





### Newsletter

Issue #1. August 2020

The last months have been difficult for all of us. The conditions derived from COVID-19 have forced us to modify and adapt our traditional ways of work with PRiME being no exception. During the last months, we have worked very hard to transform the PRiME experience into a virtual version. As a result, we are very glad to announce that next October we will begin to offer Fundamentals of M&E 1 online, starting with a third cohort of IFAD selected officials.

The Fundamentals of M&E 1 online course is a milestone for PRiME since it will allow us to increase the outreach of the program. However, we've been very careful to ensure that this new learning format preserves what we think is at the heart of PRiME: the opportunity to interact, exchange, learn and become part of our alumni community with other rural development professionals from around the world.

In addition to the course, we are also preparing exciting new virtual activities. Stay tuned for more information!

#### **PRIME Blog**

Last April we inaugurated PRiME's blog with an amazing article by our Alumni Isabel Trejo from the Philippines. Since then, we have had other great contributions. Below is a snapshot of each entry.

### CHARM2 Scale-up Project: working through the COVID-19 Enhanced Community Quarantine in Philippines to support farmers



Author: Isabel Trejo | Country: The Philippines

When the quarantine was declared in the Philippines, CHARM2 Scale-up Project not only took measures to protect all the project personnel, but it became part of an emergency team to inform farmers and neighbors about agriculture-related measures, such as transport regulations, access to public markets, and government support. Read more.

# Tracking the implementation and impact of the Uganda Yield Fund: A groundbreaking M&E system for a groundbreaking fund



Authors: Daniel Higgins and Dagmawi Habte-Selassie

In this entry, Daniel and Dagmawi, IFAD's officials, lead us thorough and innovative 4-level M&E system used to capture in a thorough and systematic way the lessons learned from Yield Uganda Fund. Read more.

## Visualizing and Sharing Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning (MEL) Data: Creating a Dashboard for SERVIR-Amazonia



Author: Sophie Álvarez | Country: Colombia-USA (Read in Spanish)

Our amazing PRiME trainer, Sophie Alvarez, recounts her experience supporting the development of a data dashboard for SERVIR-Amazonia Program, and shares with us quick lessons on creating a dashboard. Read more.

We want to read you: Remember that the blog is open for your contributions. If you are interested in writing an article, please send it to our email: <a href="mailto:ifad-clear@cide.edu">ifad-clear@cide.edu</a>.

Just remember a few considerations: the text should have between 500 and 1000 words, and you must send your article in Microsoft World format (.doc | .docx). If you have any doubts or require further guidance, don't hesitate to contact us.

### **M&E** Resources

A few months ago, "Rural Roads and Economic Development" by Sam Asher and Paul Novosad, the working paper used for one of the case studies of the PRiME Impact Evaluation course, was published in the American Economic Review, one of the most prestigious journals in Economics. We are very glad to confirm that our materials use topnotch references. You can consult the research <a href="here">here</a>.

### Rural Roads and Local Economic Development (Asher & Novosad, 2020)

Abstract: Nearly one billion people worldwide live in rural areas without access to national paved road networks. We estimate the impacts of India's 40 billion USD national rural road construction program using a fuzzy regression discontinuity design and comprehensive household and firm census microdata. Four years after road construction, the main effect of new feeder roads is to facilitate the movement of workers out of agriculture. However, there are no major changes in agricultural outcomes, income, or assets. Employment in village firms expands only slightly. Even with better market connections, remote areas may continue to lack economic opportunities

### Other News

We want to hear from you! We invite you to catch up with us by recording a video telling us more about you, your career and your experience in PRiME.

If you would like to participate in this dynamic, you need to send a video of yourself answering some of the questions and saying some of the phrases presented below.

### PHRASES

We are still present!

We face new challenges!
We continue to share knowledge and good practices in

monitoring and evaluation!
We can make better decisions!

We know how to do it, and we do it as a community!

This is the opportunity to stay connected. Thank you!

### QUESTIONS

How did you apply what you learned from the project? Was any indicator in your project or work modified or implemented?

Do you recollect new information?

How did you feel when you applied what you learned to improve your project?

What did you apply, and what would the achievements be? What did you consider important, or what did you learn from your partners' experiences?

If PRiME was a person, what would you tell him/her?

You don't have to answer all the questions, neither repeat all the phrases, you can select just a few of them. Furthermore, here you will find a document with indications and recommendations for recording yourself (English, French, Spanish). Do not worry! We are not looking for something professional or sophisticated, what we want is have a real perspective of what did PRiME mean for you. You can find some examples here

Please, send your videos before Agoust 10 to <a href="mailto:ifad-clear@cide.edu">ifad-clear@cide.edu</a>

Note: Videos will be shared on our website, social networks and other platforms. By submitting your video, you authorize PRiME and its affiliates (IFAD, CLEAR and the World Bank Group) to use the images and their derivatives in publications, advertisements and media (including the Internet) without any remuneration or compensation. You can consult the image use consent form here.

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