping and Mr. Gideon Mailu, National Coordinator for the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) in Kenya, made a presentation for the closing session.

The TOT was an outcome of the 1<sup>st</sup> National CBMS Conference held in Naivasha, Kenya in June 2009. During the conference, the participants expressed a need for a TOT workshop to facilitate the institutionalization and implementation of CBMS in LAs. The conference was held to introduce the CBMS methodology to key stakeholders and to make them aware of its relevance in different development sectors. The conference was organized by the AIHD in collaboration with the Ministry of State Planning, National Development, and Vision 2030. It was made possible with the financial support of the Finnish Embassy through the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

The CBMS was first implemented in Tana River District, Kenya in 2007. The results from the implementation of the CBMS in Tana River District showed that it can be used to monitor the MDGs, facilitate planning and designing of projects, assist

in the monitoring of welfare conditions of households and individuals, and facilitate evidence-based policymaking. The CBMS implementation has expanded to include the local authorities in Murang'a, Kilifi and Kisumu in 2009. \*

[8th PEP Meeting..from page 8](#)

The PIERI subnetwork will host a workshop on the introduction to impact evaluations on June 12, 2010. On June 13, the PMMA will host a training workshop that will review how various growth strategies discussed in academic and policy circles can be modeled explicitly in a way that captures their global impacts on the domestic economy. Meanwhile, the training workshop supported jointly by the Australian Agency for International Development (AusAID), the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) and the PEP on impacts and policy responses to the global crisis will be held on June 14.

The PEP Network is funded by the AusAID, the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) and the IDRC. \*

# CBMS Network wins participants' choice award in UNDP's Regional Capacity Development Learning Week



Left: CBMS Network Team Leader Dr. Celia M. Reyes discussing with a CD participant. Below left: CD Learning Week participants were given 3 hours to go around the booths and decide which they think are the best CD initiatives.

Learning Week of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) held on May 24-26, 2010 in Manila, Philippines.

The annually celebrated CD Learning Week convenes members of the regional community of CD practitioners and experts, government representatives and policymakers, and members of civil society and donor organizations. Its objective is to provide an opportunity for each participating group/country to showcase its capacity development

materials that illustrate their project/initiative and are asked to prepare a brief 5-minute presentation/pitch.

This year's theme is "Reducing Poverty; Delivering Services" which builds on the UNDP's "Capacity is Development" campaign.

The recently concluded event featured three distinct yet interrelated segments: Practice Meets Policy segment which exposed practitioners, project developers, leaders, managers and implementers of CD interventions from governments, UNDP and other partners to a selected initiative in the Philippines that has demonstrated successes and offers lessons on poverty reduction such as the Community-Based Monitoring System (CBMS); CD Talk segment which featured a panel discussion and a CD Talk on transformational change; and Policy Dialogue segment which served as a venue for presenting and discussing strategies, effective design and implementation of poverty reduction and service delivery initiatives.

The event was spearheaded by the UNDP Asia Pacific Regional Office. \*

The PEP-CBMS Network Coordinating Team participated and won the participants' choice award for Capacity Development (CD) Achiever in the annual CD

innovations, knowledge, and results emerging from its project/initiative through a 'market' environment. Participants are normally given a space to visually display

GFC..from page 5

Tanzania to cope with the global financial crisis.

## Need for Evaluation of Current Government Mitigation Programs

The study is still ongoing with most of the sites but the preliminary results from the featured countries show that although the impact was not as large as initially expected, a modest increase in poverty was found in most cases.

The effects of the crisis vary across different groups. In fact, certain groups of households or individuals were affected more as compared with other groups. It is evident that the impacts of the crisis were transmitted through the

transmission channels that were identified in the featured countries. In response to the crisis, households adopted various coping mechanisms, some of which may be damaging and counter-productive in the medium and long run as seen in both the Philippine and Tanzanian cases. Although smoothing household or personal consumption is the rational action for households and individuals, some coping strategies might be detrimental in the long run as mentioned earlier. Examples of these are the shift to less quality food, withdrawal of children from schooling, and reduction of expenses for medical care, all of which can hamper the growth of children.

Although the government has identified and implemented some programs that could mitigate the impact of the crisis, more efficient targeting is necessary. The recurring problem of targeting in social protection programs highlights the need for a good targeting mechanism in order to minimize leakages and exclusion. Household-level data such as those being generated by the community-based monitoring system are very useful in identifying eligible beneficiaries. Hence, evaluation of current programs is needed to be able to identify those which are ineffective and need not be implemented anymore as well as to determine whatever improvements may be needed in other programs that should be kept. \*

# PEP Policy Forum to tackle post-crisis policies for poor in developing countries

The 8<sup>th</sup> Poverty and Economic Policy Network Meeting which will be held on June 12-18, 2010 in Dakar, Senegal will feature a policy forum on "After the Crisis: Policies for the Poor in Developing Countries. The policy forum will be held on June 15, 2010 at Dakar's Pullman Hotel.

The forum will serve as an avenue for discussions on monitoring the impacts of the Global Crisis and policy simulations for post-crisis recovery.

Three new PEP publications will also be launched during the gathering, namely, *In Focus: Community-Based Monitoring Systems (CBMS)* by Evan Due of the International Development Research Centre (IDRC)-Singapore and Celia Reyes of the CBMS, Philippines; *Child Welfare in Developing Countries* by Jane Mariara of the University of Nairobi, Kenya; and *Trade Liberalization and Poverty in Africa* by Bernard Decaluwe of Laval University, Canada.

The forum will also feature a session where donor organizations are expected

to consider and decide on what policies and programs they will be adopting during the post-crisis period. Confirmed presenters include the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

Meanwhile, the four subnetworks of the PEP, namely, CBMS, Modeling and Policy Impact Analysis (MPIA), Poverty Monitoring, Measurement and Analysis (PMMA), and Policy Impact Evaluation Research Initiative (PIERI) will have parallel meetings from June 16-18, 2010. Among the most eagerly anticipated sessions include: Growth and Public Spending (MPIA), Monitoring the Impacts of the Global Financial Crisis through CBMS in Africa (CBMS), Monitoring and Financing the MDGs through CBMS (CBMS), and a joint session on the Oxford Poverty and Human Development Initiative (CBMS and PMMA).

Training workshops will also be conducted prior to the policy forum.

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<http://www.pep-net.org>.

For inquiries, please write or call:  
PEP-CBMS Network Coordinating Office  
Angelo King Institute for  
Economic and Business Studies  
De La Salle University  
10th Flr. Angelo King International Center  
Estrada cor. Arellano Sts., Malate,  
Manila 1004, Philippines  
Tel No: (632) 523-8888 loc. 274  
DL/Telefax No: (632) 526-2067  
E-mail: [cbms@dls-csb.edu.ph](mailto:cbms@dls-csb.edu.ph)  
[cbms.network@gmail.com](mailto:cbms.network@gmail.com)

## Editorial Staff

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*Researchers/Writers*

## CBMS NETWORK UPDATES

PEP-CBMS Network Coordinating Team  
Angelo King International Center for Economic & Business Studies  
De La Salle University  
10th Flr. Angelo King International Center  
Estrada cor. Arellano Sts., Malate, Manila 1004, Philippines

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