Trade and Development Seminar

Does Large Farm Establishment Create Benefits for Neighboring Smallholders? Evidence from Ethiopia

► 2016 Recipient of the University of Minnesota Distinguished Leadership Award for Internationals ◄

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Friday, September 23, 2016
10:30am – 12:00pm
119 Ruttan Hall

Please join us immediately following the seminar at the Leadership Award Ceremony and Reception.

Intertemporal variation in smallholders' proximity or intensity of exposure to large farms allows us to explore the presence and magnitude of spillovers between large and small farms in an objective way. We find that in 2004-14 new formation of commercial farms did not contribute to job creation and provided at best modest benefits for neighboring smallholders in terms of technology, input market access, and resilience to crop shocks. While this implies that in Ethiopia a more strategic approach may be required to maximize smallholder benefits from large farm formation, our methodology can be applied to study effects of large land-based investment more generally and avenues to do so are outlined. (Daniel Ali and Anthony Harris)