

Measuring poverty & gender disparity

Monday 21 March 2011, 9am-1.00pm

Hedley Bull Centre 1 (Building #130), Australian National University

Are existing measures of poverty and gender equity genuinely gender sensitive? The ANU is currently involved in a three-year, multi-country, interdisciplinary effort, financed by the Australian Research Council and project partners, to design and test measures of poverty and gender disparity that will improve on existing indices. In March, academics, staff from partner organisations and field researchers will be in Canberra to share findings from the first fieldwork phase of the project, which seeks to elicit the views of poor men and women on poverty and its gendered dimensions.

The Centre for Applied Philosophy and Public Ethics, the new Gender Institute and the Development Policy Centre at the Crawford School of Economics and Government will co-host a half-day forum to enable the wider academic, policy and NGO community to hear from and talk with the research team about how gender shapes poverty, with particular reference to field contexts in Africa, Asia and the Pacific, and why this matters for development policy. Time for questions is built into every session. An informal lunch will provide an opportunity for further discussion with field researchers and project team members.

Time	Focus	Speakers
9.00	Welcome and introductions.	Professor Kim Rubenstein, <i>Convener, Gender Institute</i> Mr Matt Morris, <i>Development Policy Centre, Crawford School of Economics & Government</i>
9.15	What's wrong with current approaches to poverty and gender equity measurement? Why does this matter? An overview of the research rationale and objectives.	Professor Thomas Pogge, <i>Centre for Applied Philosophy and Public Ethics (CAPPE), Yale University</i>
9.45	Why does this research matters for development actors – how will it help focus development resources where they are most needed?	Ms Alice Banze, <i>Oxfam GB (Southern Africa Office)</i> Ms Jo Crawford, <i>International Women's Development Agency</i>
10.15	Break	
10.30	The view from the field: What are the major issues flowing from the interaction between poverty and gender in the Philippines, Fiji and Malawi? Why does a clearer focus on gender and poverty matter?	Professor Fatima Castillo, <i>Philippine Health Social Science Association & University of the Philippines, Manila</i> Dr Priya Chattier, <i>University of the South Pacific, Fiji</i> Ms Maggie Banda, <i>Women's Legal Resource Centre, Malawi</i>
12.00	Synthesis, directions, implications.	Professor Alison Jaggar, <i>University of Colorado at Boulder</i>
12.15	Forum wrap-up.	Dr Kieran Donaghue, <i>CAPPE</i>
12.20-1.00	Informal lunch and discussion with field research teams and project members.	

To assist with catering please RSVP by 16 March to scott.wisor@anu.edu.au.