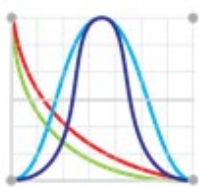


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ACEIR
AFRICAN CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE
FOR INEQUALITY RESEARCH



ARUA
African Research
Universities Alliance



ACEIR is a research centre of the African Research Universities Alliance (ARUA). With country partners in eastern, western and southern Africa, ACEIR aims to contribute to deep, multidimensional and interdisciplinary understandings of inequality in each country context, and a continental and global understanding of how inequalities can be overcome.



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ACEIR MID-YEAR NEWS BULLETIN

Part 2, 2022

In part 2 of our bumper mid-year newsletter, read about:

- The first published working paper of the Transforming Social Inequalities

Through Inclusive Climate Action (TSITICA) project, titled "Framing the potential of climate change interventions to support poverty reduction and promote equity whilst reducing climate risk".

- New publications by ACEIR researchers in academic journals, as book chapters, online blogs and opinion pieces.
- Our team members' footprints at academic conferences, seminars, and poverty and inequality dialogues.

NEW ACEIR PUBLICATION | Framing the potential of climate change interventions to support poverty reduction and promote equity whilst reducing climate risk



By Sheona Shackleton, Nadine Methner, Darlington Sibanda, Roger Few & Mark Tebboth
TSITICA project working paper no 1, April 2022. Cape Town, South Africa: ARUA Centre of Excellence in Climate Change and Development & African Centre of Excellence for Inequality Research.

The first in a series of working papers, this paper describes the thinking and evidence that frames the TSITICA project's research agenda, focusing on how local level adaptation interventions can contribute to enhancing livelihoods and reducing poverty and inequality, based on an extensive literature review. It discusses key insights from the climate change and development literature; climate change and poverty literature; climate change and inequality literature; and from the climate change, vulnerability, social justice and equity literature.

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NEW PUBLICATIONS BY ACEIR RESEARCHERS | Journal articles



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Atta-Ankomah, R., & Danso-Mensah, K. 2022. [Best management practices for sustainable oil palm production: the case of smallholder farmers' adoption in Ghana.](#) *Forests, Trees and Livelihoods*, 31:2, 123-138, DOI: 10.1080/14728028.2022.2076747.

Atta-Ankomah, R. 2022. [Credit for households in Ghana: Has mobile money \(momo\) improved inclusive access?.](#) *Scientific African*, 16: e01230. DOI: 10.1016/j.sciaf.2022.e01230.

Banerjee, A., Karlan, D., Osei, R., Trachtman, H., & Udry, C. 2022. [Unpacking a multi-faceted program to build sustainable income for the very poor.](#) *Journal of Development Economics*, 155: 102781, doi.org/10.1016/j.jdeveco.2021.102781

Clementi, F., Fabiani, M., Molini, V. & Zizzamia, R. 2022. [Are we really painting the devil on the walls? Polarization and its drivers in Sub-Saharan Africa in the past two decades.](#) *Journal of African Economies*, 31(2), March 2022: 124-146.

Espi-Sanchis, G., Leibbrandt, M., & Ranchhod, V. 2022. [Age, employment and labour force participation outcomes in COVID-era South Africa.](#) *Development Southern Africa*,

DOI:10.1080/0376835X.2022.2051439

Kiplagat, I.J., Mugo, M.G., & **Oleche, M.O.** 2022. [Effect of synergy between provider and consumer quality of healthcare on child health in Kenya](#). *Cogent Economics & Finance*, 10 (1): 2052401.

Mwabu, G. 2022 [Time, health service utilisation and health status in Africa: Evidence from six countries](#). *South African Journal of Economics*, 1-13.

Owoo, N.S., Lambon-Quayefio, M.P., Gyan, S.W., & **Oduro A.D.** 2022. [Women's earnings and domestic work among couples in Ghana](#). *African Review of Economics and Finance*, 14(1).

Rennkamp, R., **Leibbrandt, M.**, & David, A. 2022. [Navigating a Just Transition to net zero emissions](#). *Africa in Fact*, 60: 41-43.

Schotte, S., **Zizzamia, R., & Leibbrandt, M.** 2022. [Snakes and ladders and loaded dice: Poverty dynamics and inequality in South Africa between 2008 and 2017](#). *South African Journal of Economics*, 90(2), 214-242.

Shifa, M. & Leibbrandt, L. 2022. [Spatial inequality in sub-Saharan Africa](#). *African Geographical Review*, DOI: 10.1080/19376812.2022.2099916.

Shifa, M., Gordon, D., **Leibbrandt, M.,** & Zhang, M. 2022. [Socioeconomic-related inequalities in COVID-19 vulnerability in South Africa](#). *Preprints*, 2022, 2022060265. DOI: 10.20944/preprints202206.0265.v1.

