

# OPHI

April 2011

Welcome to the regular e-Update of announcements, new publications and opportunities by the Oxford Poverty and Human Development Initiative (OPHI), University of Oxford. [OPHI...] <http://www.ophi.org.uk/>

## OPHI: IN FOCUS

### **New research on child poverty dynamics**

Using data from the Young Lives study of childhood poverty, new OPHI research examines changes in multidimensional child poverty over time in four countries – Ethiopia, Peru, Vietnam and India (Andhra Pradesh). The paper by Gaston Yalonetzky and Mauricio Apablaza, presented at the 25th Anniversary conference of the Centre for the Study of African Economies, calculates the probabilities of children moving into and out of multidimensional poverty using novel applications of Alkire-Foster indices. [Child poverty research...] <http://www.ophi.org.uk/publications/ophi-research-in-progress/>

### **Upcoming OPHI Summer School**

Applications are now open for the two-week OPHI Summer School on ‘Capability and Multidimensional Poverty’ at Delft University of Technology, Netherlands, 24 August – 3 September 2011. The course is a thorough conceptual and technical introduction to the capability approach and techniques of measuring multidimensional poverty. [Find out more...] <http://www.ophi.org.uk/teaching/short-courses/#summer2011>

### **Collaborations in Venezuela**

OPHI Research Officer Jose Manuel Roche visited Venezuela in March to work on a joint research project on multidimensional poverty measurement with Professor Cesar Gallo, Universidad Central de Venezuela. He also met with the Ministry of Planning and Finance, the Institute of Statistics, national universities, and UNDP and UNICEF to discuss multidimensional poverty and explore cooperation. [Policy and the MPI...] <http://www.ophi.org.uk/policy/multidimensional-poverty-index/>

### **MPI updates for Human Development Report 2011**

Work is underway to update the Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI) results for the 2011 UNDP Human Development Report. As well as updating figures where new information is available and adding new countries to the MPI, we are also breaking the data down by region and ethnicity for 75 countries. [About MPI 2011...] <http://www.ophi.org.uk/news/#AdP>

### **James Foster and Martin Ravallion discuss poverty measurement**

If you're interested in the debate surrounding different poverty measurement techniques you might want to visit the Centre for Global Development's website. In February, OPHI Research Associate James Foster and the World Bank's Martin Ravallion discussed multidimensional poverty in a seminar in Washington. **[Find out more...]** <http://www.ophi.org.uk/news/#CGD>

## **OPHI IN ACTION**

### **UNDP-OPHI training course**

In March, OPHI ran a training course jointly with UNDP for 44 policy makers from 33 countries. Representing national statistics offices, Ministries of Planning, Finance and Economy, as well as UNDP, the course covered the family of new Human Development Index measures with a special emphasis on the MPI. **[OPHI-UNDP course...]** <http://www.ophi.org.uk/teaching/short-courses/#undpoxford>

### **Bhutan National Statistics Bureau training**

OPHI Director Sabina Alkire taught a 3-day intensive course entitled 'Creating a National Multidimensional Poverty Index' in March at the Bhutan National Statistics Bureau. **[About Bhutan's Gross National Happiness Index...]** <http://www.ophi.org.uk/policy/national-policy/bhutan/>

### **Participation in the Kolkata Group**

Sabina Alkire participated in the recent ninth Kolkata Group workshop which examined the dimensions of social equity in India, especially related to poverty. The Group is chaired by Professor Amartya Sen. **[Kolkata Group 2011...]** <http://www.ophi.org.uk/news/#TH>

### **Presenting on 'Ethics and Development'**

On 23 February, Sabina Alkire presented at a conference hosted by the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation called 'TRAVERSE: Ethics and Development – Or: What do we owe the global poor?'. **[Conference information...]** [http://www.ddc.admin.ch/fr/Accueil/Manifestations/Agenda\\_vue\\_detaillee?itemID=198062](http://www.ddc.admin.ch/fr/Accueil/Manifestations/Agenda_vue_detaillee?itemID=198062)

## **PUBLICATIONS**

### **Forthcoming journal articles:**

- **“Understandings and Misunderstandings of Multidimensional Poverty Measurement,”** Sabina Alkire and James Foster – forthcoming in Journal of Economic Inequality
- **“A Dissimilarity Index of Multidimensional Inequality of Opportunity,”** Gaston Yalonetzky, forthcoming in the Journal of Economic Inequality **[online first here...]** <http://www.springerlink.com/content/930uq30u77q71437/>

## New Working Papers:

- “**Measuring Energy Poverty: Focusing on What Matters,**” Patrick Nussbaumer, Morgan Bazilianb, Vijay Modi, and Kandeh K. Yumkella. [Read online...] <http://www.ophi.org.uk/measuring-energy-poverty-focusing-on-what-matters/>

## New Research in Progress:

- • “**A note on the standard errors of the members of the Alkire Foster family and its components**”, Gaston Yalonetzky. [Read online...] <http://www.ophi.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/OPHI-RP-25a.pdf>

## OPPORTUNITIES

### **OPHI Oxford Seminar series – May - June 2011**

OPHI's Oxford seminar series will resume from 9 May - 20 June. Speakers will include Thomas Pogge, Director of the Global Justice Program and the Leitner Professor of Philosophy and International Affairs at Yale University; Suman Seth, OPHI Research Officer and Sabina Alkire, Director of OPHI. [Seminar dates and speakers...] <http://www.ophi.org.uk/events/seminars/>

### **Steve Killelea on Economics and Peace - Oxford, 19 May 2011**

OPHI and the Oxford Network of Peace Studies will welcome Australian businessman and philanthropist, Steve Killelea, to Oxford on 19 May to deliver a lecture entitled “*Economics, Business Development and Metrics: The Global Peace Index*”. [Lecture information...] <http://www.ophi.org.uk/events/>

## OPHI PEOPLE

### **New OPHI staff**

We are pleased to welcome two new full-time staff members to the OPHI team. **Tery van Taack** joins us as the new Project Coordinator, replacing Natalie Cresswell, and **Joanne Tomkinson** replaces Sarah Valenti as Research Communications Officer. We would like to thank Sarah and Natalie for their hard work for OPHI and wish them the very best in their new ventures. [OPHI people...] <http://www.ophi.org.uk/about/people/>

### **New guests and visitors**

We're very pleased that **Nicolas Ruiz**, Analyst, Statistics Directorate, OECD, has joined OPHI as a Research Associate, while **Carolina Moreno**, coordinator of Humanum, the Latin American Journal of Human Development, joins us from UNDP until December 2011.

During the spring and summer OPHI will also welcome the following visitors:

- **James Foster**, Professor at George Washington University & OPHI Research Associate
- **Cesar Gallo**, Professor at Universidad Central de Venezuela
- **Gordon Anderson**, Professor of Economics at the University of Toronto

- **Mark McGillivray**, Research Professor in International Development, at Deakin University and OPHI Research Associate

### Staff and visitor updates

We are happy to congratulate **Diego Zavaleta**, OPHI Research Officer, on being awarded his doctorate from Oxford University. We said goodbye to **Aparna John**, our esteemed Research Assistant, in February, and welcomed **Christian Oldridges** in the same role. **Professor Minquan Liu** joined us from the Center for Human and Economic Development Studies (CHEDS), School of Economics, Peking University as a Senior Visiting OPHI Fellow.

The following visiting students also joined us:

- **Vivianna Rodriguez Carreon**, PhD Candidate, The University of Sydney
- **Nicole Rippin**, PhD Candidate German Development Institute
- **Cecilia Tinonin**, PhD Candidate, University of Bologna, Dept of Statistical Science

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April 2011 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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