



## Annual Report 2009-2010

### Bringing a Scientific Lens to Global Development

The Center of Evaluation for Global Action (CEGA) is the University of California's premiere center for research on global development. We are focused on improving the results of large-scale social and economic programs throughout the world. Our researchers rigorously test the assumptions, and measure the outcomes, of innovative policies and programs that are intended to improve the lives of the poor. We routinely cross disciplinary boundaries, challenge conventional thinking, and generate knowledge about which anti-poverty programs work—and why. As a result, we have produced some of the most influential and policy-relevant studies in recent years, from evaluating conditional cash transfers for education to assessing the impact of community-led development and farmer's crop insurance.



CEGA Faculty Director, Edward Miguel with Senior Field Officer, Simon Juma Wangila, at a Chlorine Dispensers Project site in Busia, Kenya



CEGA Graduate Student Fellow, Stanislao Maldonado, performing fieldwork in Peru

### Spotlight: Technology Adoption & Development

#### *Improving Agricultural Practices in Sub-Saharan Africa*

This year CEGA helped launch a new effort to improve the adoption of agricultural technology by small-scale farmers in Sub-Saharan Africa. Called the Agricultural Technology Adoption Initiative (ATAI), this 6-year research program is a collaboration of CEGA, the Jameel Poverty Action Lab at MIT, and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.

ATAI will address the barriers that prevent poor farmers from investing in profitable agricultural technologies (like fertilizer, improved seed, and small-scale irrigation systems). The initiative funds randomized evaluations of strategies to improve technology adoption—including novel approaches for marketing, financing, and distribution. Projects led by CEGA researchers include:

- An evaluation of how price discounts and farmer cooperatives affect fertilizer use in Kenya
- A study of how social networks impact adoption of sustainable farming practices in Malawi
- A pilot investigation of whether “collective action” interventions for West African smallholders can achieve sustainable market access

For more details on these and other projects, visit <http://atai-research.org>.

#### *Innovations for Environmental Health*

Billions of people throughout the world struggle without clean water and sanitation, even though the technologies to improve environmental health are abundant and often affordable. To increase appropriate use of proven interventions for water supply, sanitation, hygiene and indoor air quality, CEGA and UC Berkeley have partnered with USAID, the Academy for Education Development, and CARE International in a new initiative, Supportive Environments for Health.

This \$100 million effort will leverage CEGA's expertise in the marketing and distribution of clean water products, improved cookstoves, and other technologies that prevent diarrheal disease, reduce respiratory infections, and protect public health. As part of the initiative, Center researchers will advise partners on the design of new programs, and will also begin new studies to test, for example, the effectiveness of integrating water and hygiene interventions into HIV/AIDS and maternal and child health programs.

Learn More about CEGA at:  
<http://cega.berkeley.edu>

# Changing the Landscape of Development Policy

## Bringing Evidence to Development Partners

In September 2010, CEGA researcher Eli Berman (UC San Diego) helped launch the first "Evidence Summit" in Washington DC, with a talk about the evaluation of counter-insurgency and counter-terrorism strategies in Iraq. The monthly Summit is part of a new professional development series at USAID, intended to expose DC-based staff to the latest lessons from rigorous research. The event was hosted by Ruth Levine, the new Director for USAID's Bureau for Policy, Planning and Learning. CEGA will participate in another Summit in January 2011, to share new research on agricultural technology adoption.

CEGA has also helped design and launch a new impact evaluation initiative within the World Health Organization, focused on rigorous testing of infectious disease control programs. The Center's faculty and staff have contributed teaching materials and success stories to the effort, which seeks to increase the capacity of developing country health researchers to participate in impact assessment. Temina Madon, CEGA's Executive Director, also participated in a series of consultative meetings to identify priorities for research on the delivery of new and improved tools, strategies and interventions for the diseases of poverty.

## Building Consensus Among Key Stakeholders

In October 2010, a group of policymakers, practitioners, and donors gathered in Berkeley for a conference, "Agriculture for Development – Revisited," examining the state of rural development in light of the current financial crisis and other challenges. Hosted by CEGA in partnership with the World Bank and the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR), the meeting featured policy-relevant studies of food price volatility and food security, farming technology adoption, and income diversification. Presentations and papers from the conference are available at <http://cega.berkeley.edu/agfordev>.

