



IPPG News: June 2009

Highlights of recent activities from IPPG - the [Research Programme Consortium on Improving institutions for Pro-Poor Growth](#)

IPPG PhD students: Current work

IPPG has sponsored three PhD studentships and supported two successful Commonwealth Scholarship Commission applications as part of its capacity building work. All are working on different aspects of institutional analysis. In March 2009, IPPG's PhD students presented their work so far to a panel of academics at the University of York.

- Access full report and student presentation [here](#)

The role of institutions in Tanzania's coffee market - new findings

IPPG PhD student Shireen Mahdi created a stir with her policy note on the role of institutions in Tanzania's coffee market. Findings are being taken up by the Tanzania Coffee Board and the World Bank.

- Read Shireen's account and her policy note [here](#)
- Find out more about IPPG studentships [here](#)

Recent news from IPPG Project:

Land Reform in Malawi - Parliamentary and World Bank events

A recent IPPG study has found serious shortcomings in Malawi's plans for far-reaching land reforms. The reforms are currently being piloted in the south of the country and have been a hot topic in the run-up to Malawi's general election, held in May 2009.

Blessings Chinsinga and Ephraim W. Chirwa of the University of Malawi presented their findings as part of a World Bank Seminar Series in Lilongwe. They have since met with a

World Bank delegation looking at village level policy-making processes. Blessings Chinsinga also attended IPPG's Parliamentary event in March 2009 (below).

- Read the World Bank Workshop Report and more about the IPPG study [here](#)

IPPG Parliamentary event

Minister for Africa Ivan Lewis MP was the keynote speaker at IPPG's presentation, *The Growth Game: The institutions of development and the development of institutions in Africa and South Asia*, at the Houses of Parliament on Wednesday 4 March 2009.

- Read more [here](#)

State-Business Relations (SBR)

SBR research projects are under way in Africa (Ghana, Zambia, South Africa, and Mauritius, with work in Malawi also making a contribution, see above) and in India.

- Read more about SBR [here](#)

SBR - Mauritius

Sawkut Rojid of the University of Mauritius, and Boopen Seetanah and Taruna Ramessur, of the University of Technology, Mauritius, presented their SBR study at a workshop jointly organised by the University of Mauritius and [UNCTAD](#) Virtual Institute.

At the workshop, which examined policies and instruments for successful exports in the current financial crisis, Sawkut, Boopen and Taruna explored the extent to which the strengths of the Mauritian economy are based on strong institutional and organisational links between state and business. Delegates included senior representatives from the ministries of industry and trade, Enterprise Mauritius, the Central Bank, Ports Authority, Board of Investment and Chamber of Commerce.

SBR India - Debate: Industrialisation and State-Business Relations in Andhra Pradesh

This panel discussion, at the Centre for Economic and Social Studies ([CESS](#)) in Hyderabad, was a CESS/IPPG collaboration. Delegates drawn from industry, business associations, unions, academia and the media looked at industrialisation, the trajectory of state business relations and the role of different political regimes in the shaping of this trajectory. The debate was extensively covered by regional TV and leading Telegu newspapers. (January 2009)

- More from the debate [here](#)

SBR - PAPI, Brighton, UK, April 2009

IPPG directors Adrian Leftwich and Kunal Sen presented *Rethinking institutions through the lens of state business relations* at the Public Action and Private Investment (PAPI) workshop organised by the [Centre for the Future State](#), Institute of Development Studies

Other events:

Adrian Leftwich gave lectures on institutions and development to:

- Chevening Scholars from South Asia and the Middle East at the University of Bradford (January 2009)
- [The Institute for Development and Policies \(IOB\) in the University of Antwerp](#)
- [the Association of Development Researchers in Denmark](#)

Kunal Sen gave a lecture, *The Rules of the Game: The Institutions of Development and the Development of Institutions*, to the [Cambridge University International Development Society](#), a student society dedicated to the development of the world's poorest countries (February 2009).

Coming up:

The Informal Sector in South Asia: Organisational Dynamics, Institutional Determinants, Interlinkages and Development

Delhi, India: 27 - 28 July 2009

Conference organised by Dr. Dibyendu Maiti of the Institute of Economic Growth, Delhi. Keynote speaker is Arjun Sengupta, Chairman, National Commission for Enterprises in Unorganised Sector (NCEUS). The conference forms part of IPPG's work on the informal sector in India, led by Dibyendu and Sugata Marjit of the Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Kolkata, India.

- For information about the conference please email: dibyendu@iegindia.org

Find out more about IPPG events [here](#)

New Publications:

Growth and three-dimensional poverty in Sub-Saharan Africa: Does Legislative Democracy Play a Role? Dr Jean Claude Saha, University of Ngaoundere, Cameroon. Read more [here](#)

Jean Claude will present his work at the 65th Congress of the International Institute of Public Finance (IIPF) in Cape Town, South Africa in August 2009.

More IPPG publications [here](#)

IPPG is the shorthand name for the inter-disciplinary **Research Programme Consortium on Improving Institutions for Pro-Poor Growth**. IPPG supports innovative scholarly research, and seeks to influence development policy and practice that contributes to the UN Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

IPPG's next newsletter will appear in September 2009.

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IPPG, IDPM, School of Environment & Development
Arthur Lewis 2,023
University of Manchester
Oxford Road, Manchester M13 9PL

Telephone: +44 (0)161 306 6438

Fax: +44 (0)161 275 0968



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