

OPHI

May 2012

OPHI e-Update

Welcome to the Oxford Poverty and Human Development Initiative's regular update email of announcements, new publications and opportunities. If you have any problems viewing this email, you can read it online here: <http://www.ophi.org.uk/news/ophi-updates/>

OPPORTUNITIES

15 June deadline approaching for OPHI-HDCA Summer School 2012

The application deadline for the 2012 OPHI-HDCA Summer School on Capability and Multidimensional Poverty is **15 June**. The intensive two-week course in Jakarta, Indonesia, 23 August – 4 September, provides a thorough conceptual and technical introduction to techniques of measuring multidimensional poverty. Alternatively, if you would like to sponsor a participant from a developing country to attend the summer school, we would love to hear from you.

[[Summer School 2012...](#)] <http://www.ophi.org.uk/summerschool2012/>

HIGHLIGHTS

National household survey in the field in Chad

A nationally representative household survey - which will provide a new dataset on OPHI's five missing dimensions of poverty data - is currently being fielded as part of a joint project between the Government of Chad, UNICEF-Chad and OPHI. The novel survey will cover one man and every woman in the households surveyed, to study intra-household dynamics with respect to breastfeeding, handwashing, and early marriage and OPHI's missing dimensions. OPHI Research Officer, Diego Zavaleta, visited Chad in April to support the fielding of the survey, which will be analysed by OPHI researchers. [[Chad missing dimensions project...](#)]

<http://www.ophi.org.uk/research/missing-dimensions/chad-understanding-the-connections-unicef-government/>

OPHI team contribute to new UNICEF child poverty book

Sabina Alkire, OPHI Director, and José Manuel Roche, OPHI Research Officer, have contributed to a new UNICEF book on child poverty and inequality. Their chapter explains how multidimensional child poverty measures which take account of the intensity of childhood deprivations can be created using the Alkire Foster method, along with the policy-relevance of such approaches. Other contributors include: Sir Richard Jolly, Jomo Kwame Sundaram, Richard Wilkinson, Deepa Narayan, Naila Kabeer, Paul Collier, Nora Lustig, Giovanni Andrea Cornia, Alberto Minujin and Andy Sumner. [[OPHI and child poverty...](#)]

<http://www.ophi.org.uk/ophi-team-members-contribute-to-new-unicef-child-poverty-book/>

New resources on Women's Empowerment in Agriculture Index (WEAI)

Questionnaires and survey modules for the new Women's Empowerment in Agriculture Index (WEAI) are now available through the OPHI website, along with the brochure and case studies. The WEAI, an innovative measure of the empowerment, agency, and inclusion of women in the agriculture sector, was recently launched in the Houses of Parliament, UK, by OPHI in partnership with USAID and IFPRI. [[WEAI resources in full...](#)] <http://www.ophi.org.uk/the-womens-empowerment-in-agriculture-index/>

PUBLICATIONS

GNH and the GNH Index: A Short Guide to the Gross National Happiness Index

A new report published by the Centre for Bhutan Studies (CBS) outlines the construction, results and policy framework of the newly revised and strengthened Gross National Happiness Index. The report's authors include Karma Ura, Director of CBS, Sabina Alkire and Tshoki Zangmo, CBS. **[GNH Short Guide...]** <http://www.ophi.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/Short-Guide-GNH-17-May-12.pdf>

Economics is poised to change ~ Opinion piece on Project Syndicate

Opinion piece by Sabina Alkire for the Project Syndicate website on the need for a new economic framework which facilitates human flourishing on a shared planet. The article outlines three realistic but essential steps for creating a new economic framework. **[Project Syndicate article...]** <http://www.ophi.org.uk/steps-toward-creating-a-new-economic-model/>

Least Developed Countries and the Multidimensional Poverty Index

A new briefing by Sabina Alkire and Gisela Robles Aguilar, OPHI Research Assistant and DPhil student in Social Policy, University of Oxford, provides Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI) results for 68 of the least developed countries (as defined by the U.N). It shows that while such countries have a higher MPI, they are not home to the majority of MPI poor people. **[LDCs briefing...]** <http://www.ophi.org.uk/least-developed-countries-and-the-multidimensional-poverty-index/>

Understanding Poverty and Wellbeing ~ ODI Research Report

A new note on the future of poverty research has been produced after consultation with leading poverty experts, including Sabina Alkire and OPHI Research Associates John Hammock and Gaston Yalonetsky. This is the conclusion of a consultation, led by staff in the research and evidence division of DFID, on the next steps in poverty and wellbeing research in a changing world. **[ODI poverty report...]** <http://www.ophi.org.uk/new-publication-on-future-of-poverty-research-features-ophi-researchers/>

