



Measurement of Well-Being and Development in Africa

Durban International Convention Center, South Africa
12-14 November, 2015

AGENDA

The Stiglitz-Sen-Fitoussi (SSF) Commission Report raised a number of questions about GDP, including its neglect of (i) non-market and social transactions, (ii) stocks and flows of physical, natural and human capital, and (iii) broad distributional issues. The OECD-hosted High Level Expert Group on the Measurement of Economic and Social Progress (HLEG) has been working on developing further the recommendations of SSF. In particular the suitability of GDP, and alternatives to it, for developing countries has been a focus of the discussion. At the same time, the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) process has been put in train by the UN system and has proposed a number of goals and targets as successors to the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) from 2015 onwards. All of this links to and feeds in to ongoing processes in developing countries to develop robust indicators of human, social and economic development.

With this background, the Government of South Africa, the OECD-hosted High Level Expert Group, Initiative for Policy Dialogue (Columbia University), Center on Global Economic Governance (Columbia University's School of International and Public Affairs) the Charles H. Dyson School of Applied Economics and Management (Cornell University) and the Atkinson Center for a Sustainable Future (Cornell University) are organizing a conference to bring together the best thinking and practice in going beyond GDP in the measurement of wellbeing and development in Africa. The conference is supported financially by these institutions, and by the OECD, the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), the International Labour Organization, the Roosevelt Institute and the Ford Foundation.

The conference organizers are South African Minister of Economic Development Ebrahim Patel, Nobel Laureate Joseph E. Stiglitz, OECD Chief Statistician Martine Durand and Cornell Professor of World Affairs Ravi Kanbur.

The focus of the conference will be on conceptual frameworks and on statistical systems for measuring human, social and economic development, and on tracking the evolution of multidimensional inequality and wellbeing. The agenda is structured around eight 90 minute sessions. The participants will be leading analysts and practitioners to facilitate a discussion between methods and frameworks on the one hand and the practicalities of implementation and monitoring on the other.



Thursday, 12 November 2015	
14.30-16.00	<p>Session I: Welcome and Setting the Stage</p> <p>Chair: Ravi Kanbur, T.H. Lee Professor of World Affairs, Charles H. Dyson School of Applied Economics and Management, Cornell University <i>Presentation: “Statistics for Colonial Rule, for the Independence Struggle, and for Inclusive Governance: The Indian Experience” / Opening Statement</i></p> <p>Ebrahim Patel, Minister of Economic Development, Republic of South Africa <i>Presentation: “Welcome and Overview”</i></p> <p>Joseph E. Stiglitz, Nobel Laureate, University Professor, Columbia University <i>Presentation: “Why Measurement Matters”</i></p> <p>Marco Mira D’Ercole, Head of Household Statistics and Progress Measurement, OECD <i>Presentation: “OECD Perspectives on Well-Being and Development”</i></p> <p>Ichiro Tambo, Director, JICA Research Institute <i>Presentation: “Quality of Growth - a view from development cooperation agency”</i></p> <p>Lorenzo Fioramonti, Professor of Political Economy and Director of the Centre for the Study of Governance Innovation, University of Pretoria. <i>Presentation: “Beyond GDP: First Steps Towards a Wellbeing Dashboard for Africa”</i></p>
16.00-16.30	<i>Coffee break</i>
16.30-18.00	<p>Session II: Unemployment and Informality</p> <p>Chair: Vic Van Vuuren, Director, ILO South Africa</p> <p>Frances Lund, Professor of Development Studies, University of Kwa Zulu-Natal, and Director of Social Protection Program, WIEGO <i>Presentation: “Gender and Informality”</i></p> <p>Murray Leibbrandt, Pro Vice-Chancellor and Director of the Southern Africa Labour and Development Research Unit, University of Cape Town. <i>Presentation: “Unemployment, Informality and Inequality”</i></p> <p>William Baah-Boateng, Senior Research Fellow, African Centre for Economic Transformation and Senior Lecturer, University of Ghana <i>Presentation: “Unemployment, Joblessness or Informality: Tracking Jobs Under SDG” / Paper</i></p> <p>Haroon Borat, Professor of Economics, and Director of the Development Policy Research Unit, University of Cape Town <i>Presentation: “Minimum Wages in Sub-Saharan Africa: A Primer”</i></p>



