

Agenda

Day 1 - March 22nd, 2021

15h00 – 15h30: Keynote speeches

- