



## ZRDC bares CBMS results from Mungule and Makishi in Zambia

**O**n April 30, 2007, the Zambia Research and Development Center (ZRDC), in collaboration with the Lusaka City Council (LCC), began the pilot tests of the Community-Based Monitoring System (CBMS for Poverty Reduction, Sustainable Development and Sanitation in the urban setting of Mungule and rural setting of Makishi, both of which are located in the province of Lusaka in Zambia. Lusaka is the most developed province in Zambia although some areas within the province are “not doing well” economically.

### The CBMS-Zambia

CBMS-Zambia, as the CBMS project in Zambia is known, used a simplified version of data collection methods, i.e., questionnaires that are easily understood by the ordinary village settlers. A total of 4,720 households from the two project sites were interviewed; 2,715 from Mungule and 2,005 from Makishi. The total number of persons surveyed in Mungule was 14,344 while in Makishi, it was 11,672.

The surveys addressed the poverty metrics used in the Poverty Reduction Strategy

Paper (PRSP) implemented in the 1990s to map poverty and to develop approaches in dealing with it. To identify the indicators to be used for the poverty mapping, meetings with community members were organized. At the same time, existing poverty and development monitoring systems were reviewed such as various censuses, the Zambia Demographic Health Survey (ZDHS), Zambia Sexual Behavior Survey (ZSBS) and Living Conditions Monitoring Survey (LCMS). From said measures/systems and meetings, the list of indicators used were chosen (Table 1).

Ten (10) data collectors conducted the interviews with assistance from community leaders and under the supervision of the ZRDC team. The data collectors were selected from the local community of Mungule. Prior to their selection, candidates were given courses on data collection ethics, statistics, introduction to poverty reduction, community development, enumeration principles and basic computer applications. The trainees were then given examinations, the results of which became

the basis for the selection of the enumerators or data collectors. The final team chosen consisted of 7 members, 4 of whom later participated in the training workshops that ensued.

### Survey Results

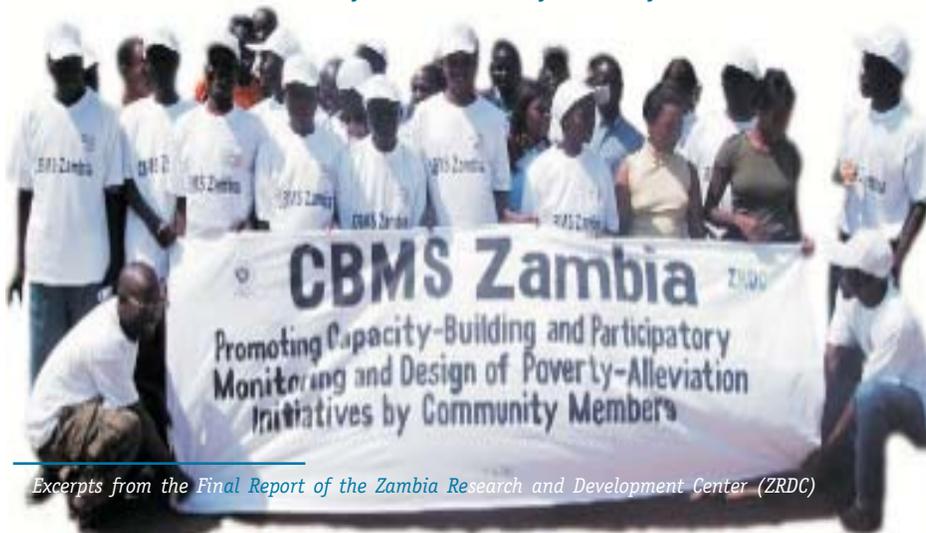
Below are the results culled from the report of the CBMS-Zambia.

#### Household and Household respondents' characteristics

Table 2 reveals that the age groups of 25-29, 30-34, 35-39 and 40-44 years old accounted for 12.6 percent, 17 percent, 14 percent and 10.4 percent of the respondents, respectively. The majority of the respondents (31.7%) were above the age 50 years old while slightly over 9 percent were aged 45-49 years old. It is worth noting that the 0.4 percent of respondents classified as “missing age/not stated” did not give their age or year of birth.