## Engaging the Private Sector in Pro-Poor Financing

In late 2009, CEGA embarked on a new partnership with the Bay Area-based EGG Foundation, intended to develop the market for index-based weather insurance in Africa. Through the collaboration, we hope to design and pilot new insurance products, and build the private sector partnerships needed to finance scale-up. Already, we have produced an analysis of existing agricultural insurance ventures, and are now conducting pilot research in Kenya, with funding from ATAI.

## Sharing Stories of Impact

CEGA held its first annual "Evidence to Action" symposium in April 2010, highlighting the role of rigorous research in shaping priorities for health and education policies around the world. At the event, we discussed the Kenyan government's national scale-up of a school-based program for children's deworming, which is based on a randomized control trial demonstrating that the program is a cost-effective way to increase school participation.

This development "best buy", costing only 36 cents annually per child, reached over 3.6 million children in Kenya in 2009 and millions more worldwide as other governments followed lead. The CEGA symposium brought together researchers and government officials with the greater Bay Area community, and culminated in the creation of CEGA's Advisory Board. Event materials are online at <http://cega.berkeley.edu/E2A.html>.



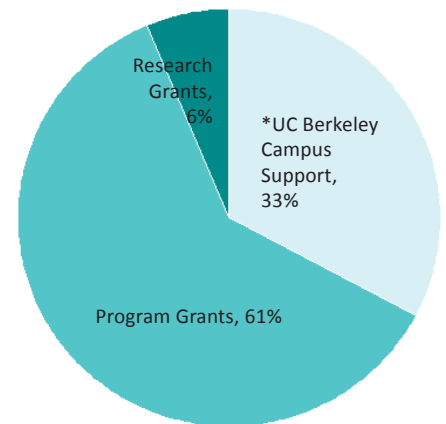
Chief Economist of the World Bank, Jusin Lin (left) with CEGA Faculty Affiliate, Alain de Janvry (right)

# Supporters & Sponsors

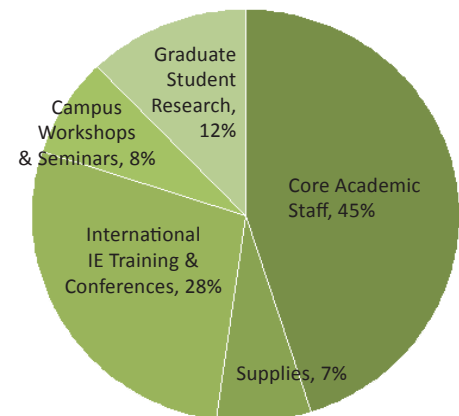
In the last year, we have enjoyed generous support for programs and research from the Lowenstein Foundation (for international training activities), the Ford Foundation, the Hewlett Foundation, the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, Charles Levin, Derek Schrier and the EGG Foundation, and Julian Dwek. We would also like to acknowledge the financial support, as well as administrative services and office space, provided by several units of the University of California, Berkeley in 2009-2010:

- Department of Economics
- College of Letters & Sciences
- Haas School of Business
- Department of Agriculture and Resource Economics

## CEGA Income by Funding Type



## CEGA Expenses by Cost Category



\*UC Berkeley Campus has provided catalytic support (through 2011) to help launch the center.

# Civil Service College Singapore



## Training the Next Generation of Development Innovators

### *Local Impact: Graduate Student Fellowships*

CEGA is pleased to announce the new Charles and Feralee Levin Family Fellowship, which will provide support for graduate student research on the impacts of anti-poverty interventions. Introduced by CEGA Advisory Board member Charles Levin, the fellowship provides an award of \$5,000 per student for international travel and research expenses.

