



MILLENNIUM
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Presenter Bios

Jenny C. Aker is an Assistant Professor of Economics at the Fletcher School and Department of Economics at Tufts University. She is also a Non-Resident Fellow at the Center for Global Development and a member of the Advisory Board for Frontline SMS. After working for Catholic Relief Services as Deputy Regional Director in West and Central Africa between 1998 and 2003, Jenny returned to complete her Ph.D. in agricultural economics at the University of California-Berkeley. Jenny works on economic development in Africa, with a primary focus on the impact of information and information technology on development outcomes, particularly in the areas of agriculture, agricultural marketing and education; the relationship between shocks and agricultural food market performance; the determinants of agricultural technology adoption; and impact evaluations of NGO and World Bank projects. Jenny has conducted field work in many countries in West and Central Africa, including Benin, Burkina Faso, Burundi, DRC, The Gambia, Ghana, Liberia, Mali, Mozambique, Niger, Nigeria, Rwanda, Senegal, Sierra Leone and Sudan, as well as Haiti and Guatemala.

Michelle Adato is Director, Social and Gender Assessment, in the Department of Compact Operations at the Millennium Challenge Corporation, where she is responsible for the integration of social and gender analysis in MCC compacts and policy. Prior to joining MCC, she was a Senior Research Fellow in the Poverty, Health and Nutrition Division of the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI), where she worked for 14 years. She co-led IFPRI's Global and Regional Program on Large-Scale Human Capital Interventions, conducting impact assessments and evaluations of health, nutrition, education, and social protection programs in Africa, Asia, and Latin America, and has worked on a wide range of other sectors, including agriculture and infrastructure. The main focus throughout her work has been on understanding how social relations shape development outcomes, and the social impacts of program design. She has over 60 peer-reviewed publications, and is the co-editor of two books based on impact assessments: *Agricultural Research, Livelihoods and Poverty: Studies of Economic and Social Impacts in Six Countries* (JHUP 2007), and *Conditional Cash Transfers in Latin America* (JHUP 2010). Michelle has a Ph.D. in Development Sociology from Cornell University, and an M.P.A. from the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University.

Harold Alderman, with both a master's in nutrition (Cornell) and a Ph.D. in economics (Harvard), has naturally gravitated to research on the economics of nutrition and food policy. After spending 10 years at the International Food Policy Research Institute, he joined the World Bank in 1991. He has divided his time at the Bank between the Development Research Group and the Africa region where he advised on social protection policy.

Steve Anderson is a Lead Economist in the Department of Policy and Evaluation at MCC. Before coming to MCC, Dr. Anderson worked as an energy consultant, held positions focused on infrastructure planning and policy in developing countries, and served as a policy analyst and a research and teaching fellow. Early in his career, he worked as a researcher on energy and resource economics at the Berlin University of Technology, lecturing on energy planning and management for developing countries and on a variety of European energy supply and security

issues. Dr. Anderson received his Ph.D. in Public Policy from the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University. He also holds an S.M. in Technology & Policy from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and a B.S. in Mechanical Engineering from Cornell University. His doctoral dissertation research was awarded the 2004 Hans-Jürgen-Ewers-Prize for applied infrastructure economics by the Berlin University of Technology.

Nava Ashraf is an Associate Professor in the Negotiations, Organizations, and Markets Unit at Harvard Business School. Professor Ashraf received her Ph.D. in Economics from Harvard University in 2005, and her BA in Economics and International Relations from Stanford University. Professor Ashraf's research combines psychology and economics, using both lab and field experiments to test insights from behavioral economics in the context of development projects in Africa, Latin America, and Southeast Asia. Her experiments address behavior change in health and health services delivery, in agricultural production, and in microfinance. She has conducted research on questions of intra-household decision making in the areas of finance and fertility, with a special focus on women's empowerment. Her research is published in leading journals including the *American Economic Review*, the *Quarterly Journal of Economics* and the *Journal of Economic Perspectives*. Professor Ashraf teaches a second year MBA course in Managing Global Health and a University-wide Ph.D. course in Field Experiments. She has also taught in the first year MBA sequence on Negotiation, and is part of the Executive Education program of the HBS Social Enterprise Initiative, where she teaches Impact Evaluation and Performance Measurement for Nonprofit Management. She is a Faculty Affiliate of the Jameel Poverty Action Lab at MIT, dedicated to the use of randomized trials as a tool for learning what works in international development, and a Fellow of the National Bureau of Economic Research. Prior to joining HBS, she worked at the World Bank on trade negotiations between Morocco and the European Union, as a consultant for several nonprofit organizations in developing countries, and as founder of a business skills training institute for women in west Africa. She has been awarded a Queen's Jubilee Medal for service by the Government of Canada, and is the youngest person ever to receive the Order of British Columbia. In her spare time, she enjoys opera, dancing, and skiing.

Ariel BenYishay is Associate Director of Economic Analysis and Evaluation in MCC's Department of Policy and Evaluation. Dr. BenYishay's research focuses on adoption of sustainable agricultural practices in sub-Saharan Africa, property rights and microenterprise growth, and the impacts of early childhood health investments in developing countries. In prior work, Dr. BenYishay served as Project Manager for the QED Group, leading the firm's evaluation work on behalf of the U.S. Trade and Development Agency. Dr. BenYishay also previously worked as a Research Associate with Sterling Merchant Finance, a boutique investment banking firm with expertise in Africa. He holds a Ph.D. in Economics from the University of Maryland, and a B.A. in Politics, Philosophy and Economics from the University of Pittsburgh Honors College.

Annette N. Brown is the Chief Evaluation Officer at the International Initiative for Impact Evaluation (3ie). Prior to joining 3ie, Annette served in several roles at Chemonics International Inc., including Director of Impact Measurement and Director of the Knowledge and Innovation Department. Before that, she directed the International Activities Center at the Urban Institute. Over the last decade, Annette has conducted technical assistance and research as well as

managed projects in more than twenty countries across Europe and Eurasia, the Middle East, and Asia for the United States Agency for International Development and other donors. Earlier in her career, Annette served as an Assistant Professor in the economics department at Western Michigan University and held research positions at the Stockholm Institute of Transition Economics and at the World Bank. She holds a Ph.D. in economics and a Masters in Russian and East European studies from the University of Michigan.

Michael R. Carter is professor of agricultural and resource economics at the University of California, Davis and directs the BASIS Collaborative Research Support Program which studies rural poverty alleviation strategies in Africa, Asia and Latin American. Carter's research focuses on the nature of growth and transformation in low income economies, giving particular attention to how inequality in the distribution of assets shape, and are shaped by, economic growth. While working primarily through the econometric analyses of household and firm level data, Carter has also made theoretical contributions on the economics of asset accumulation, institutional innovation and credit rationing. He carried out the fieldwork for his dissertation on the Peruvian land reform in 1980, and has since had numerous other research projects in Latin America, Africa and Asia. Carter has been working on South African income distribution dynamics since 1994 when he joined a team analyzing a national living standards survey. His current projects include analysis of poverty dynamics and productive social safety nets, and feature a suite of projects that design, pilot and evaluate index insurance contracts as mechanisms to alleviate chronic poverty and deepen agricultural and rural financial markets. This latter work is being carried out under the *I₄* Index Insurance Innovation Initiative, a joint venture of BASIS, USAID, Oxfam, the UN FAO and the Microinsurance Innovation Facility of the UN ILO. Carter's teaching includes undergraduate and graduate courses in development economics. He is an elected fellow of the American Agricultural Economics Association, and a co-editor of the leading development journal *World Development*.