Marital status refers to either the married, single, widowed or those household heads who could not state their statuses. The highest proportion is observed among the married household heads who make up nearly three-quarters (73.4%) of the respondents. The lowest proportion (3.4%) refers the single household heads. The widowed constituted about 5 percent

*The enumerators from Zambia in their first round of CBMS*



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Data collectors and community members demonstrate active participation in one of the many workshops of the CBMS-Zambia

of the total sample. Less than a quarter (18%) could not disclose their marital status.

Table 3 shows that Mungule had the highest population at 14,344 people compared to 11,672 people in Makishi. However, Makishi had a slightly higher proportion of males (51.2 %) than Mungule (49.5 %) Mungule had half of its population (50.5 %) as female.

In the meantime, Table 4 shows that over 53 percent of the households in Makishi and Mungule are composed of 5 or less

members, while 36.2 percent of the households have between 5 and 10 members. Households composed of 10 and more members, on the other hand, account only for about 10 percent.

**Education**

In terms of the educational attainment the household heads interviewed in Makishi and Mungule, out of the 1,605 male and 400 female household heads interviewed in Makishi more household heads attended primary school (65.7 % vs. 64.8), but more female household heads went to secondary and tertiary school levels. The same trend holds for the primary school attainment in Mungule but for the tertiary level, the same proportion registered for both male and female household heads (Chart 1).

The survey data further shows that 6,728 of the children aged between 6 and 15 years old are in school and approximately 4,720 were out of school (this composition includes those who either dropped out or had never been to school). Nearly three quarters (74.4 %) of the children in school

are in Makishi and only a quarter (25.6 %) in Mungule. On the other hand, Mungule had higher proportion (58.7 % of children who are out of school as compared to 41.3 percent in Makishi (Chart 2).

**Health**

Table 5 shows the occurrence of diseases in the pilot sites. The majority of the household members for both (1825 household members for Makishi and 2475 for Mungule) reported that they had suffered from malaria over the period in question while tuberculosis and cholera affected 130 and 14 households for Makishi, respectively and 170 and 16 household members for Mungule, respectively. The high malaria prevalence in the area may in part be attributed to the lack of malaria prevention kits. HIV/AIDS was also recorded as one of the diseases affecting residents in the area. The figure further depicts that 60 of the respondents reported that someone in their households had suffered from HIV/AIDS. The incidences of malaria, tuberculosis and HIV were higher in Mungule than in

**Table 1. Core Indicators**

COMPONENT	INDICATORS
Nutrition and Health	Morbidity rate; Common diseases within a specific community; Availability of malaria prevention kit; Presence of health workers and health institutions; Prevalence of micro-nutrition deficiencies; Nutritional status of children under 5 years old; Infant and maternal mortality rate
Water and Sanitation	Access to sanitary toilets; Access to clean and disease-free water; Source of water supply; Availability of garbage disposal facilities
Education	Primary enrollment and success rate of completion; Existence of schools and educational materials; Literacy rate by gender; Availability of skilled labor
Agriculture and Livestock	Percentage of fertile land utilized for farming; Cultivation types; Availability of livestock/livestock implements; Availability of backyard gardens; Availability of Silos or crop storage facilities; Presence of livestock and crop disease; Number and types of livestock; Number of crimes per year
Peace and Tranquility	Conflicts or armed encounters; Cases of wife battering, children beatings; Violence rate around the neighborhood
Income and Expenditure	Asset ownership; Sources of income; Proportion of potential work force out of employment; Expenditure for food and clothing
Shelter	Housing type and ownership; Land tenure; Housing status (slum or planned)
Roads and communication	Main means of transport; Available communication infrastructure; Percentage of impassable roads; Distances to major economic centers by road
Individual socio-economic participation	Attendance in local meetings; Registration for national or local elections; Membership in community-based organizations; Leadership in community organizations