In 2009-2010, the Center awarded a number of \$500 dissertation fellowships to UC students, including:

- **Michelle Reid, Demography:** Does labor migration erode human capital in sending communities? Evidence from Tajikistan
- **Stanislao Maldonado, Agricultural and Resource Economics:** Economic and political effects of the resource curse: Evidence from a natural experiment in Peru.
- **Ben Crost, Agricultural and Resource Economics:** The effect of community-driven development on civil conflict: The case of KALAH-CIDSS in the Philippines
- **Jane Zhang, Economics:** Secondary Education, Migration, Fertility, and Sibling Effects
- **Kenyinde Ajayi, Economics:** School Choice and the Returns to School Quality
- **Sinaia Urrusti Frenk, Economics:** The Impact of Remittances on Infant Mortality in Mexico

To expose greater numbers of students to the theory and practice of impact evaluation, CEGA has launched a 4-unit course on Global Poverty and Impact Evaluation, to be offered in Spring 2011. The class targets advanced undergraduates, Masters students, and PhD candidates from non-economics disciplines who are motivated to engage in rigorous measurement of the impacts of development programs and technologies. The Center has also continued to sponsor weekly development seminars with presentations by visiting faculty researchers as well as graduate students.

### *Global Impact: International Impact Evaluation Workshops*

In addition to our work on the UC Berkeley campus, CEGA also partners with NGOs and governments around the world to train practitioners and policymakers in impact evaluation. These high-level events build capacity, disseminate knowledge from recent research, and generate new collaborations.

- **Johannesburg, South Africa, January 12-16, 2010.** Scaling-Up Male Circumcision for HIV Prevention. Partners: Gates Foundation, PEPFAR, UNAIDS.
- **Singapore, March 23-26, 2010.** Impacting Governance & Business Development. Partners: The Asia Foundation, Singapore Civil Service College.
- **Kigali, Rwanda, March 22-April 2, 2010:** Performance-based Financing for Maternal & Child Health. Partners: Rwanda School of Public Health, The World Bank.

### *Media Impact: The Africa Reporting Project*

To combat the lack of public understanding about issues facing African development, UC Berkeley's School of Journalism has launched a new Africa Reporting Project, in partnership with CEGA. The program aims to develop a cadre of journalists knowledgeable and inspired to write about food and agricultural issues as they relate to smallholder farmers in Africa, particularly women. In the project's first year, fourteen students and visiting scholars from around the world worked closely with African journalist mentors to produce print and online articles, video documentaries, blogs and multimedia pieces. For more information, visit the project at <http://africareportingproject.org/>.



Fieldwork in China  
CEGA Graduate Student Fellow,  
Jane Zhang

India



## Learn More about Our Work: Recent Findings from CEGA Evaluations

### Rwanda

A national pay-for-performance contracting scheme, led by the Rwandan government, linked provider payments to performance for a random sample of health clinics. The intervention yielded large increases in institutional deliveries, preventive care visits by young children, and the quality of prenatal care.

"Paying Primary Health Care Centers for Performance in Rwanda." (2010) Paul Gertler with Paulin Basinga, Agnes Binagwaho, Agnes L.B. Soucat, Jennifer R. Sturdy, and Christel M.J. Vermeersch. World Bank Policy Research Working Paper, <http://go.worldbank.org/PEL86WUFK0>

### India

Gender differences in families' investments in children often undermine girls' development. But these disadvantages can be mitigated by access to wage generating opportunities outside the home. Providing recruiting services to help young women get jobs increases the likelihood of their attending school. It also generates health benefits, resulting in increased Body Mass Index.

"Economic Opportunities and Gender Differences in Human Capital: Experimental Evidence for India." (2010) Robert Jensen. NBER Working Paper, <http://www.nber.org/papers/w16021>

### Malawi

A new program, offering \$10/month conditional on satisfactory school attendance (plus direct payment of secondary school fees), is leading to significant declines in self-reported sexual activity among young women in Malawi. For girls not attending school at the program's start, early marriage and teenage pregnancy are also significantly reduced.

"The short-term impacts of a schooling conditional cash transfer program on the sexual behavior of young women." (2010) Craig McIntosh with Sarah Baird, Ephraim Chirwa, and Berk Özler. World Bank Policy Research Working Paper, <http://go.worldbank.org/1717S7UG60>

## Contact Us

For more information about CEGA's activities, visit <http://cega.berkeley.edu> or contact

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Contributions to CEGA can be made online at <https://givetocal.berkeley.edu/egiving/index.cfm?Fund=FU0874000>



Malawi