



## **AFRICAN PROGRAMME ON RETHINKING DEVELOPMENT ECONOMICS 2015**

The African Programme On Rethinking Development Economics (APORDE), in association with Independent World of Work, an Independent Media supplement, has the pleasure to invite you to the following Evening Seminar:

### **Labour and Economic Development**

**BEN FINE AND NICOLAS PONS-VIGNON**

**Topic:** Is the labour market like the market for fish, subject to supply and demand and distorted by intervention? Does lack of human capital explain low wages and unemployment? Would minimum wages undermine employment? And is the South African labour market really 'rigid'.

These questions and more will be addressed in a theoretical and a South African context, focusing on the discrepancy between the conventional wisdom and the reality of labour markets.

**Date:** Monday, 7 September 2015

**Time:** 18:00 for 18h30 (refreshments will be provided)

**Venue:** Wits University; SEBS Seminar Room; 1st Floor New Commerce Building, West Campus

**RSVP by email:** Daphney Mabuza: [Daphney@tips.org.za](mailto:Daphney@tips.org.za) to confirm attendance.

#### **ABOUT THE SPEAKERS**

##### **Ben Fine**

Ben Fine is Professor of Economics at the School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London. He was a contributing editor to the MERG policy book, Making Democracy Work: A Framework for Macroeconomic Policy in South Africa, and co-authored with Zavareh Rustomjee, South Africa's Political Economy: From Minerals-Energy Complex to Industrialisation. He served as an international expert on the Presidential Labour Market Commission, South Africa, 1995/1996.

##### **Nicolas Pons-Vignon**

Nicolas Pons-Vignon is a senior researcher at the Corporate Strategy and Industrial Development (CSID) research programme in the School of Economic & Business Sciences (SEBS) at Wits University. He holds a PhD from EHESS (Paris). Nicolas' research focuses on labour markets, economic policy, and the role of the state in economic development. He has been the editor of the Global Labour Column since its inception in 2009.

**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.