**Table 2. Background Characteristics of Household Heads**

Characteristic	Percent
<b>Age Group</b>	
15-19	0.2
20-24	4.5
25-29	12.6
30-34	17
35-39	14
40-44	10.4
45-49	9.1
50+	31.7
Missing Age/Not Stated	0.4
Total	100
<b>Sex</b>	
Female	18.7
Male	81.3
Total	100
<b>Marital Status</b>	
Married	73.4
Single	3.4
Widowed	5.1
Not Stated	18.1
Total	100
<b>Educational Attainment</b>	
Primary	66.6
Secondary	26.4
Tertiary	0.2
Never Been to School	6.8
Total	100
<b>Occupation</b>	
Farmer	72.6
Business	3.4
Other	21.9
Not Stated	2.1
Total	100

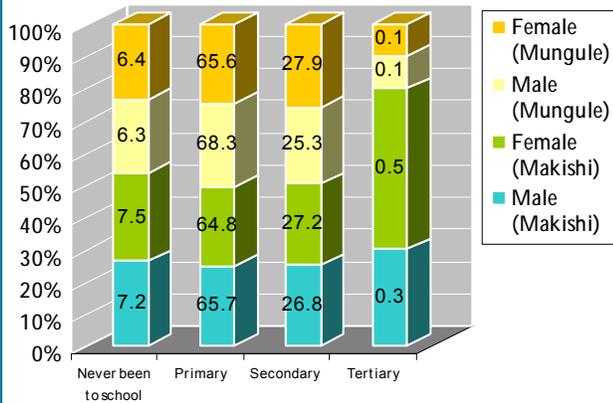
**Table 3. Gender Distribution of Population, Makishi and Mungule**

Sex of Total Population	Makishi		Mungule	
	Number	Percentage	Number	Percentage
Male	5,978	51.2	7,104	49.5
Female	5,694	48.8	7,240	50.5
TOTAL	11,672	100.0	14,344	100.0

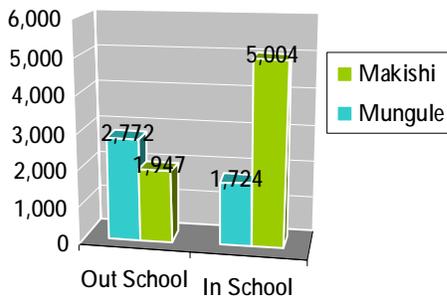
**Table 4. Household Size, Makishi and Mungule**

No. of Members	Makishi	Mungule	Both	
	Number	Number	Number	Percent
5 or less	1,004	1,539	2,543	53.9
Between 5 and 10	806	903	1,709	36.2
10 or more	195	273	468	9.9

**Chart 1. Educational Attainment of Household Heads, by Sex and Area**



**Chart 2. Educational Status of Children 6-15 years old by Area**



**Table 5. Incidence of Diseases, by Area**

Type of Disease	Makishi	Mungule	Both
	Number	Number	Number
Malaria	1,825	2,475	4,300
TB	130	170	300
Cholera	14	6	20
HIV	29	31	60

**Table 6. Distribution of Maternal and Child Health Conditions, by Area**

	Makishi	Mungule	Both	
	Number	Number	Number	Percent
New born	998	1,292	2,290	48.5 of total hhs
Delivered at home	565	775	1,340	58.5 of total hhs
New born that died	18	22	40	44.4 of under 5 deaths
Under 5 deaths	33	57	90	
Maternal deaths	0	0	0	0

Makishi. However, Makishi had more frequent cases of cholera.

On maternal and child health, Table 6 shows that nearly half (48.5%) of the households recorded new births between 2004 and 2008.

About 59 percent of the 9 9 8 recorded births in Makishi took place at home and nearly 60 percent of those recorded in Mungule were also delivered at home without assistance from qualified birth attendants. Though the proportion of deliveries at home was high, the number of infant deaths was relatively low. Data revealed that over the 3 years in question; only about 90 households recorded infant deaths in their homes.

### Sanitation

Table 7 shows that over three quarters (83.8%) of the respondents' houses have a simple bathroom while just under a quarter (14.1%) reported that they have no bathroom at 2.1%) said their houses have permanently constructed bathrooms. With regard to toilets, the table shows that nearly three quarters (72.8%) of the households use a pit latrine while 27 percent have no toilet inside their households. This

significant proportion indicates that some people may use the bush as an alternative. Only 0.2 percent of households in both sites have a flush toilet. This insignificant proportion with a flush toilet may be attributed to the lack of piped water in most areas of Mungule as evidenced from the low proportion of households having access to tap water. Over half (52.4 percent) of the respondents sourced their drinking water from dug wells while 45.7 percent cited deep drill wells as their source of drinking water. Less than 1 percent (0.4 percent) of the respondents cited tap water and "other sources" as their main source of drinking water.



An enumerator interviews a resident from one of the pilot sites

Household location and distance from the water source was also recorded and analyzed. The number of houses which are 500 meters or less in distance from water source accounted for 20.3 percent. Households which are 500 meters to 1 kilometer far from the source of water accounted for almost 40 percent of the total number of households. Women usually do the water-fetching. Households which have sources of water located farther than 1 kilometer from their houses registered at 5.5 percent (Table 8).

### Occupation

Major occupational activities observed are farming and business. Majority (80.4%) of the household heads are engaged in farming whereas less than four percent are in the business sector. Moreover, Mungule has higher counts of household heads involved in both farming and business when compared to Makishi. About a quarter (14.7%) are occupied in other activities, among which are bricklaying, sand digging, charcoal burning and automobile driving. However, a few (0.1%) of the household heads could not state their main occupation activities (Table 9).

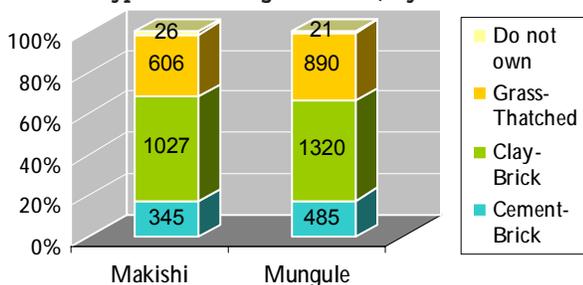
### Land

Based on the survey results, 96 percent of the respondents own agricultural land.

**Table 7. Access to Toilet Facilities and Source of Drinking Water, by Area**

	Makishi	Mungulu	Both	
	Number	Number	Number	Percent
<b>Type of Bathroom</b>				
No bathroom	311	355	666	14.1
Permanent bathroom	41	59	100	2.1
Simple bath place	1,653	2,301	3,954	83.8
<b>Type of Toilet</b>				
Flush toilet	4	6	10	0.2
No toilet	554	720	1274	27
Pit latrine	1,447	1,989	3,436	72.8
<b>Source of Drinking Water</b>				
N/A	23	24	47	1
Deep-drilled well	907	1,251	2,158	45.7
Dug well	1,060	1,415	2,475	52.4
Other	7	13	20	0.4
Tapped water	8	12	20	0.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,005</b>	<b>2,715</b>	<b>4,720</b>	<b>100</b>

**Chart 3. Type of Housing Materials, by Area**



Most respondents also own poultry, mostly chicken and have more than one type of domestic animals.

#### Housing material

Chart 3 depicts the types of materials of the houses owned by households in the two sites. It shows that just fewer than 50 percent of the respondents own clay-brick houses, while 32 percent own grass-thatched houses. Nearly 18 percent reported that they own cement-brick houses. The minority of the respondents (1%) did not own a house.

#### Assets owned by the households

More than half (50.7%) of the households own bicycles. Those owning cellphones account for about 47 percent of the households. Television sets are owned by 27.5 percent of the total households while more than three-quarters (75.6%) of the households owns a radio.

#### Problems faced by households

In terms of the common problems faced by households in the two sites, the most common is the onset of frequent illnesses which registered at 42.8 percent. This is

followed by employment opportunity problems at 32.4 percent, presence of drunkards in the household at 5.3 percent and too many dependents at 2.1 percent.

#### Source of energy

Chart 4 shows that over 80 percent of households rely on traditional means (like firewood, and charcoal) for their energy while only 17.9 percent have accumulators (solar) for their energy source. The minority (0.4%) have electricity for their energy. The high proportion of respondents relying on traditional means of energy may be a cause for the natural forest degradation in the area.

