

## ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL RESEARCH COUNCIL IMPACT REPORT



### For awards ending on or after 1 November 2009

This Impact Report should be completed and submitted using the **grant reference** as the email subject to **reportsofficer@esrc.ac.uk** on or before the due date.

Completion of this Impact Report is mandatory. It will not be possible to edit this Impact Report at a later date, as it is designed to provide a statement of the impacts of your project to date 12 months after your grant ends.

**Please note that the Impact Report will only be accepted if all sections have been completed in full.** If a section does not apply to you, please enter 'n/a'. Grant holders will not be eligible for further ESRC funding until the Report is accepted. (Please see Section 5 of the ESRC Research Funding Guide for details.)

Please refer to the Guidance notes when completing this Impact Report. In particular, the notes explain what the ESRC means by 'impact'.

<b>Grant Reference</b>	RES-167-25-0372		
<b>Grant Title</b>	<b>An experimental analysis of network and group formation for collective action</b>		
<b>Grant Start Date</b>	1 February, 2008	<b>Total Amount Expended:</b>	£113,611.61
<b>Grant End Date</b>	Initially: 31 January, 2010 Extended to: end May 2010		
<b>Grant holding Institution</b>	<b>University of Oxford</b>		
<b>Grant Holder</b>	<b>Professor Marcel Fafchamps</b>		
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<b>Co-Investigators (as per project application):</b>		<b>Institution</b>	
Dr. Abigail Barr		University of Oxford	

## 1. SCIENTIFIC IMPACT

A Please **summarise** below the scientific impact(s) your project has had. [Max 250 words]

Four papers have been generated during the study. One is now forthcoming in *Economic Development and Cultural Change*. For one we have a revise and resubmit invitation from *Economic Development and Cultural Change*. One is under review at *World Development*. The fourth is a Centre for the Study of African Economies working paper that we wish to do further work on before submitting to a journal.

As a collection of working papers they have already been cited 15 times in total. Paper [1] (see below for authorship, title, release dates) has been cited 7 times. Paper [2] (see below for details) has been cited 5 times. Paper [3] (see below for details) has been cited 2 times. Paper [4] (see below for details) has been cited once.

These citations have been made by scholars in British Universities, e.g., the London School of Economics, in European Universities, e.g., the University of Wageningen and the University of Dublin, and in North American Universities, e.g., Washington University in St. Louis and the University of California at Berkley.

We expect the number of citations to increase with time and following publication in academic journals.

As part of a wider research network, we have submitted a proposal to the European Union to build on our work under this project. Under the newly proposed project we plan to collect additional data on community-based organisations and changes in kinship networks within the same villages and thereby analyse the effect of events over the past decade.

B Please outline the **findings and outputs** from your project which have had the scientific impact(s) outlined in 1A. [Max 250 words]

### Outputs:

[1] **Barr, Dekker and Fafchamps ‘Who shares risk with whom under different enforcement mechanisms?’** forthcoming in *Economic Development and Cultural Change* as of March 2010 (Released as a CSAE working paper (WP) March 2008, revised version released as a BREAD WP, July 2010.)

[2] **Barr, and Stein ‘Status and egalitarianism in traditional communities: An analysis of funeral attendance in six Zimbabwean villages’**, CSAE WP WPS/2008-26, October 2008. (Revise and resubmit invitation from *Economic Development and Cultural Change*.)

[3] **Barr, Dekker and Fafchamps ‘Bridging the gender divide: An experimental analysis of group formation in African villages’**, BREAD WP 268, July 2010. (Released as a CSAE working paper in August 2009. Under review at *World Development*.)

[4] **Barr, Dekker and Fafchamps ‘The formation of community based organizations in sub-Saharan Africa: An analysis of a quasi-experiment’**, CSAE WP WPS/2010.21, July 2010.

[5] **‘Creating inclusive communities: The results of resettlement in Zimbabwe’**

African Studies Centre Info Sheet 10/2011, March 2011.

[1], [3], [4] also released as African Studies Centre, WPs in July 2010.

### **Findings:**

#### **When groups are formed:**

- the poor are not excluded;
- women and men tend to segregate but this is not owing to a lack of trust;
- religions and kinship support informal enforcement of collective agreements;
- the relationships formed by belonging to the same community based organisation (CBO) are valued;
- extended kin networks may substitute for CBOs as a support for collective action; and
- villages vary significantly in terms of CBO formation.

C Please outline **how** these impacts were achieved. *[Max 250 words]*

Having two working papers out in a well established series (the CSAE working paper series) during the first 12 months of the project was important. Making numerous presentations and conference appearances improved the quality of the outputs and generated interest. The project web site on the CSAE web page has been the most effective way to provide interested parties with further information and to keep them updated.

Submissions to journals have not gone as smoothly and as fast as we hoped, possibly because we are using a mix of novel and technically quite complicated methods; dyadic regression analysis in all four papers and lab-type experimentation in papers [1] and [3].

**Presentations:** Nottingham University (2008), African Studies Centre in Leiden (2008), The Vrije Universiteit, Netherlands (2008), Institute of Social Studies, The Hague, Netherlands (2009), Boston University, US (2009), University of California, Berkley (2009), Groningen University (2009), Wageningen University (2010), to evaluators of the CPWF (2009), Maastricht University (2011).

**Conference appearances:** CEPR conference, LSE (2008), CSAE annual conference (2 in 2009), European Association for Evolutionary Political Economy annual conference (2009), CSAE annual conference (2010), International Network for Social Network Analysis annual conference (2 in 2010), CSAE annual conference (2011).

D Please outline **who** the findings and outputs outlined above had an impact upon. This can include specific academics/researchers through to broader academic groups. *[Max 250 words]*

Our papers are being cited by scholars interested in:

- land reform in Zimbabwe
- risk sharing in developing countries
- egalitarian social norms in developing countries
- the use of experimental methods in development economics
- the use of dyadic regressions in the analysis of network and group formation.

They are being cited by established scholars, e.g.:

- Edward Miguel, Professor of Economics and Director of the Center of Evaluation for Global Action, University of California at Berkeley

- Erwin Bulte, Professor of Development Economics, Wageningen University
- early career scholars, e.g.,
- Salvatore di Falco, Programme Director, MSc in Environment and Development, London School of Economic
  - Pamela Jakiela, Assistant Professor Department of Economics, Washington University in St. Louis
  - Cynthia Kinnan, Assistant professor, Department of Economics, Northwestern University
- and graduate students, e.g.:
- Arun G. Chandrasekhar, PhD student, Massachusetts Institute for Technology
  - Tara McIndoe Calder, PhD student, Department of Economics, University of Dublin.

## 2. ECONOMIC AND SOCIETAL IMPACT

A Please **summarise** below the economic and societal impact(s) your project has had. [*Max 250 words*]

At the outset, we were hopeful that conditions in Zimbabwe would improve as the project progressed and that our findings would impact on the design and implementation of the on-going “Fast Track” resettlement programme. Sadly, our hopes were not realized. However, we have had an impact on the way that Zimbabwe-based researchers and policy analysts view and analyse civil society and its development in resettled communities. Specifically:

- our study has set a benchmark against which the development of civil society in the Fast Track resettlement areas can be evaluated;
- our data on CBO membership is being used as a baseline in an analysis of the effects of the on-going socio-economic and political crisis in Zimbabwe;
- Marleen Dekker and collaborators in Zimbabwe (funded by the Netherlands Embassy in Harare and the African Studies Centre in Leiden) have been using adjusted versions of our CBO survey instruments when resurveying some of the villages in our study;
- owing to the evidence we present on the value that resettled villagers place on community-based organizations and evidence of the effects of the current situation on the community-based organizations that feature in our study (generated and presented under another study), there are now plans to collect data on CBO formation in Fast Track resettlement areas; and
- our findings are being referenced during discussions about the designs of interventions aimed at rebuilding civil society in older villages and stimulating its creation in the new Fast Track villages.

B Please outline the **findings and outputs** from your project which have had the economic and societal impact(s) outlined in 2A. [*Max 250 words*]

**Findings that have been picked up by policy analysts and researchers based in Zimbabwe:**

- when groups were formed in resettled Zimbabwean villages created soon after independence the poor were not excluded and neither were female headed households;

- the relationships formed by belonging to the same CBOs and, by inference, the CBOs themselves, were highly valued by the resettled villagers;
- many CBOs were formed in the resettled villages included in the study villages;
- however, the extent of CBO formation varies significantly and markedly across villages.

**Outputs that have had an economic and societal impact:** To date, it has been the working papers, promoted via our presentations that have impacted on other scholars that have had the most impact.

Our ASC info sheet (output [5] above) is aimed at a wider audience. (To see our info sheet go to <http://www.ascleiden.nl/Pdf/Infosheet10.pdf>) ASC Info Sheets are intended for policy-makers, journalists, aid workers.

C Please outline **how** these impacts were achieved. [Max 250 words]

#### **Feeding into policy research in Zimbabwe**

The findings of our research have been used as inputs into research papers and policy briefs produced under another project on Land Tenure in Zimbabwe. This project is a collaboration between the Ruzivo Trust in Harare, Zimbabwe and the African Studies Centre in Leiden. It is funded by the IS Academy of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in The Netherlands. The focus of this new project is the political, social and economic sustainability of the more recent land reform. Our analyses are being used as a basis for comparison between the post-independence and the on-going resettlement schemes.

The findings of both our project and the Land Tenure project were disseminated at two events in Harare, Zimbabwe, in November 2010:

1. Researchers' workshop on Land Tenure in Zimbabwe for academics and policy makers in Zimbabwe at Ruzivo Trust;
2. Stakeholders Conference on Agrarian and Rural Development in Africa entitled: "Rethinking and Reconnecting Academia in Africa's Agrarian and Rural Development" with academics and policy makers from Africa and Europe.

