



*Tracy O'Heir (far left) with the local community advisory committee she worked with in Sudan.*

## What is IPED?

**I**t stands for the International Political Economy and Development Program at Fordham University, New York City: a program that trains graduate students in the advanced interdisciplinary analysis of global economic relations and international development issues. Graduates work in the diverse fields of research, policy planning, economic analysis, public administration and general management.

*Current Issues in Development* is a student-run newsletter of Fordham's IPED Program. It aims to share with prospective students and friends in the academic, non-profit, government and corporate community IPED analysis and experience in economic and humanitarian development.

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## Tracy O'Heir, IPED '06: CRS, Southern Sudan

**B**eing one of the recipients of Fordham's prestigious "International Peace and Development Fellowships" in 2006, Tracy O'Heir embarked on a five-month internship with Catholic Relief Services (CRS) in Zimbabwe upon graduating from the IPED program. This was only the beginning of her relationship with CRS. After her internship in Zimbabwe, Tracy was assigned to the CRS Southern Sudan Country Program where she worked for three years. She spent her first year in Sudan as a Program Manager for a large multi-sector recovery project. According to Tracy, "We were carrying out school construction, teacher training, water system construction, hygiene and sanitation training, mine risk education, adult literacy programs, livelihoods programs, peace building activities, health center construction, and a variety of other things. We were focusing on three communi-

ties that had been totally cut off during the war in Southern Sudan, which ended in 2005."

In 2007, Tracy took on the role of Assistant Country Representative-Management Quality for CRS Southern Sudan. She supervised all support activities—such as finance, IT, security, and logistics. She took a break from working last February 2009 to go back to the States and spend time with her family.

When asked to share about the challenges she experienced while working for CRS, Tracy reveals, "Southern Sudan is a very challenging place for everyone there. I think the lack of infrastructure made life there more difficult. But what I found most challenging was the level of violence that people have been living with. It can really disrupt the few services they do receive and have serious effects

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# Determinants of Primary School Enrollment in Bicol, Philippines



By Jason L. Endaya

Economists, academics, political policy and decision-makers have noted the importance of education in economic growth and poverty alleviation. The UN's Millennium Development Goals aim to "ensure that, by 2015, children everywhere, boys and girls alike, will be able to complete a full course of primary schooling." In line with this vision, my objective is to estimate the determinants of primary schooling in Bicol, Philippines using data from 1994.

To relate the probability of primary school enrollment of children aged 7 to 14 years to individual, household, village, and school-related characteristics, I made use of this Linear Probability Model:

$$P(Y_{ij}) = \beta + \alpha IH_{ij} + \gamma V_j + \delta S_j + \mu_{ij}$$

where  $Y_{ij}$  is the educational status of child  $i$  in village  $j$ ;  $IH_{ij}$  is the vector of individual and household characteristics;  $V_j$  refers to the characteristics of village  $j$ , and  $S_j$  are the school-related characteristics in village  $j$ .

The vector of individual, village, and school-related characteristics

were derived from previous studies that discuss the determinants of primary-school education. For individual and household characteristics, I included gender, age, height (as indicative of health), and the educational attainment of the household decision-maker. To account for household wealth, I included household "class," wage/earnings per day of the decision-maker, as well as owned assets such as livestock. Village and school-related characteristics include source of water, road condition, access to electricity, number of elementary schools accessible to the children, and the distance of the nearest elementary school. These variables will test if village infrastructure encourages enrollment. I also use price of rice, as well as costs of school participation to test for price effects.

In general, individual and household characteristics were found to be statistically significant in affecting school enrollment in Bicol during 1994. Consistent with theory, I found that the probability of school enrollment decreases with age and household class (that is, enrollment is less likely if the

child belongs to a landless farming household). On the other hand, the probability of enrollment increases with parental schooling. Estimates also suggest that the probability of school enrollment increases with number of elementary schools, and decreases with higher costs of school participation. The set of village characteristics however, were found to be statistically insignificant. In spite of this, the signs of the estimates could suggest possible directions for government decision-makers. Local government units must pay attention to the status of available facilities and infrastructures in their communities. Piped sources of water, roads in good condition, and rural electrification are found to promote school enrollment. ■

Tracy O'Heir, *Continued from page 1*

on health care and children's school attendance."

Despite the obstacles she went through, Tracy shares that she loved being in Sudan and she never misses the chance to re-visit the communities they were serving. She expresses her admiration for the people living in these communities, "The people there are very strong and determined. They do so much with just a little support. It was very exciting to see all the changes that happened in the four years since the war ended." Tracy admits that many more changes are needed, but she believes that they have come a long way since the communities started from practically nothing. After the war, 99% of Sudan lacked facilities such as schools and health centers.