#### Source of income

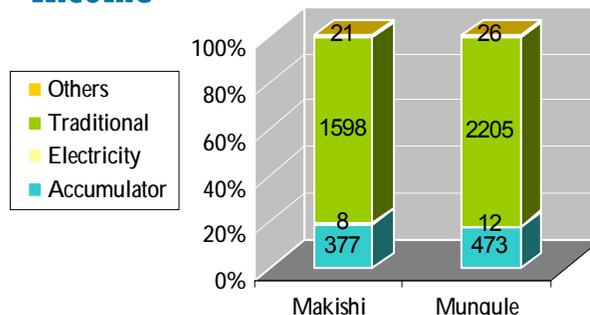
According to the CBMS results, trading was the largest contributor to annual income, accounting for nearly 40 percent (approximately 5.2 billion Kwacha) of all income in households. It is worth noting that most of the trading involved selling sand. Sand trading business may be the main trading activity due to the pilot sites' proximity to Lusaka where demand for sand is reasonably high for domestic and industrial constructions. Cultivation (20.4

**“trading was the largest contributor to annual income”**

**Table 8. Distance of Households from Water Source**

Distance	Percentage of HHs
less than 500m	20.3
<500m but <=1km	38.9
More than 1km	5.5

**Chart 4. Households' Sources of Energy, by Area**



**Table 9. Occupation/Livelihood of Household Heads, by Area**

Occupation	Makishi	Mungulu	Both	
	Number	Number	Number	Percentage
Farmer	1,638	2,158	3,796	80.4
Business	68	112	180	3.8
Others	290	405	695	14.7
Not stated	9	40	49	0.1

% or approx. 2.8B Kwacha) and income from casual work (20.8% or approx. 2.9B Kwacha) are also may be the major sources of income for the area.

#### Target Areas and the Uses of CBMS

The ZRDC, together with the LCC, lists programs that use the Community-Based Monitoring System (CBMS) data for effective implementation in Zambia:

#### Private Sector Development

Launched in 2005 as a government initiative, the Private Sector Development (PSD) Program aims to improve the business environment and reduce the cost of doing business in Zambia through the Citizens Economic Empowerment Commission (CEEC).

CBMS results revealed that the highest proportion of nearly a quarter (24.9%) of the households' annual income was obtained from trading activities. The CBMS complements the need for reliable poverty profiles to sustain effective implementation of the PSD program. CBMS data from pilot sites give a profile of various business activities, problems faced and the value of needed financial assistance.

*Relief Food Distribution Program*

Floods inundated Zambia, resulting to enormous loss of crops, livestock and household goods in affected communities and displacement of people from their homes in early 2008.

Through the CBMS data, the verified number of displaced people and amount of lost household goods were made available to the Disaster Management and Mitigation Unit (DMMU). CBMS provided accurate statistics to verify reports of heavy flooding and effects on communities in the pilot sites.

*Youth and Street kid Empowerment Program*  
CBMS data were made available to the Zambia Nation Service Rehabilitation (ZNSR) for the Youth and Street kid Empowerment Program.

The program, steered by the ZNSR, recruits street kids and trains them in skills such as carpentry and gardening, and gives them starter kits to help them start earning a living

*Women Empowerment Program*

The Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper (PRSP) released in Zambia in 2002-2004 showed that the incidence of poverty is extremely high (60.4 percent) in female-headed than in male-headed (51.5 percent) households. CBMS provides a

clear distribution of gender-related profiles in the pilot sites. This provides an accurate number of female-headed households in the target areas. They used a "Risk Mapping" approach (identifying AIDS-risk areas in the village and marking them).

*Water, Sanitation and Health*

Based on the number of constructed water and sanitation facilities, access to safe water supplies in Zambia is estimated at 89 percent of the population in urban areas and 37 percent of the population in rural areas.

A comprehensive CBMS database has been designed to provide information on wider issues relating to water resources and sanitation. High quality data on the types and main sources of community water resources, including the depth of water surface, and information on bath and toilet facilities were made available. These estimates provide data disaggregated enough to help various stakeholders and the local governments in local planning and policymaking.

**Negotiation with the DMMU for government adoption**

The ZRDC and LCC are currently negotiating with the DMMU about the government's possible adoption of the CBMS methodology.