New OPHI briefings section on website

OPHI's short briefing papers are now collected together in a new section on the OPHI website. Here you can find concise summaries of specific aspects of OPHI's research or policy work, often supported by longer articles in the Working Paper and Research in Progress series. **[OPHI Briefings...]** <http://www.ophi.org.uk/publications/briefing-documents/>

OPHI EVENTS AND PODCASTS

Live webcast and Oxford seminar ~ Professor Jacques Silber

On 7 June, Professor Jacques Silber, Bar-Ilan University, Israel, will present a new paper 'On relative bi-polarization and the middle class in Latin America'. Professor Silber is the founding editor of *the Journal of Economic Inequality*. The special seminar, co-hosted by OPHI and the Department of Economics, will also be broadcast live. **[Event and webcast details...]** <http://www.ophi.org.uk/live-from-oxford-special-seminar-on-bi-polarization-and-the-middle-class-in-latin-america/>

Research workshop ~ Value Judgements in Multidimensional Poverty Measurement Design

On 28-29 June, OPHI will hold a small intensive workshop with philosophers and economists to discuss the value judgements that arise in designing official measures of multidimensional poverty, such as the choice of indicators, cutoffs and weights. The possibility of coordinating insights from statistical, deliberative, political and normative reasoning will also be discussed. **[Research workshop...]** <http://www.ophi.org.uk/events>

Podcast of recent lecture ~ Professor James E. Foster on New Frontiers in Poverty Measurement

Video and slides are now available from a special seminar given by Professor James E. Foster, OPHI Research Associate on new work on the future of poverty measurement, including ultra-poverty, chronic poverty and relative poverty. [[Watch podcast...](#)]

<http://www.ophi.org.uk/james-foster-new-frontiers-poverty-measurement/>

PRESENTATIONS AND CONFERENCES

Recent Ultra Poverty Conference ~ George Washington University

OPHI team members presented new work at a major International Ultra Poverty Conference in Washington D.C. Suman Seth, OPHI Research Officer, presented on severe poverty and disparities with Sabina Alkire; Mauricio Apablaza, OPHI Researcher, presented on chronic poverty in Chile, and multidimensional poverty dynamics (with José Manuel Roche); while Sabina Alkire presented on multiple deprivations and the missing dimensions of poverty data.

[[Ultra Poverty Conference...](#)] <http://www.ophi.org.uk/ophi-team-to-present-at-ultra-poverty-conference/>

Poverty and Inequality in Latin America ~ LACEA/IDB/WB/UNDP Network

José Manuel Roche presented joint work with Sabina Alkire and Suman Seth on 'Sub-national disparities and inter-temporal evolution of multidimensional poverty' at the

LACEA/IDB/WB/UNDP Network meeting on Inequality and Poverty in New York in April.

Other presenters included Louise Cord, World Bank and José Antonio Ocampo, Columbia University. [[LACEA meetings...](#)] <http://www.ophi.org.uk/ophi-researcher-presenting-on-poverty-and-inequality-in-latin-america/>

SOCAP, Sweden and New School, New York

Mauricio Apablaza also presented at the recent SOCAP meetings which gathered together impact investors, social entrepreneurs and institutions in Malmo, Sweden, and José Manuel Roche was invited by Alberto Minujin to give a seminar to graduate students at the New School, New York on child poverty measurement. [[OPHI news and updates...](#)]

<http://www.ophi.org.uk/news/>

OPHI PEOPLE

OPHI is pleased to welcome a number of visiting academics and students during spring 2012.

OPHI Research Associate **Professor James E. Foster**, George Washington University is visiting OPHI in Trinity Term, April-June 2012.

Professor Jacques Silber of Bar-Ilan University will be visiting in June as an OPHI Visiting Research Fellow.

Murilo Fabel, Universidade Federal de Minas Gerais, Brazil, is with us throughout 2012 as a Visiting Research Fellow.

A new OPHI Research Officer, **Paola Ballon**, also joined the OPHI team in Oxford in April.

Abdullah Al Mamun, Technical Specialist with the Aga Khan Foundation Afghanistan, **Elisabetta Aurino**, a PhD Economics student at the University Roma Tre, **Eliza Cheung**, a PhD Public Health student at the Chinese University of Hong Kong, and **Luiz Marcelo Videro**

Vieira Santos, PhD Management student at University of London, are all joining OPHI as Study Fellows during spring 2012.

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May 2012 - OPHI e-Update “Advancing freedoms and overcoming poverty.”

OPHI e-Updates aim to highlight key resources and information materials. We welcome your feedback and participation.

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Oxford Poverty & Human Development Initiative (OPHI)
Oxford Department of International Development
Queen Elizabeth House (QEH), University of Oxford
Mansfield Road, Oxford OX1 3TB, UK

<http://www.ophi.org.uk/>

tel. +44 1865 271915

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