**Title: Sustained poverty escapes in Tanzania**

This study aimed to explore the factors that sustain escapes from poverty, including the pathways out of poverty, the policies/programmes/strategies and institutions that sustain poverty escapes and create resilience and the effect of political settlements in supporting poverty escapes and sustaining these escapes. We used mixed methods analysis in this research, specifically regression modelling on three waves of the Tanzanian National Panel Survey (NPS) spanning from 2008 to 2013, and collected qualitative data including life histories from national-level key informants and community members sampled from three regions, where the NPS recorded many sustained escapes from a low poverty line.

Our study finds that households that managed to escape poverty and sustain the escape experienced the following conditions: access to useful resources such as land; diversified economic activities; access to good infrastructure such as markets, warehouses and roads; ability to take out loans for business; positive contributions from social networks and relationships; and the presence of a stable family and good cooperation among couples.

Sustaining poverty escapes in turn also involved different strategies. Given that the qualitative sub-sample was skewed towards rural households, access to sizeable land was one of the fundamental assets in escaping poverty and sustaining the escape. This access to land was linked to access to agricultural inputs, and access to storage facilities and agricultural markets. A second important factor was diversification of income generation activities – combining farm and non-farm activities.

These pathways can be facilitated by policies that address agricultural value chain hurdles and land policies that protect farmers (e.g. protection from conflict over land) and create sustainable livestock accumulation opportunities. Promotion of rural industrialisation, particularly in agro-processing, will create employment opportunities not only in agriculture-related industries but also in the mechanics workshops that will grow based on the need to produce spare parts for the small industries.