**“replication to the whole Lusaka province is CBMS-Zambia’s goal”**

The CBMS data proved useful in the verification of displaced people and in the assessment of amount of lost household goods due to the floods that inundated Zambia in early 2008. To illustrate, initial reports indicated that 3000 households had been displaced by floods in two of the worst affected districts this year but after verification using CBMS data, the number came down to 1017.

**Ways Forward**

Though there have been problems in the data collection process due to inconsistencies found in some data entries, the possibility of institutionalizing the CBMS in Zambia is high. Replication to other areas and to the whole of the Lusaka province is CBMS-Zambia's goal. It is also believed that the CBMS, if adopted by the government of Zambia, will provide a central data retrieval system that can create a link among organizations such as the Ministry of Local Government, Ministry of Community Development and Social Services, and the City Council. \*

## CBMS included in list of deliverables under the regional MDG road map

The United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UN ESCAP) has included the "Localizing the MDGs through CBMS" initiative of the CBMS Network among over a hundred initiatives that will be implemented under the regional Millennium Development Goals (MDG) road map.

Prepared by the UN ESCAP after a needs assessment exercise, global and regional reviews and a series of MDG fora and consultations with United Nations (UN) agencies and other regional organizations from 2006-2007, the road map aims to "provide a framework for regional-level action - in the form of regional partnership

- in adding value to national development strategies and processes in the off-track countries and in those below the Asian average in achieving the MDGs."

The road map proposed five categories of products and services which will be implemented over a period of seven years by the UN and other regional agencies. The five major categories of deliverables include the following: (i) knowledge and capacity development, (ii) expertise, (iii) advocacy for the MDGs, (iv) regional cooperation in delivering regional public goods, and (v) resources.

The "Localizing the MDGs through CBMS"

initiative was classified under the knowledge and capacity development category of products and services in the road map. The initiative complements global efforts to fight poverty such as the MDGs by providing better statistics or benchmark information for evidence-based policymaking at the local level. Originally developed in the Philippines and implemented in 15 other countries in Asia and Africa, the CBMS can serve as a monitoring tool to track progress toward the



# SMERU gets nod to implement CBMS in Pekalongan

The CBMS Steering Committee has approved the project proposal of the SMERU Research Institute titled *"The Implementation of Community-Based Monitoring System in the City of Pekalongan, Indonesia"*.

In 2005, the SMERU Research Institute in Indonesia pilottested the CBMS in four villages in West and Central Java. The successful completion of the pilot phase has prepared the CBMS Team-Indonesia for the implementation of the CBMS in other areas. Although the proposed project will mainly adopt the methodology used during the pilot phase, the design considered the lessons learned from and recommendations put forward during the pilottest. As such, the instruments used in

data collection are modified to fit the local context.

Specific questions relating to disposal management, slums, persons with disability, the elderly and mortality rates are added to complete the requirements for local planning and budgeting.

In addition, the project, which will also be implemented by the SMERU Research Institute, will rely heavily on the involvement of the local people and will work closely with the local government of the City of Pekalongan and PATTIRO, a national nongovernment organization (NGO) in Indonesia.

This project will cover the City of Pekalongan consisting of 4 kecamatan, 46 kelurahan and approximately 80,000 families. The project will be implemented in two stages. The first stage will cover

2 kecamatan composed of 20 kelurahan while the second will cover the other 2 kecamatan composed of 26 kelurahan.

Out of the total estimated budget of US\$ 158,950 for the implementation of the CBMS in the city, 69 percent or US\$ 109,160 will be financed by the city government while the remaining funds will be covered by the research grant from the CBMS Network.

The implementation of the CBMS in the whole City of Pekalongan is expected to capacitate the city government in the preparation of Millennium Development Goals (MDG) reports, formulation of city plan and budget as well as in the compilation of poverty profiles that include welfare rankings. In addition, it is expected to serve as a model for the CBMS institutionalization in Indonesia. \*

## CBMS included in list of deliverables ... from page 5

MDGs at the local level due to the following reasons: (i) many of its indicators are included in the indicators for monitoring progress toward the MDGs; (ii) the CBMS is intended to be done on a regular basis and can therefore be used for updating MDG indicators and facilitating preparation of regular MDG reports, (iii) the CBMS can be used as basis by national and local governments for costing and identifying appropriate interventions needed to achieve the MDGs and the basis for resource allocation, and (iv) given the large spatial disparities, the CBMS can help identify where focus has to be given to achieve the targets.

