

Development Economics

Lecture 1 (Introduction)

Preview of selected topics covered in this course

Below are a few examples from the topics we will cover in this course.

- **Agricultural risks and how to cope with them**
Farmers are exposed to risks arising from crop disease and uncertainties in weather and price. See the video from Uganda: Agricultural Risk Management – a new way of thinking (6 minutes 5 seconds).
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=o80PflGYVvI>
- **Informal risk sharing in Malawi**
When crop failures occur to Malawian farmers, how can they survive from hunger (13 minutes 27 seconds)?
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LlAahwkugTs>
- **Income generation and women**
This video shows how a woman's life changed after she started her farm business (with a loan from microfinance) in Tamil Nadu, India.
Tamil Nadu (CNN World Report) (3 minutes 16 seconds).
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6tzDN9JujS8&list=PLFBCE6A171953B863&index=17&t=0s>
- **An introduction to “Portfolios of the Poor: How the World's Poor Live on \$2 a Day”**
This video talks about a publication called “Portfolios of the Poor” whose contents are based on financial diaries of all transactions made by some poor households in developing countries over some extended times. This video gives a glimpse of financial lives of the poor: how do the world's poor live on \$2 a day? (6 minutes 32 seconds).
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oUWvULM37zg>
- **Intrahousehold allocation of resources**
How are household resources (such as foods and clothes expenditures) are

allocated across household members? Which members inside of households typically shoulders household chores? Professor Tomoki FUJII (Singapore Management University) and his colleague examined how childbirth alters intrahousehold resource allocation using data from Japan. Although Japan is not a developing country, this video gives you a clearer idea about the concept of the intrahousehold allocation of resources. Listen to the talk by Professor FUJII (audio only): How does Childbirth Alter Intra-household Resource Allocation? (16 minutes 30 seconds)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TmYEdzIa6pk>

- Solow model and steady state

We will also discuss the macro-side of development in this course, and the main topic is growth models including the Solow model. This video is a part of the series on the Solow growth model. This particular episode explains diminishing return to capital and steady state as its consequence. The whole series on the Solow growth model explains very well. See the video: the Solow Model and the Steady State (7 minutes 10 seconds)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LQR7rO-I96A>