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*The Partnership for Economic Inclusion (PEI) is a global partnership hosted by the World Bank's Social Protection and Jobs Global Practice that aims to increase the earning opportunities and well-being of extremely poor and vulnerable people by accelerating systems change to massively scale-up effective household interventions.*



A [recent paper by Naila Kabeer](#) explores the experiences of 40 participants in two of the original graduation pilot projects supported by CGAP and the Ford Foundation. Kabeer's qualitative research considers the participants' experience before, during, and after the projects, launched by Trickle Up in India and Orangi Charitable Trust in Pakistan, and offers observations on nearby projects that were assessed with randomized controlled trials and featured in [Science magazine](#) in 2015.

A [blog by Berk Ozler](#) from the World Bank assesses the paper and its critiques.

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## Making graduation programs work for children

Thirty policymakers, donors, and researchers gathered on May 2 at the British Academy in London to discuss how graduation programs hold potential for improving children's lives. Organized by the Centre for Social Protection at IDS, representatives from IDS, the London School of Economics, PEI, and Save the Children presented. Building on longitudinal data from BRAC's Targeting the Ultra Poor Program in Bangladesh, Oriana Bandiera from LSE finds that the beneficiaries' children accumulate more human capital and have better health and more schooling than the control group. Adolescent boys over 16 also start climbing the job ladder, replacing casual labor with both skilled work and work on land acquired by their mothers through the program. Qualitative research from IDS's Pathways to Stronger Futures in Haiti project suggests that the economic inclusion of mothers can help break the intergenerational transmission of poverty but also highlights the tension between engaging in income-generating activities and providing care for young children. A [Centre for Social Protection blog](#) provides more information about the event and links to new research.

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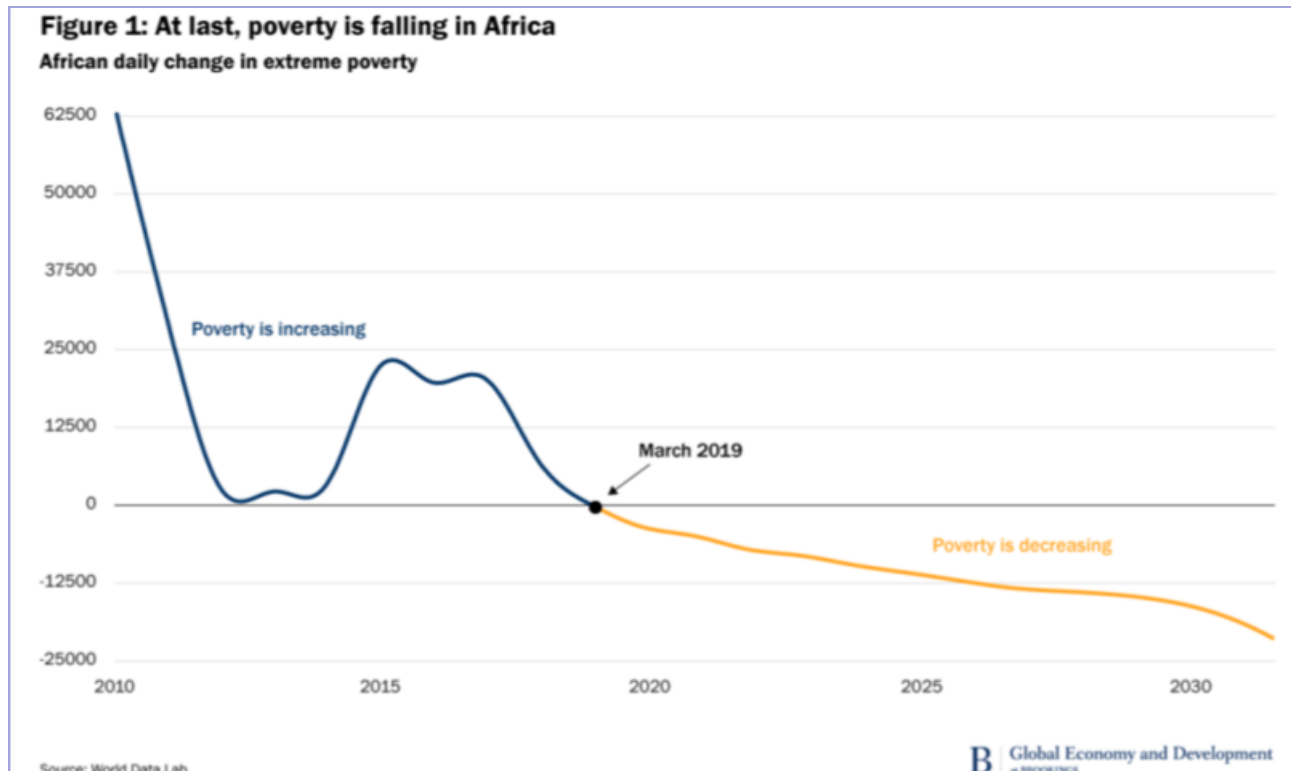
## Skoll World Forum