The inclusion of the CBMS initiative in the road map took place after the UN ESCAP hosted an experts group meeting on localizing the MDGs in Bangkok on November 28, 2006. The meeting which was attended by CBMS researchers and local government unit (LGU) partners from Indonesia, Vietnam, Lao PDR and the Philippines aimed to provide valuable inputs and recommendations to the ESCAP Poverty Committee which later noted with satisfaction the contribution of the CBMS in

providing disaggregated data on MDG indicators at the local level. The Committee agreed that localizing the MDGs through CBMS would help integrate the goals into the national development strategies and thus called for other developing countries to initiate and implement similar innovative systems that would help localize the MDGs.

The road map also included plans on monitoring, evaluating, reporting and financing the implementation of the abovementioned products and services. Monitoring the MDG road map will be the responsibility of the participating UN agencies while evaluation will mainly involve assessing actual outcomes against associated timelines. Meanwhile, annual progress reports will be made at the country, regional and global levels. On the other hand, the regional MDG road map will be financed through any of the following sources: (i) UN organizations, agencies, funds and programs which have agreed to forge partnerships in certain program areas; (ii) the existing regional tripartite partnership among ESCAP, the Asian Development Bank (ADB) and the United Nations Development Program (UNDP); (iii) the UN Development Account; (iv) selected privatesector entities; and (v)

extrabudgetary resources from bilateral donors.

A copy of the regional MDG road map can be downloaded from the UN ESCAP's website through the following link: [http://www.mdgasiapacific.org/files/shared\\_folder/documents/Delivering-As-One.pdf](http://www.mdgasiapacific.org/files/shared_folder/documents/Delivering-As-One.pdf) \*

## Policymakers and researchers...from page 8

Selim Raihan of South Asian Network on Economic Modeling (SANEM) in Bangladesh under the session on *Reducing Regional Disparities through Regional Integration*; and Dileni Gunewardena of Sri Lanka and Veronique Robichaud of Canada under the session on *Inclusive Growth and Poverty Dynamics*.

The conclusions of the forum and analysis will be published in a book of proceedings.

Funding for the organization of the forum comes from ARTNeT, the International Development Research Centre of Canada (IDRC-Canada) and the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) through the PEP Network, and the AusAID. \*

# Kakwani introduces "Price Index for the Poor"



*Left: Dr. Hyun Son and Dr. Nanak Kakwani listens during the open forum. Right: Dr. Kakwani stressing the benefits of using PIP*

The Philippine Institute for Development Studies (PIDS) and the Community-Based Monitoring System (CBMS) Coordinating Team jointly hosted the Pulong Saliksikan on "Measuring the Impact of Price Changes on Poverty" presented by Dr. Nanak Kakwani and Dr. Hyun Son at the Carlos Romulo Hall, National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA) Building in Makati last August 19.

Dr. Kakwani, Professor at the University of New South Wales and former Director and Chief Economist of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) International Poverty Center as well as member of the CBMS Steering Committee, presented the operational "Price Index for the Poor" (PIP) methodology together with Dr. Hyun Son of the Asian Development Bank (ADB).

The PIP methodology indicates whether or not price changes hurt the poor relatively more than the non-poor. It measures the impact of prices on poverty based on the three most popular measures of poverty, namely, headcount ratio, poverty gap and severity of poverty. It also takes into account the consumption patterns of the poor and uses existing data collected through the household expenditure surveys.

The PIP will be useful in assessing whether price changes are pro-poor or anti-poor when measured against the commonly used Laspeyres price index which uses the average budget shares of goods in the consumer's basket as weights.

The Laspeyres index is completely insensitive to the distributional impact of

price changes. Hence, to understand the impact of price changes on poverty, an alternative price index with weights reflective of the consumption patterns of the poor is needed, according to Dr. Kakwani.