Tracy explains that her IPED education, especially the challenging Economics courses, helped her with the problem-solving skills that she needed on a daily basis in Southern Sudan. Tracy adds, "I have really benefitted from the network of folks working in relief and development that the IPED program has introduced me to." ■

# Malaria: Has Intervention Been Helpful?

By Patrick Gallic



PHOTO BY ALISON BIRD, USAID

*In Angola, 72% of children under five now sleep under bed nets thanks to a community project of the President's Malaria Initiative.*

Every year, three hundred million people are plagued by malaria. This disease kills about a million people every year, most of whom are pregnant women and children under the age of five. The economic cost from loss in productivity is estimated to be about 12 billion dollars a year for the continent of Africa alone. It is also estimated that 40% of hospital expenditure in Africa is spent treating malaria. The world community, in response to this epidemic, has increased funding from 300 million to 1.5 billion since 2000.<sup>1</sup>

The tools that are most often used to combat this disease are “Insecticide Treated Nets” (ITN)—which protect individuals from infected mosquitoes; Artemisinin-based combination therapy medicine (ACT) which is used to treat malaria incidents; and indoor residual spraying (IRS)—which involves the application of chemicals to household walls and roofs.

These measures reach developing countries through widespread funding by governments and major international organizations such as The World Bank, UNICEF, The Gates Foundation, and USAID. They hope to achieve universal coverage by 2010, and total eradication by 2015. My objective is to evaluate the effectiveness of malaria funding in reducing the incidence of the disease.

I made use of the following model:

$$\text{Change}_{46} = \beta_0 + \beta_1 \text{L} \text{funding}_{05} + \beta_2 \text{ITN} + \beta_3 \text{IRS} + \beta_4 \text{VAIRS} + \beta_5 \text{ACT} + \beta_6 \text{population} + \varepsilon$$

where  $\text{Change}_{46}$  is the change in malaria incidents from 2004 – 2006;  $\text{L} \text{funding}_{05}$  is the log of government internal funding and international funding in 2005; ITN refers to the number of ITN sold or delivered 2005 – 2006; IRS is the number of homes sprayed in 2005 – 2006; VAIRS is the number of homes sprayed in Africa only; ACT is the

number of 1st-line treatment courses (including ACT) delivered, and  $\text{population}$  is the population at risk of malaria.

Using 54 countries, including 18 from Africa, my findings show that increased government and international funding significantly reduces the incidence of malaria. The results also suggest that the use of ITNs and the implementation of ACT and first-line treatment courses have favorable outcomes. The disease-reducing effect of IRS was found to be evident only in African countries. A possible reason is the significantly larger amount of fund flows into Africa, relative to countries in other regions.

In conclusion the model indicates that government and foreign funding have been useful in the fight against malaria. This supports the WHO and other organization in advocating for increased awareness and funding. ■

<sup>1</sup> “Malaria No More” Stakeholders Report 2008

# Working for Global Justice — IPED Conference

**IPED**'s conference, "Working for Global Justice" was held last April 22, Wednesday, at the McGinley Center Ballroom in Fordham's Rose Hill Campus. The conference celebrated the 10-year collaboration between the IPED Graduate Program and Catholic Relief Services (CRS). The event featured afternoon workshops from IPED alumni. Matthew McGarry (IPED '04), Tracy O'Heir (IPED '06), and Liz Pfifer (IPED '08) shared their experiences and in-sights from working in Afghanistan, Sudan, and Madagascar, respectively. Michelle Born (IPED '03), along with current IPED students Patrick Gallic and Michelle Wiese, discussed volunteer opportunities overseas.

A career fair, held throughout the conference, showcased opportunities in overseas relief and development work for the undergraduate, graduate, and post-graduate levels. Participants included CRS' International Development Fellows, Global Outreach, and the Peace Corps.

The presentation of the Swanstorm-Baerwald Award, which recognizes excellence in the service of faith through the promotion of international peace and devel-



*Matthew McGarry's workshop, "Afghanistan: Relief And Development In The Midst Of Conflict"*

opment, culminated the event. Mr. Michael R. Wiest (Fordham College Class of 1967) became the first recipient of the award. Mr. Wiest is currently the Executive Vice President for Charitable Giving at CRS. His Excellency Archbishop Celestino Migliore (Apostolic Nuncio and Permanent Observer of the Holy See to the United Nations) presented the award. Also at the ceremony were The Most Reverend Timothy M. Dolan (Archbishop of New York and Chair, Board of Directors, CRS) and Fordham University President, The Reverend Joseph M. McShane, SJ.

## Arrupe Fellowships

**D**esigned to attract into the IPED Program highly qualified applicants who have a strong interest in pursuing a career with a non-profit international relief and development organization, the Arrupe Fellowship consists of a tuition scholarship, a generous living stipend, and an additional stipend for an overseas summer field placement in either Latin America or Africa. The application deadline is early January for the following Fall Semester.

For further information:  
[www.fordham.edu/iped/aid.html](http://www.fordham.edu/iped/aid.html)