D Please outline **who** the findings and outputs outlined above had an impact upon. This can be at a broad societal level through to specific individuals or groups. [Max 250 words]

Academics and policy makers from Africa and Europe attending the conferences in Harare in November 2010.

Prosper Matondi, Ruzivo Trust, independent think tank.

### **3. UNEXPECTED AND POTENTIAL FUTURE IMPACTS**

#### **A Unexpected Impacts**

Please note which, if any, of the impacts that your research has had were *unexpected* at the outset of the research, explaining where possible why you think this was the case. [Max 250 words]

n/a

## B Potential Future Impacts

If you have a clear idea of the impact your research is likely to have in the future please detail these below.

[Max 250 words]

Invited to submit a paper for a special issue on the “Fast track” resettlement programme in Zimbabwe for the Journal of Peasant Studies.

We anticipate that our academic papers will be more widely cited once they are published.

As mentioned in 1A, we have submitted a funding application that would allow us to: carry on with our work in this area. If this funding is forthcoming, it will support an evaluation of our experimental approach to the study of group formation; and collect the data required for an in-depth analysis of the effect of the current situation in Zimbabwe on civil society.

We are exploring the idea of conducting and monitoring an intervention designed to reinvigorate civil society in the villages we studied. To date, cash injections into CBOs have generated mixed results. In some cases they have enhanced their efficacy and, correspondingly, the wellbeing of the communities in which they are located. In other cases they have led to the demise of the organisations and eroded the cooperative norms upon which they are built.

Since the World Bank launched its Community Driven Development initiative, there have been several evaluations of the impact of injecting money into communities and inviting them to assume a role in planning and implementing projects funded by the money. However, rarely if ever has such an evaluation benefited from such an extensive and detailed data baseline.

## 4. IMPACT LIMITATIONS

### A Limited scientific impact

Please state below any major scientific difficulties that have limited the scientific impact of your research. The statement should refer to an effect on *impact* rather than simply detail research difficulties. [Max 250 words]

As we mentioned in 1C above, submissions to journals have not gone as smoothly and as fast as we hoped. We think that this is because we are using a mix of novel and technically quite complicated methods; dyadic regression analysis in all four working papers and lab-type experimentation two papers.

### B Limited economic and societal impact

ESRC recognises that some of the research it funds will not have an economic or societal impact in the short term. Please explain briefly below if this is the case for your project, and refer to your grant application where relevant. [Max 250 words]

We believe that we have done all that we can to get the findings of our research to the people who could make the best use of them, namely policy analysts in Zimbabwe. As

and when conditions in Zimbabwe improve, we hope that the benefits of this effort will be reaped.

## C No impact to date

This project has had no impact to date

Please note that ESRC projects are evaluated on the basis of their scientific and/or economic and societal impact. Grant holders are expected to report any future impacts as they occur using the Impact Record, downloadable from the ESRC website.

If you have no impacts at this stage, please give reasons below. *[Max 250 words]*

n/a

## 5. DECLARATIONS

Please read the statements below. Submitting this Impact Report to [reportsofficer@esrc.ac.uk](mailto:reportsofficer@esrc.ac.uk) confirms your agreement.

- i) This Impact Report is an accurate statement of the impacts of the research project to date. All co-investigators named in the proposal to ESRC or appointed subsequently have seen and approved the Report.
- ii) Details of any subsequent impacts will be submitted via an Impact Record as they occur.

Thank you for completing this Impact Report. Your Impact Report will be considered along with your End of Award Report in the evaluation of your research.

You are now invited to complete the confidential Nominations form, which will assist with the evaluation of your project.



## NOMINATED OUTPUTS

Please nominate a maximum of two outputs from your research which you would like to be considered as part of the evaluation.

<b>Output type</b> (eg journal article, book, newspaper)	<b>Publication details</b> (eg author name, date,, title, publisher details)	<b>Uploaded toESRC</b>
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article, conference proceedings)		<b>website?</b> (Yes/No)
Journal article (forthcoming)	Barr, A., M. Dekker and M. Fafchamps 'Who shares risk with whom under different enforcement mechanisms?' forthcoming in Economic Development and Cultural Change as of March 2010	Yes
Working paper	Barr, A., M. Dekker and M. Fafchamps 'The formation of community based organizations in sub-Saharan Africa: An analysis of a quasi-experiment', CSAE Working paper WPS/2010.21, July 2010. (Note: based on feedback received, we are currently revising this paper by adding some analysis of whether and how the formation of CBOs in the years directly after resettlement affected the distribution of wealth one-and-a-half decades later.	Yes

Please email your completed Impact Report with electronic copies of your nominated outputs to [reportsofficer@esrc.ac.uk](mailto:reportsofficer@esrc.ac.uk), using your **grant reference number** as the email subject.