Thornton, A. & Wittenberg, M. 2022 [Reweighting the OHS and GHS to improve data quality: Representativeness, household counts, and small households](#). *South African Journal of Economics*, 1- 22, doi.org/10.1111/saje.12319

Thornton, A.J., Bhorat, H. Lilenstein, A., Monnakgotla, J., & van der Zee, K. 2022. [Crime, income and inequality: non-linearities under extreme inequality in South Africa](#). *Economic Development and Cultural Change*, February 2022.

NEW PUBLICATIONS BY ACEIR RESEARCHERS | Book chapters

Launch of *The Oxford Handbook of the South African Economy*

Speaking at the [launch](#) of the first comprehensive handbook on the South African economy, President Cyril Ramaphosa in a keynote address pointed out that there's a need to understand why the South African economy is underperforming despite inclusive policies and efforts to create a diverse economy. He added that the South African government looks to the academic community engaged in economic research to provide insights and guidance to the challenges confronting South Africa.

The launch was hosted by the Southern Centre for Inequality Studies at Wits University and the DSI/NRF South African Research Chair in Industrial Development, University of Johannesburg.

Several ACEIR researchers contributed to chapters to the book, which was published by Oxford University Press:

- *Changing Dynamics in the South African Labour Market* by Haroon Borat, Ben Stanwix, and **Amy Thornton**
- *Inequality in South Africa* by **Murray Leibbrandt** and **Fabio Andrés Díaz Pabón**
- *Climate Change and the Green Transition in South Africa* by Channing Arndt, Sherwin Gabriel, **Faaïqa Hartley**, Kenneth Marc Strzepek, and Timothy Thomas

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NEW PUBLICATIONS BY ACEIR RESEARCHERS | Blogs

Confronting low domestic savings in Africa

What are the linkages between national savings and sustainable economic growth? Why are there differences in the amounts of savings between different countries? In this United Nations University (UN-WIDER) blog, Charles Ackah and **Monica P. Lambon-Quayefio** reflect on a paper that they presented at UNU-WIDER Domestic Savings Project workshop. A compilation of the different working papers presented will lead to a book on domestic savings in sub-Saharan Africa.

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NEW PUBLICATIONS BY ACEIR RESEARCHERS | Online articles and opinion pieces



[Colombians have voted for change](#)

Reflecting on the outcome of the 19 June elections in Colombia, **Fabio Andrés Díaz Pabón** writes that the election of a left-wing government reflects voters' discontent with inequality and poverty. The piece was published by D+C (standing for Development and Cooperation), a website that focuses on international development and explores how it relates to other fields of policymaking such as security, peace, trade, business, public health and education.

[Domestic violence and work status: which Nigerian women are most at risk](#)

Drawing on her research, **Nkechi S. Owoo** reflects in this *The Conversation* article on another dimension to the debate about the link between women's economic resource ownership and intimate partner violence: the role of women's occupational prestige in their experience of intimate partner violence.

[The interaction of mass media and social media in fuelling ethnic violence in Ethiopia](#)

By examining the case of the ongoing conflict and ethnic tensions in Ethiopia, **Muna Shifa** and **Fabio Andrés Díaz Pabón** discuss the interaction between mass media and social media in conflict contexts and the risk associated with normalising hate speech. The article was published by the civil society organisation, Accord, which works throughout Africa to bring creative African solutions to the challenges posed by conflict on the continent.

[Tackling inequality will break the gridlock on what to do about climate change](#)

In this *The Conversation* article, **Murray Leibbrandt** and Anda David argue that inequality has played a role in limiting climate action to date and they explain how inequality and climate have been intertwined. They discuss how a different growth focus is needed, suggest some options for this, and explain how tackling inequalities can facilitate future climate action.

Tackling sub-Saharan Africa's escalating poverty after the pandemic

Shortly after the European Union – African Union Summit in February 2022, *Finance24* published an article by **Murray Leibbrandt** and Anda David that discusses inequality in Africa. The authors extracted learnings from research conducted in the context of the EU-AFD Research Facilities on Inequalities to answer the question “what can be said about African inequality to promote better analysis and policymaking and address inequality on the continent?”

Tribute to renowned South African economist Francis Wilson

Published in *The Conversation*, **Murray Leibbrandt** reflects on the life and works of Francis Wilson: “Francis made a unique contribution to documenting and analysing key historical and contemporary social issues affecting South African society. Even more rare was how he used his research and that of others to promote social change for good in South Africa.”

