

Publication list for Dr. Connor Spreng

The following publication list provides a comment for the three major, policy setting publications regarding their origin, content, format, and review process. Note that informal publications (blogs, Op-Eds, and similar) are not included here, but available at <https://sprenganalysis.com>.

2021. *MovePlus! A feasibility study on the physical activity behavior of young women in Switzerland.* ["MovePlus! Eine Machbarkeitsstudie für Massnahmen zur Erhöhung des Sport und Bewegungsverhaltens von jungen Frauen."] November, 2021. Online at <https://sa4d.org/news-media/news/feasibility-study-moveplus-published/>. [Lead author of SA4D Report, with Corinne Dietiker (project lead) and others.]

2019. "Paris is not enough: Toward an Information Technology (IT) enabled transnational climate policy," *Energy Research & Social Science*, 50, 66-72. Online at <https://authors.elsevier.com/sd/article/S2214629618309617> (with Daniel Spreng).

2016. "All hands on deck: polycentric governance for climate change insurance," *Climatic Change*, 139(2), 129-140. Online at <https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s10584-016-1777-z> (with Benjamin K. Sovacool and Daniel Spreng).

2015. *Myanmar Investment Climate Assessment*, World Bank Group, January 2015. Online at <http://documents.worldbank.org/curated/en/2015/01/24222884/>. [Lead author of World Bank Group Report]

Comment: This was the first ever Investment Climate Assessment for Myanmar, of which I was the lead author and team leader. The report was undertaken after the World Bank Group started to reengage in the country following the partial lifting of sanctions. It was the first comprehensive study of the country's private sector with an in-depth analysis of its possibilities and constraints, including its access to and use of critical inputs like financing or technology. Primary data collection was based on the World Bank Group's Enterprise Survey Methodology. Individual subject matter experts from across the World Bank Group joined the team and provided contributions. Both data collection and the final report underwent several stages of internal review, with officially recorded team responses to the reviewers' comments, including a final review by two senior experts without direct ties or involvement in the country or its program and one external reviewer. The Government was also given the opportunity to share feedback, though without any promise that any requested changes would be made. The external reviewer commented that he had never read a World Bank Report that was so candid about a government's failings regarding corruption. In part due to the combination of political sensitivity and urgency of the message and quality of the report, the report was officially presented to the government and to the public by then-Chief Economist of the World Bank, Kaushik Basu, during a launch event in the country's capital Nay Pyi Taw on March 24, 2015.

2014. "Does stewardship make a difference in the quality of care? Evidence from clinics and pharmacies in Kenya and Ghana," *International Journal for Quality in Health Care*, 26(4): 1-9. Online at <https://sprenganalysis.com/gallery/mzu054.pdf> (with Ifelayo Ojo, Nicholas Burger, Neeraj Sood, John Peabody, and Lisa DeMaria).

2012. "Healthy Firms: Constraints to Growth among Private Health Sector Facilities in Ghana and Kenya," *PLoS ONE* 7(2): e27885. Online at <https://journals.plos.org/plosone/article?id=10.1371/journal.pone.0027885> (with Nicholas Burger, Dan Kopf, Joanne Yoong, and Neeraj Sood).
2011. "Pursuing efficiency while maintaining outreach: Bank privatization in Tanzania," *Journal of Development Economics*, Elsevier, vol. 94(2), 254-261. Online at <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/abs/pii/S030438781000012X> (with Robert Cull).
2011. *Healthy Partnerships – How Governments Can Engage the Private Sector to Improve Health in Africa*, World Bank Group, June 2011. Online at <https://openknowledge.worldbank.org/handle/10986/2304>. [Lead author of World Bank Group Report]
- Comment: I was the lead author and team leader of this report. It was the result of a 3-year effort, with a large team and a budget of just under USD 2 million, funded by the Gates Foundation. Due to the sensitive nature of the study (and the fact that experts at the WHO and experts internally thought the undertaking generally and its timeline specifically was too ambitious) we engaged multiple layers of advisory bodies and review processes. We assembled an Advisory Council with officially designated representatives from WHO (Geneva and Brazzaville, HQ for Africa), from African governments (incl. Nigeria's ex-minister of health), from Academia and think tanks (Johns Hopkins, Brookings, University of Maryland), as well as senior internal experts from health and non-health backgrounds. External project partners were the RAND Corporation, together with the Results for Development Institute and the Economist Intelligence Unit (EIU). The data collection instrument was developed in consultation with the Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation at the University of Washington, the Schaeffer Center for Health Policy and Economics at the University of Southern California, and individual outside experts. For the survey, we interviewed more than 750 respondents in the 45 countries. We had a separate peer-review process with internal and external experts for (i) the data collection instrument and methodology, (ii) the construction of indicators, as well as (iii) the final report. For the first – and it seems still the only – time, we were able to compare countries in terms of how effectively governments engage with the private health sector. The developed ranking among countries, something our African counterparts eagerly wanted, was not included in the final report due to internal resistance towards such rankings in general. The report was officially launched on June 6, 2011, in Nairobi, Kenya, at an event hosted by the Honorable Anyang Nyong'o, Kenya's Minister of Health. It was also presented at different events and seminars, across Africa including the Ministers' meeting of the West African Economic Community (ECOWAS), Europe, and the USA.
2010. "Private Sector Participation and Health System Performance in Sub Saharan Africa," *PLoS ONE Journal*, 2010 Oct 7, 5(10): e13243. Online at <https://journals.plos.org/plosone/article?id=10.1371/journal.pone.0013243> (with Joanne Yoong, Nicholas Burger, and Neeraj Sood).
2007. Implementation Completion Report for Second Financial Institutions Development Project in Tanzania. June, 2007. Online at <http://documents.worldbank.org/curated/en/162121468117287303/Tanzania-Second-Financial-Institutions-Development-Project>. [Lead author of evaluation of World Bank program]

2006. "Nahrungsmittelproduktion im Mittelpunkt: Volkswirtschaftliche Kosten von Biomasseenergie," [*food production as the central focus: economic costs of biomass energy*] *Erneuerbare Energien*, Sondernummer, Mai 2006.
2006. "Preisvolatilität und Versorgungssicherheit," [*price volatility and security of energy supplies*] *Die Volkswirtschaft*, Das Magazin für Wirtschaftspolitik, März 2006 (with Othmar Schwank).
2005. "Policy Options for Interventions in Failing Schools," *RAND Corporation*, RGSD-187. Online at www.rand.org/publications/RGSD/RGSD187.
- Comment: This was my PhD Dissertation at the Pardee RAND Graduate School (PRGS), the Masters and PhD program that is attached to the RAND Corporation. RAND was engaged in a radical and high-tech education reform in the Emirate of Qatar, involving a dramatic expansion of school autonomy across all K-12 schools. I was directly involved in the project itself, leading the development of the contract guidelines, which were to specify the roles (rights and responsibilities) of schools and regulators in the new system. At the same time, I examined the question of failing schools and the role of oversight in such cases as part of my PhD research, since the fate of poorly performing schools seemed to me under-theorized and under-researched. The format of the dissertation was a monograph, overseen by a Dissertation Committee of three PRGS Professors, an external review by a prominent Professor at a different University, and a public dissertation defense.
2004. "Possibility or Utopia? Consumer Choice in Health Care: A Literature Review," *RAND Corporation*, TR-105-BF. Online at www.rand.org/publications/TR/TR105 (with Inge Van Beusekom, Silke Tönshoff, Han de Vries, and Emmett B. Keeler).