Barry Deren is a Lead Economist in the Department of Policy and Evaluation at MCC. Prior to joining MCC, he was a Senior Consultant Economist and Financial Analyst for HJP International, where over eighteen years he analyzed development projects in over thirty countries in Asia, Eastern Europe, the Middle East and Africa, primarily for the World Bank, IFAD, the FAO Investment Centre, and the Asian Development Bank. He also served as a research consultant for the World Bank's Economic Development Institute preparing case studies and publications. A Fulbright Scholar at the University of Oxford, he received an M.Phil. in Economics as a member of Balliol College. Having graduated with a B.A. in International Relations from the Woodrow Wilson School, he also holds certificates in Russian and East Asian Studies from Princeton University.

Dr. Felkner is a Research Scientist at National Opinion Research Center (NORC). Dr. Felkner has completed transportation and infrastructure analysis planning, and economic development and economic impact analysis in the USA and in a number of foreign countries. Dr. Felkner's areas of expertise include transportation modeling, economic development analysis, spatial statistical analysis of demographic and socio-economic data using GIS, the processing and interpretation of satellite imagery, and modeling and simulations of both socioeconomic and environmental models. He has or is currently conducting transportation or infrastructure economic impact studies in the Republic of Georgia, Honduras and Ghana for MCC, in Sri

Lanka, Russia and Egypt for the World Bank, and in The Philippines, Thailand, Israel and California under research work funded by the US National Science Foundation (NSF) and other government or private agencies. He has been invited to lecture or teach seminars at the World Bank and The Millennium Challenge Corporation (MCC) in Washington, DC, Tsinghua University in Beijing, China, at the UTCC University in Bangkok, Thailand, and to The Central Agency for Public Mobilization and Statistics (CAPMAS) in Cairo, Egypt. He has a Masters Degree in Geography from the University of California, a Doctorate in Urban and Regional Planning from Harvard University, and he completed a Post-Doctoral fellowship with the University of Chicago Department of Economics.

Michael Kremer is the Gates Professor of Developing Societies in the Department of Economics at Harvard University and Senior Fellow at the Brookings Institution. He is a Fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, a recipient of a MacArthur Fellowship and a Presidential Faculty Fellowship, and was named a Young Global Leader by the World Economic Forum. In the fall of 2010 he became the Scientific Director of the DIV (Development Innovation Ventures) at USAID. Kremer's recent research examines education and health, water, and agriculture in developing countries. He is a recipient of the International Health Economics Association's Kenneth J. Arrow Award for Best Paper in Health Economics. In 2006, *Scientific American* named him one of the 50 researchers of the year. His articles have been published in journals including the *American Economic Review*, *Econometrica*, and the *Quarterly Journal of Economics*. He and Rachel Glennerster published *Strong Medicine: Creating Incentives for Pharmaceutical Research on Neglected Diseases*, which won the annual Association of American Publishers Award for the Best Professional/Scholarly Book in Medical Science. He helped develop the advance market commitment (AMC) for vaccines to stimulate private investment in vaccine research and the distribution of vaccines for diseases in the developing world. In 2007, the Italian, British, Canadian, Norwegian, and Russian governments, together with the Gates Foundation, pledged \$1.5 billion to establish an Advance Market Commitment for a vaccine against pneumococcus, which kills 2 million people annually. He is a co-founder of Deworm the World, which promotes school-based deworming in the developing world, and is president of its board. Kremer previously served as a teacher in Kenya. He founded and was the first executive director of WorldTeach, a non-profit organization which places more than two hundred volunteer teachers annually in developing countries (1986-1989).

Arianna Legovini is the Head of the Development Impact Evaluation Initiative (DIME) at the World Bank. DIME is a global initiative to put the scientific method at the service of development policy. Arianna is responsible for developing a new institutional approach to use rigorous impact evaluation to improve the Bank's operations and help governments improve the effectiveness of their policies by testing and scaling up implementation modalities that work. In this role, Arianna supports the coordination of several multi-country programs of evaluation in various sectors and overviews the implementation of a couple of hundred analytical products. In 2005, Arianna established the Africa Impact Evaluation Initiative for the Africa region of the World Bank. She also developed the Africa Results Monitoring System, the first Bank system to monitor Bank results. Before joining the Bank, Arianna was acting chief of the Poverty Unit in the Inter-American Development Bank, and coordinator of the Network of Inequality and Poverty of the Latin American and Caribbean Economic Association (LACEA). She did her

Ph.D. at the University of Maryland, College Park; she has twenty academic publications including journal articles and chapters in edited volumes.