Since the weights used in the PIP are derived from the price elasticity of the poor, there will be a monotonic relationship between the PIP and the changes in poverty, implying that the higher the index is, the greater the increase is in poverty.

The presentation is intended to strengthen the capacity of the National Statistics Office (NSO) and the Congressional Planning and Budget Department (CPBD) of the Philippines' House of Representatives in

producing and analyzing relevant and reliable poverty indicators to produce routine reports on these poverty indices.

Members of the academe; government agencies such as the NSO, PIDS and Statistical Research Training Center (SRTC); and social research institutions such as the Pulse Asia and the Social Weather Station (SWS) attended the forum.

Among those who attended included: Mr. Tomas Africa, former Administrator of the NSO; Dr. Jesus Dumagan, Visiting Senior Research Fellow from PIDS; Mr. Gervacio Selda Jr., SRTC Executive Director and Member of the Technical Committee on Price Statistics; Dr. Ana Tabunda, Executive Director of Pulse Asia and Professor from the University of the Philippines School of Statistics; Dr. Mahar Mangahas, President of SWS; and Dr. Ponciano Intal, Jr., Executive Director of the Angelo King Institute for Economic and Business Studies (AKIEBS). Some members of the media were also present. \*

## Tarlac launches E-data collection

The province of Tarlac introduced an innovation in the field of data collection, as noted by the Community-Based Monitoring System (CBMS) Coordinating Team during its attendance of the presentation of the e-data collection process last July 3 by the provincial office of Tarlac.

The innovation, dubbed as e-data collection, directly encodes the data gathered to the Asus EEE unit which the enumerators bring with them to the field.

Attended by Dr. Celia Reyes, a couple of researchers from the CBMS Team and a representative from the National Anti-Poverty Commission (NAPC), the presentation showed the positive results yielded by the process. Specifically, the e-data collection, which combines the data collection and the encoding process, has greatly reduced the time spent on the



*Left: Governor Victor A. Yap of Tarlac  
Below: Tarlac enumerators show how e-data collection is done: it is data collection and encoding in one*



conduct of the actual interview -

averaging 10-12 minutes per interview - though it may still vary depending on the size of the households.

The province of Tarlac is currently on its first round of implementation of the CBMS, with data collection having started in March this year. It involves 17 municipalities and one city. Technical assistance is jointly provided by the NAPC and the CBMS Team. \*

# Policymakers and researchers to converge for policy forum



About 200 researchers from the Poverty and Economic Policy (PEP) Research Network and the Asia-Pacific Research and Training Network on Trade (ARTNeT) as well as Australian Agency for International Development (AusAID) staff and invited international experts are due to meet at the Dusit Thani Hotel in Makati City, Philippines on December 9, 2008 to support, discuss and disseminate cutting edge research on trade, investment and domestic policy coherence for inclusive growth. A joint collaboration of the PEP Research Network and ARTNeT, the policy forum precedes the 7<sup>th</sup> PEP General Meeting which will take place on December 10-12, 2008.

The policy forum aims to contribute to strengthening the analytical basis for policymaking that would involve the poor in the growth process. To achieve this, the results of cutting edge research done by PEP and ARTNeT researchers as well as international experts will be presented to policymakers and public officials. In

addition, interaction among policymakers and trade and poverty experts will be facilitated in order to provide a policy-oriented direction to the regional and international research agenda.

The policy forum will feature presentations of Bhattacharya Debapriva, Ambassador of Bangladesh to the World Trade Organization (WTO), and Ramos Mabugu of the Financial and Fiscal Commission of South Africa under the session on *Trade and Investment for Inclusive Growth: Evidence and Elements of a Coherent Policy Framework*; Ponciano Intal, Jr., Executive Director of the Angelo King Institute for Economic and Business Studies and professor of Economics at the De La Salle University-Philippines, and Navin Dahal of South Asia Watch on Trade, Economics and Environment in Nepal under the session on *Trade and Inclusive Growth: Mechanisms for More Inclusive Policymaking*; Jingjai Hanchalanah of the Chamber of Commerce of Thailand and

[O continuation on page 6](#)

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The **Updates** may be downloaded free from the Project's website:  
<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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## 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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