

ESRC Impact Record

Thank you for updating your Impact Record. This Record should be completed and uploaded to your ESRC grant page (on the website).

An Impact Record can be submitted and edited at any time, during or after your grant. It is designed to record the impact of your research as and when it happens.

The Impact Record may be used to complement the information given on the *Impact Report* which is required 12 months after the end of your grant.

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

Grant Reference	RES-167-25-0251-A		
Grant Title	The intra-household allocation of resources: cross-cultural tests, methodological innovations and policy implications		
Grant Start Date	13 June 2007	Grant End Date	13 Oct. 2010

Details of impact

Please tick:

This is a scientific impact	<input type="checkbox"/>
This is an economic and societal impact	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

A Please **summarise** below the impact(s) your project has had. *[Max 200 words]*

Many policy interventions assume efficiency of household decision making, and abstract from inequality resulting from the intra-household allocation process. Through our unique combination of methods, we have looked as searchingly as possible into household decision making, and uncovered sources of inefficiency and of intra-household inequality, which are highly policy relevant.

It is in the nature of our project that the route from findings to economic and societal impact is a long one, but the first signs of such impact are beginning to be apparent. For instance, based on a presentation of our main findings at the World Bank, we were invited to produce a background report for the 2012 World Development Report on Gender. The WDR distils and summarises the main evidence-based policy lessons for promoting gender equality in social and economic domains in low- and middle-income countries, has now appeared, and cites our work a number

of times in order to spell out the implications for policy of the types of intra-household dynamics that we through our research have drawn to its attention.

Organisations such as DFID and IFPRI are now also beginning to show an interest in our work for their policy thinking on gender.

B Please outline the **findings and outputs** from your project which have had the impact(s) outlined in A above. *[Max 200 words]*

Primarily, the basis of the advances in empirical understanding made possible through our project is a multi-faceted, complex dataset, obtained using three distinct methods in a large sample of married couples from eight sites with purposively selected variation in patterns of conjugality. We have advanced the empirical understanding of household decision making by showing that household decision-making is inefficient and inefficient in predictable ways, as well as that patterns of conjugality are associated both with household efficiency and inequality of intra-household allocation.

We distilled the academic findings and outputs mentioned in our other impact records in a concept note that summarised our main results and spelt out policy implications, which formed the basis for the background report for the 2012 World Development Report on Gender (see A).

C Please outline **how** these impacts were achieved. *[Max 200 words]*

Policy briefs (with defined audience):

- Alistair Munro and Marcela Tarazona Gomez wrote an invited background report for the 2012 World Development Report on Gender, summarising our main results and spelling out policy implications.
- Arjan Verschoor was invited to present our main results and their policy implications at a seminar at the Chief Economist's Office of UK's Department for International Development (DFID), 24th November 2011.
- Marcela Tarazona Gomez: BBL at the World Bank, Group Coordinating the World Development Report 2012 on Gender, Washington, December 2010. 'Intra-Household Allocation across Continents: An Experimental Investigation'
- Marcela Tarazona Gomez: BBL at International Food Policy Research Institute IFPRI, Washington, December 2010. 'Intra-Household Allocation across Continents: An Experimental Investigation'
- Cecile Jackson was invited to give a presentation at the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation in Washington for a small meeting in September 2009 to guide their interests in funding research on intra-household research.
- On 26 June 2008, Alistair Munro presented at the Japanese External Trade Organisation (JETO) at the Institute of Development Economics at Chiba. This presentation mainly focused on policy-makers.

D Please outline **who** the findings and outputs outlined above had an impact upon. *[Max 200 words]*

The following we know are influenced by our work (cf C):

- The group preparing the World Bank's 2012 World Development Report on Gender. The head of this group, Ana Revenga, has kindly agreed to be the non-academic rapporteur for the evaluation of our project.
- The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, who asked us to guide their interests in funding intra-household research.

Our other academic and non-academic engagement and dissemination activities may well have led to economic and societal impact, but we are not aware of this. To investigate this properly is a research project in itself!