Celeste Lemrow is an Associate Director in the Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) division of MCC, where she works on two countries, Honduras and Namibia, and is involved in the development of monitoring systems and impact evaluation design during compact development and implementation. Mrs. Lemrow came to MCC in April 2005 from USAID, where she worked in the Bureau of Policy and Program Coordination on strategic planning and performance management projects. Prior to working in development, she was a journalist for several years, writing for the Providence Journal in Rhode Island, the Buenos Aires Herald, and the Associated Press (AP) in Argentina and Mexico. She was a 2002 recipient of the Inter-American Press Association fellowship, which sent her to work and conduct research in Mexico, where she wrote for the AP and studied the impact of agricultural and land reforms on the rural poor. Mrs. Lemrow holds a BA in history from Brown University and an MA in international affairs, with a concentration in development economics, from Columbia University's School of International and Public Affairs. She is fluent in Spanish and Portuguese.

Ruth Levine is Deputy Assistant Administrator in the Bureau of Policy, Planning and Learning at the United States Agency for International Development. She leads the agency's efforts in evaluation, an area being revitalized as a fundamental practice within the discipline of development. Before joining USAID in March 2010, she was Vice President for Programs and Operations and Senior Fellow at the Center for Global Development, a Washington, D.C. think tank focusing on development policy. She joined the Center for Global Development soon after it was created in the fall of 2001 and helped to shape the Center's unique approach to making the world a better place: conducting independent research to devise practical new policy solutions to reduce global poverty and inequality, and then pushing these ideas into action. An internationally recognized health economist with over 15 years experience designing and assessing the effects of social sector programs in Latin America, Eastern Africa, the Middle East, and South Asia, she joined as a senior fellow and later became CGD's Vice President for Programs and Operations. Before joining CGD, Levine designed, supervised, and evaluated loans at the World Bank and the Inter-American Development Bank. Between 1997 and 1999, she served as the advisor on the social sectors in the office of the executive vice president of the Inter-American Development Bank.

Carol Medlin, Ph.D., MPA is a Senior Program Officer at the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation where she leads the Policy Research and Evidence (PRE) portfolio overseeing the foundation's major investments in global health policy research. She provides policy and analytic support to the foundation's global health strategic program teams, with an emphasis on HIV, malaria and family health. She currently serves on the Board of Commissioners of the International Initiative on Impact Evaluation (3ie), and remains actively engaged in a randomized control trial to evaluate the impact of conditional cash transfers (CCTs) on vulnerability to HIV and other sexually transmitted infections in rural Tanzania. Prior to joining the foundation, Medlin was Assistant Professor at the University of California, San Francisco and Associate Director of Policy and Evaluation at the Women's Global Health Imperative (UCSF), with a research focus on the design, evaluation, and scale up of innovative public health interventions in developing countries, targeting HIV/AIDS and malaria. She has worked with

the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, tuberculosis, and malaria; UNAIDS; and UNDP. She was previously a member of the "What Works?" Working Group at the Center for Global Development and the International Health Policy Reform Network sponsored by the Bertelsmann Foundation. She co-authored the External Evaluation of the Achieving Impact: Roll Back Malaria in the Next Phase (2003).