An ecosystem event at this year's Skoll World Forum brought together leaders from eight organizations including The BOMA Project, BRAC, Concern Worldwide, Fundación Capital, PEI, Trickle Up, Trinity College, and Village Enterprise to discuss the intersection between graduation approaches and women's economic empowerment. Panel members agreed that new research

underway will reveal more and all agreed that gender-transformational design and delivery are critical to meet the global commitment to gender equality.

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## A dozen countries in Sub-Saharan Africa could eliminate poverty (or get close) by 2030



More Africans are now escaping extreme poverty than are falling (or being born) below the poverty line for the first time since the SDGs were established, according to [The Brookings Institution](#).

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## The Transfer Project Conference

The Transfer Project held its [annual workshop](#) from April 2-4, 2019, with a focus on long-term poverty reduction. This year's event, highlighting insights 'from Africa, for Africa,' focused on economic inclusion, including lessons from the graduation approach. Good resources emerged and are outlined in this [useful summary](#) from UNICEF and the World Bank.

In addition, details on the graduation component of Ethiopia's Productive Safety Nets Programme, lessons learned in the first phase of implementation, and the learning agenda that emerged are presented in this [poster](#).

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## Resources:

Several useful [resources on savings groups](#) were published recently, including:

- State of Practice: Savings Groups and the Role of Government in Sub-Saharan Africa

## Women's Empowerment and Savings Groups: What Do We Know?



- Women's Empowerment and Savings Groups: What Do We Know?
- Savings for Change in El Salvador and Guatemala
- Savings for Change 2015-2017: Creating Economic Opportunity in Rural Cambodia

## Events:

- **June 11-13**, The Promise of Graduation: A Collective Effort to Test, Improve and Scale the Graduation Approach, at the [InterAction Forum](#) in Washington DC. Speakers from AVSI, PEI, Trickle Up, and USAID's Office of Food for Peace will share experiences from the Graduating to Resilience project with refugees and hosts in Uganda. A separate deep-dive session will be hosted by the [Refugee Self-Reliance Initiative](#) to discuss program designs that can lead to refugee self-reliance, and its measurement.
- **June 18-19**, the Global Coalition to Alleviate Poverty of Refugees and Host Communities, led by UNHCR, will guide a [brainstorming lab](#) at [European Development Days](#) in Brussels. This year's theme is *Addressing inequalities: building a world which leaves no one behind*.
- **October 28-November 8**, the World Bank's [Social Protection & Jobs Core Courses](#) are held in Washington DC, consisting of three parallel trainings on Social Safety Nets; Pensions; and Jobs and Migration Policies.

## Want more information, guidance, and resources?

Visit the graduation community page on the [FinDev Gateway](#) or on [socialprotection.org](#) for relevant research, guidance, and manuals.

## We want to hear from you!

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