

# AREC 345: Global Poverty and Economic Development

## Problem Set 9

Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics  
University of Maryland  
Fall 2016

**Problem Set 9 is due at the start of section on December 9.** Problem sets turned in more than 5 minutes after the start of section will be marked as late. All problem sets must be turned in as hard copies; points will be deducted if multiple pages are not stapled together.

For this problem set, choose one of the six randomized evaluations of microfinance described in the reading from the website of the *American Economic Journal: Applied Economics* website (go to <https://www.aeaweb.org/articles.php?doi=10.1257/app.7.1>).<sup>1</sup> Answer the following questions based on your chosen paper.

1. What is the name of the paper? Who are the authors?
2. Describe the microfinance institution whose programs are being studied in a few sentences.
3. Describe the evaluation design that is being evaluated in a few sentences. Specifically, answer the following questions:
  - (a) What is the evaluation sample?
  - (b) How was that population identified and recruited to participate in the evaluation?
  - (c) What, precisely, is the treatment?
  - (d) What is the level of randomization?
  - (e) How large are the treatment and comparison groups?
4. Describe the main results of the paper, and the estimation strategy used to analyze the data. Select one regression table from the results section and describe the regressions that the authors include in that table. Attach a copy of the table to your problem set.
5. Propose an extension or variant of the study which would allow us to learn more about the development or policy issue addressed in the paper. How would you implement your proposed extension in the field?

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<sup>1</sup>The paper “Six Randomized Evaluations of Microcredit: Introduction and Further Steps” is not one of the six randomized evaluations; please choose one of the other six papers.