



IHD SEMINAR SERIES

Institute for Human Development (IHD), New Delhi

invites you to a seminar on
**'Ethiopia's Community Based Health Insurance Scheme:
Enrollment and Impact'**

by

Professor Arjun Singh Bedi

**Professor of Development Economics, International Institute of
Social Studies(ISS), Erasmus University Rotterdam**

Date: Tuesday, 5 August 2014

Time: 11.30 am

**Venue: IHD Seminar Hall, NIDM Building, IIPA Campus, I.P. Estate,
Mahatma Gandhi Marg, New Delhi – 110002**

Dr. Abhay Kumar
Seminar Coordinator

Professor Alakh N Sharma
Director

Title of Presentation: Ethiopia's Community Based Health Insurance Scheme: Enrollment and Impact

Abstract

In recent years there has been a proliferation of Community Based Health Insurance (CBHI) schemes designed to enhance access to modern health care services and provide financial protection to workers in the informal and rural sectors. In June 2011, the Government of Ethiopia introduced a pilot CBHI scheme in rural parts of the country. This paper assesses the impact of the scheme on utilization of modern health care and the cost of accessing health care. It adds to the relatively small body of work that has evaluated such schemes in a rigorous manner. We find that enrolment leads to a 30 to 41 percent increase in utilization of outpatient care at public facilities, a 45 to 64 percent increase in the frequency of visits to public facilities and at least a 50 percent decline in the cost per visit to public facilities. The effects of the scheme on out-of-pocket spending are not as clear. The impact on utilization and costs combined with a high uptake rate of almost 50 percent within two years of scheme establishment, suggests that this scheme has the potential to meet the goal of universal access to health care.

Brief Biography: Professor Arjun Singh Bedi



Arjun Singh Bedi is a professor of Development Economics at the International Institute of Social Studies (ISS) of Erasmus University Rotterdam, The Netherlands and also a visiting professor at Georgetown University's Doha campus. Prior to joining ISS in 1999, he held positions at the University of Bonn (1998-99) and Columbia University (1996-98). He has a Ph.D and an MA from Tulane University, New Orleans, USA and a BA in Economics (Hons.) from St. Stephen's College, Delhi University.

His research focuses on labour and human resource economics in the context of developing countries. His work has been published in several international economics and development studies journals including *Journal of Law and Economics*, *Journal of Development Economics*, *Economic Development and Cultural Change*, *Journal of Development Studies*, *Applied Economics*, *Labour Economics*, *Economics of Transition*, *Economics of Education Review* and *World Development*.