Jack Molyneaux is Director of Impact Evaluations at MCC. He leads MCC's Impact Evaluation practice group, working closely with MCC's economists and M&E specialists. Jack has designed and coordinated impact evaluations in Latin America, South and Southeast Asia, East and West Africa and Eastern Europe. These included evaluations conducted by the World Bank's Water and Sanitation Project of the Gates Foundation-funded large-scale sanitation and hygiene projects. He also worked with the RAND Corporation evaluating population, health and poverty programs, with a special focus on Indonesia. He was a Rockefeller Foundation Population Fellow at the Demographic Institute, Faculty of Economics at the University of Indonesia. Jack has a Ph.D. in Economics (Development and Econometrics) from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

Agnes R. Quisumbing is a senior research fellow at the International Food Policy Research Institute, working on poverty, gender, and economic mobility. She co-leads a research program on factors that enable individuals, households and communities to move out of poverty, and has just begun a new research program on gender and assets. She is currently involved in longitudinal studies in Bangladesh, Ethiopia, and Guatemala. A citizen of the Philippines, Quisumbing joined IFPRI in 1995. Before joining IFPRI, Quisumbing worked at the University of the Philippines, Diliman and Los Baños; the World Bank; Yale University; and the International Rice Research Institute.

Sophia Sahaf is a Senior Program Officer in the Department of Policy and Evaluation at MCC. She is responsible for providing technical support for both monitoring and evaluation of threshold programs. Prior to joining MCC, Ms. Sahaf worked in policy and institutional reform, promoting whistleblower rights in international organizations, assisting political parties with organizational development, messaging and voter outreach, and contributing to youth leadership projects in conflict zones. She also managed household data collection and analysis of unregistered refugees in Nepal. Ms. Sahaf received a Master's in Law and Diplomacy from Tufts University.

Matt Sloan is a senior survey researcher with significant experience working in developing countries, conducting rigorous program evaluations, and managing complex data collections. Mr. Sloan currently directs several projects in developing countries in Africa. He is directing an impact evaluation for the MCC Rwanda Threshold Program, which aims to strengthen the rule of law, civil society, civic participation, media, and the inspectorate services of the national police. He directs an impact evaluation of the MCC Niger Threshold Country Program—a program intended to reduce corruption, register more businesses, promote land titling, and increase girls' school enrollment, attendance, and completion rates. He advises the World Cocoa Foundation Gender Mainstreaming and Monitoring and Evaluation Framework Design on the design of the Cocoa Livelihoods Program and provides technical consultation on its multiyear impact evaluation. This program aims to increase household incomes in the cocoa-producing areas of

five countries in West and Central Africa. He was recently the survey director for MCC's Impact Evaluation of the Burkina Faso Girl's Education Threshold Country Program, which included more than 9,000 interviews with rural households and schools to evaluate an innovative set of interventions designed to improve girls' education. He is currently leading the effort to evaluate the expansion of the girls' education project under the Millennium Challenge Account Compact with Burkina Faso. Mr. Sloan also recently directed a program evaluation design of the Millennium Challenge Account Compact with Madagascar, which was intended to increase investment in rural areas through land tenure, finance, and agricultural investment projects. Mr. Sloan speaks French and holds an M.S. in sociology from the University of Wisconsin—Madison and a B.A. in international relations from Pomona College.

Maximo Torero is the Division Director of the Markets, Trade, and Institutions Division at the International Food Policy Research Institute, leader of the Global Research Program on Institutions and Infrastructure for Market Development and Director for Latin America. He has fifteen years of experience in applied research and in operational activities. He received his Ph.D. from the University of California at Los Angeles Department of Economics, is a professor on leave at the Universidad del Pacífico, was postdoctoral fellow at the UCLA Institute for Social Science Research (ISSR), and an Alexander von Humboldt Fellow at University of Bonn, Germany. Dr. Torero's major research work lies mostly in analyzing poverty, inequality, the importance of geography and assets (private or public) in explaining poverty, and in policies oriented towards poverty alleviation based on the role played by infrastructure, institutions, and on how technological breakthroughs (or discontinuities) can improve the welfare of households. He has won twice the World Award for Outstanding Research on Development given by the Global Development Network (GDN). His experience extends to projects in Latin America, Sub Saharan Africa (East and West), and Asia. Dr. Torero has unique expertise in impact evaluation of projects linked to water and sanitation, electricity, ICTs, roads, and in social and institutional aspects on the delivery of public services. He is currently working on water and sanitation in Tanzania and El Salvador. He also has country experience in India (Andhra Pradesh and Punjab), Vietnam, Bangladesh, Tanzania, Ethiopia, Uganda, Senegal, Zambia, Mozambique, Peru, Ecuador, and in Central America.

