Dear colleagues,

This fifth newsletter provides an update on the Exante Poverty Impact Assessment of Macroeconomic Policies (EPIAM) work program and contains some announcements of related workshops, books, and papers.

Part I: Case Studies
Thanks to a generous grant from the International Development Research Center (IDRC) in Ottawa, Canada, the New Rules for Global Finance Coalition will undertake five Case Studies on Lessons from Experiences with Exante Poverty Impact Assessments of Macroeconomic Policies in Bangladesh, Cameroon, Ghana, the Philippines, and Senegal. The five researchers who will carry out the five case studies over the next 8 to 12 months are Nicholas Adamtey (Ghana), Caesar Cororaton (the Philippines), Abdoulaye Diagne (Senegal), Samuel Fambon (Cameroon), and Mustafa Mujeri (Bangladesh).

Part II: Research Competition

Part III: Announcements
1) International Conference on African Development and Poverty Reduction – The Macro-Micro Linkage: October 13-15, 2004; Cape Town, South Africa. Hosted by the University of Cape Town’s Development Policy Research Unit (DPRU) and Trade and Industrial Policy Strategies (TIPS) in association with Cornell University, this conference will consider evidence-based policy recommendations on trade and investment that stem from analysis of macro-micro linkages in the African context. For more information contact: DPRU; Tel: +27-21-650-5705; fax: +27-21-650-5711; e-mail: dpruconf@commerce.uct.ac.za; Internet: http://www.commerce.uct.ac.za/dpru/dpruconference2004/default.htm

3) New: WIDER publications on growth, inequality, and poverty:
   - **Perspectives on Growth and Poverty**, edited by Rolph van der Hoeven and Anthony Shorrocks, United Nations University Press.

4) *Just published*: **Trade Liberalization and Poverty: The Evidence So Far** (by L. Alan Winters, Neil McCulloch, and Andrew McKay), Journal of Economic Literature, Vol. 42, No. 1 (March 2004), pp. 72-115. [This comprehensive review is slightly more critical than the mainstream view and worth reading. While it concludes that there can be no simple general conclusion about the relationship between trade liberalization and poverty, it also concludes that “with care, trade liberalization can be an important component of a pro-poor development strategy.”]

5) The World Bank has produced a PREM Note on the **gender-differentiated impacts of public sector downsizing**. It is called "Minimizing Negative Distributional Effects of Public Sector Downsizing" and can be accessed at: [http://www1.worldbank.org/prem/PREMNotes/premnote84.pdf](http://www1.worldbank.org/prem/PREMNotes/premnote84.pdf) Also: The Downsizing Options Simulation Exercise (DOSE) tool, developed by Martin Rama, has also been modified recently to make it gender-sensitive. The updated tool can be accessed at the following site: [http://www.worldbank.org/research/projects/downsize/index.htm](http://www.worldbank.org/research/projects/downsize/index.htm)

Best regards,

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*Exante Poverty Impact Assessment of Macroeconomic Policies (EPIAM): Tools, Capacity, and Participation*
A Project initiated by the New Rules for Global Finance Coalition.
Please see [http://www.new-rules.org/epiam.htm](http://www.new-rules.org/epiam.htm) for more details.