Friday, 13 November 2015	
9.00-10.30	<p>Session III: Improving National Accounts in Africa</p> <p>Chair: Margaret Kakande, Head, Budget Monitoring and Accountability Unit, Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development, Uganda.</p> <p>Rashad Cassim, Head of Research Department and Member of Monetary Policy Committee, South African Reserve Bank. <i>Presentation: "National Accounts in South Africa: The challenge of Structure vs Conjunction"</i></p> <p>Alemayehu Seyoum Taffesse, Senior Research Fellow, International Food Policy Research Institute <i>Presentation: "Agriculture and National Accounts"</i></p> <p>Daniel Masolwa, Statistician, National Bureau of Statistics, Tanzania <i>Presentation: "Compilation of Tanzanian National Accounts Statistics"</i></p> <p>Chukwudozie Ezigbalike, Chief, Data Technology Section, African Centre for Statistics, United Nations Economic Commission for Africa. <i>Presentation: "Data Issue for Beyond GDP Africa"</i></p>
10.30-11.00	<i>Coffee break</i>
11.00-12.30	<p>Session IV: Income and Wealth Inequality</p> <p>Chair: Ben Turok, Professor and Director of The Institute for African Alternatives <i>Presentation: "Inequality in South Africa. Welfarism is not enough"</i></p> <p>Jan Svejnar, James T. Shotwell Professor of Global Political Economy and Founding Director of the Center on Global Economic Governance, School of International and Public Affairs, Columbia University. <i>Presentation: "Does wealth inequality matter for growth? The effect of billionaire wealth, income distribution, and poverty in Africa and elsewhere"</i></p> <p>Servaas Van Der Berg, Professor of Economics, Stellenbosch University <i>Presentation: "Measurement issues and the central role of the labour market in South African income inequality"</i></p> <p>Luc Christiaensen, Lead Economist, Jobs Group, World Bank <i>Presentation: "Poverty in a Rising Africa – a monetary perspective" / Paper</i></p> <p>Dean Jolliffe, Senior Economist, Development Research Group, World Bank <i>Presentation: "A Global Count of the Extreme Poor in 2012" / Paper</i></p>
12.30-14.30	<i>Lunch</i>



Friday, 13 November 2015 (continued)	
14.30-16.00	<p>Session V: Multidimensional Deprivation</p> <p>Chair: Ngone Diop, Senior Gender Advisor, United Nations Economic Commission for Africa</p> <p>Sabina Alkire, George Washington University and University of Oxford <i>Presentation: "Multidimensional Poverty in Sub-Saharan Africa: Measurement and Relevance"</i></p> <p>Gebrehiwot A. Kebedew, Director of Programmes, Ethiopian Development Research Institute <i>Presentation: "Multidimensional Deprivation: The MPI Indicators"</i></p> <p>Luc Christiaensen, Lead Economist, Jobs Group, World Bank <i>Presentation: "Poverty in a Rising Africa – a Non-Monetary Perspective"</i></p> <p>Montserrat Gomendio, Deputy Director, Directorate for Education and Skills, OECD <i>Presentation: "Education and inequality"</i></p>
16.00-16.30	<i>Coffee break</i>
16.30-18.00	<p>Session VI: Gender Dimensions</p> <p>Chair: Akbar Noman, Professor and Senior Fellow, Initiative for Policy Dialogue, Columbia University</p> <p>Grace Bediako, Member of National Development Planning Commission, Former Chief Statistician, Ghana <i>Presentation: "Improving statistics for monitoring the sustainable development goals in Africa" / Paper</i></p> <p>Margaret Kakande, Head, Budget Monitoring and Accountability Unit, Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development, Uganda. <i>Presentation: "Measurement issues in dimensions of gender and wellbeing: The prospects for the Social Development Goal 5 in Uganda"</i></p> <p>Imraan Valodia, Professor and Dean, Faculty of Commerce, Law and Management, University of Witwatersrand. <i>Presentation: "Gender, Households and Distribution"</i></p> <p>Ngone Diop, Senior Gender Advisor, United Nations Economic Commission for Africa. <i>Presentation: "Measuring gender dimensions of well-being in Africa. A conceptual framework"</i></p> <p>Jane Kabubo-Mariara, Professor and Director, School of Economics, University of Nairobi <i>Presentation: "Measuring and Monitoring Gender related Social Development Goals in Africa" / Paper</i></p>



Saturday, 14 November 2015	
9.00-10.30	<p>Session VII: SDGs, Dashboards and Indexes</p> <p>Chair: Jane Kabubo-Mariara, Professor and Director, School of Economics, University of Nairobi</p> <p>Pali Lehohla, Statistician General of South Africa and Head of Statistics South Africa <i>Presentation: "GDP a badly used instrument or a framework whose time has come?"</i></p> <p>Haroon Bhorat, Professor of Economics, and Director of the Development Policy Research Unit, University of Cape Town <i>Presentation: "From the U.N. Secretary General's High Level Panel to the SDGs"</i></p> <p>Yaw Ansu, Chief Economist, African Center for Economic Transformation (ACET) <i>Presentation: "Economic Transformation and the SDGs – Measurement and Tracking" / Paper</i></p>
10.30-11.00	<i>Coffee break</i>
11.00-12.30	<p>Session VIII: Concluding Session and Overview of Main Messages</p> <p>Chair: Grace Bediako, Member of National Development Planning Commission, Ghana</p> <p>Ebrahim Patel, Minister of Economic Development, Republic of South Africa</p> <p>Joseph E. Stiglitz, Nobel Laureate, University Professor, Columbia University</p> <p>Ravi Kanbur, T.H. Lee Professor of World Affairs, Charles H. Dyson School of Applied Economics and Management, Cornell University</p>