Rebecca Tunstall serves as an Associate Director for the Millennium Challenge Corporation in the Department of Policy and Evaluation. She has been at MCC since October 2004 and has worked on designing and implementing monitoring and evaluation frameworks for Armenia, Cape Verde, El Salvador, Honduras, Moldova, and Mongolia. Previously, she worked as a Research Assistant at the Center for Strategic and International Studies where her research focused on economic development and trade integration in the Americas. Rebecca holds a BA in economics from Bucknell University and an MA in international affairs from Columbia University's School of International and Public Affairs.

Leonard Wantchekon is a Professor of Politics and Economics at New York University. He taught at Yale University (1995 - 2000), and was a visiting fellow at the Center of International Studies at Princeton University (2000-2001). He received his Ph.D. in Economics from Northwestern University (1995) and his M.A. in Economics from Laval University and University of British Columbia (1992). A native of Benin, he is the author of several articles on post-civil war democratization, resource curse, electoral clientelism and the long-term impact of

historic events on current development outcomes. His articles appeared or are forthcoming in the American Economic Review, the Quarterly Journal of Economics, American Political Science Review, World Politics, Comparative Political Studies, Journal of Conflict Resolution, and other academic journals. He was the editor of the Journal of African Development (JAD), formally known as Journal of African Finance and Economic Development (JAFED). He is the founding director of the Institute for Empirical Research in Political Economy (www.ireep.org), which is based in Benin (West Africa) and at New York University.

Erin Weiser is an independent consultant with over fifteen years international development experience working in the areas of local economic governance in decentralizing contexts, business enabling environment issues, and small and medium enterprise (SME) policy. She has consulted for a range of donors including the Asian Development Bank, the Millennium Challenge Corporation (MCC), and the World Bank. Recent projects include evaluations of the MCC Threshold Programs in Malawi and Zambia, serving as governance advisor for the Civil Society and Pro-Poor Market program in Cambodia, and providing technical assistance in monitoring and evaluation for the Bridge Fund, a non-governmental organization working in Tibetan regions of China. Prior to starting her own company, Erin was with the Asia Foundation from 2000-2005, serving first as Deputy Director for Economic Programs and subsequently as Director of Economic Programs in Indonesia managing a national program to create one stop business licensing facilities, pilot regulatory impact assessment, and support policy advocacy by small business associations. She began her career in international development at the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development in the Working Party on SMEs. Her geographic experience includes work across South and Southeast Asia, Central Europe, and southern Africa. Erin holds a Msc. in Development Management from the London School of Economics and is fluent in French and Indonesian.

Franck Wiebe is Chief Economist for MCC. Prior to joining MCC, Dr. Wiebe was Chief Economist and Director of Economic Reform and Development programs at The Asia Foundation. Dr. Wiebe also worked for the Harvard Institute for International Development, where he served as project associate on the Customs and Economic Management Project in Jakarta, Indonesia. As a staff economist, his responsibilities included food and agricultural issues, poverty and social welfare concerns, and, during the Asian financial crisis, a range of macroeconomic issues, including inflation, exchange rate, and banking sector concerns. Previously, Dr. Wiebe was a faculty member in the Master of Public Policy Program at National University of Singapore, and has worked as a consultant for the Government of Indonesia, The World Bank, and the Asian Development Bank. Dr. Wiebe received a joint bachelor/master degree from Northwestern University, a Master in Public Policy from the Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University, and a Ph.D. in development economics from the Food Research Institute at Stanford University.