We are sailing into a perfect storm

Published by *Aljazeera*, **Fabio Andrés Díaz Pabón** points to the urgency to implement structural reforms globally to address poverty and inequality in the face of increasing mass mobilisation and public discontent which could plunge the world into an even deeper crisis: “The COVID-19 pandemic and Russia’s invasion of Ukraine will be the immediate triggers for the coming turmoil, but it was actually the combined consequences of the gradual weakening of political representation, decline of the middle class, and rising inequities across the world that brought us here.”

OUR FOOTPRINT @ | Past events



Image: Nord Forsk via Flickr

African Economic Research Consortium Biannual

The [AERC 56th Plenary Session](#) was dedicated to the theme “Poverty, growth, redistribution, and social inclusion in times of Covid-19 pandemic in Africa”. Contributing to this focus were Prof Germano Mwabu, who presented on “Poverty reduction through growth, redistribution and social inclusion in times of COVID-19 pandemic in Africa: the underlying mechanisms”; and Prof Anthony Wambugu, who was a discussant on an UNU-WIDER paper on “The labor market impact of COVID-19 lockdowns: Evidence from Ghana”.



Berlin Demography Days Conference 2022

The keynote address at this conference’s Global Demography Forum session on “Younger People and the Life Course” was delivered by Dr Nkechi S. Owoo. The conference focused on the theme “Younger People” and was organised by Population Europe, the network of Europe’s leading research centres in the field of policy-relevant population studies, and Diakonie Deutschland.

Following the conference, Nkechi collaborated with other authors on a policy brief on [Towards a Brighter Future for Younger People. Lessons learned from the Berlin Demography Days 2022.](#)



The Directors Event 2022: reigniting the spirit of ubuntu

Dubbed South Africa's biggest board meeting, this [digital conference](#) hosted by the *Sunday Times* brought industry experts together to discuss the shortest and most effective path to the country's socio-economic recovery post COVID-19. Among them was Prof Murray Leibbrandt who contributed to the panel on "New ways of tackling inequality".

Inequality in Southern Africa: An assessment of the Southern African Customs Union

This [report](#), released by the World Bank earlier this year, is the result of a systematic and comprehensive analysis of inequality in the Southern African Customs Union. It finds that the SACU member countries of Botswana, Eswatini, Lesotho, Namibia, and South Africa represent the world's most unequal region although there are differences across these countries. Two ACEIR team members, Prof Murray Leibbrandt and Rejoice Mabhena, were consulted for input at different drafting stages of the report. Subsequently, Murray contributed to the report's launch webinar that was hosted by the World Bank in partnership with the University of Pretoria. ACEIR was also honoured to host the lead author, Facundo Cuevas from the World Bank, at a follow-up webinar.



INEQ Inequality Awareness Week 2022

"[Gender inequality in the Global South: The role of social institutions](#)" was the focus of Dr Monica P. Lambon-Quayefio's keynote at this annual event of the University of Helsinki. Monica also contributed to a panel discussion on "[Reducing inequalities – what is the untapped potential of academic research?](#)"

International Association For Feminist Economics Annual Conference

The closing plenary of this conference dealt with "Designing and implementing a feminist post-COVID-19 recovery programme: challenges and opportunities". The plenary was chaired by ACEIR researcher, Prof Abena D. Oduro, the outgoing president of the IAFPE.



International Union for the Scientific Study of Population webinar

On International Women’s Day 2022, the IUSSP hosted a webinar on "[Social norms as a barrier to women's employment](#)". The event was organised by Dr Nkechi S. Owoo and was based on a recent policy paper in the *IMF Economic Review* by Princeton University Prof Seema Jayachandran. The discussion was moderated by Dr Monica P. Lambon-Quayefio.

International Women’s Economic Empowerment Conference 2022

"[Women economic empowerment in the 21st century: what works?](#)" was the theme of this conference hosted by the Kenyatta University Women’s Economic Empowerment Hub and partners. ACEIR team member Paul Samoei from the Kenya National Bureau of Statistics participated in panel discussion on "[Planning and budgeting for women's economic inclusion](#)".

Population Association of America Conference 2022

Two members of the ACEIR team delivered papers at this annual conference: Dr Monica Lambon-Quayefio: "[Walking for water and fuelwood: welfare implications for women and children in Ghana](#)"; and Dr Nkechi S Owoo: "[Internalization of patriarchal attitudes and women's labor market outcomes and asset ownership in Nigeria](#)". They also presented these papers a 2022 American Economic Association Conference [session](#) that was chaired by another member of ACEIR, Prof Abena D. Oduro.

SPREAD THE WORD



We are encouraging our readers across the continent and beyond to share ACEIR news with colleagues and associates. If they want to stay connected, they also can [sign up](#) for future news from the us.

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