



AFRICAN PROGRAMME ON RETHINKING DEVELOPMENT ECONOMICS 2014

The African Programme On Rethinking Development Economics (APORDE), in association with IDC has the pleasure to invite you to the following Evening Seminar:

TAKING INEQUALITY ANALYSIS BEYOND THE GINI CO-EFFICIENT

GABRIEL PALMA

Date: Tuesday, 2 September 2014

Time: From 19h00 (Refreshments from 18:30)

Venue: IDC, IDC conference centre

RSVP by email: lorrainep@idc.co.za to confirm attendance.

TOPIC:

The lecture will analyse the data on inequality, the issues are: (1) 80 per cent of the world's population now live in regions whose median country has a Gini not far from 40; (2) as outliers are now only located among middle-income and rich countries, the 'upwards' side of the 'Inverted-U' between inequality and income per capita has evaporated; (3) among middle-income countries Latin America and mineral-rich Southern Africa are uniquely unequal; (4) among rich countries there is a large (and growing) distributional diversity; (5) within a global trend of rising inequality, there are two opposite forces at work. One is 'centrifugal', and leads to an increased diversity in the shares appropriated by the top 10 and bottom 40 per cent. The other is 'centripetal', and leads to a growing uniformity in the income-share appropriated by deciles 5 to 9. (6) Globalisation is thus creating a distributional scenario in which what really matters is the income-share of the rich.

ABOUT THE SPEAKER

José Gabriel Palma is currently a Senior Lecturer in the Faculty of Economics, Cambridge University. He has a D. Phil in Economics from Oxford University, a PHD from Cambridge University (by incorporation) and a D. Phil in Political Science from Sussex University. He worked during the Government of Salvador Allende in the nationalisation of the copper industry, and after his graduate work in the UK he worked as a lecturer at the universities of London, Sussex, Oxford and Cambridge. He has published articles and books dealing with the economics of developing countries, with a strong focus on Latin America and Asia. He has also written extensively on inequality, financial liberalisation and financial crises, industrial policy, the history of ideas in development economics and politics, and Latin American economic history.

About the APORDE programme: APORDE is a two-week high-level annual seminar that brings together academics, policy-makers and civil society representatives to investigate economic development options. It is aimed at building capacity in the South, particularly in Africa and founded on the need to broaden perspectives on development thinking and policymaking.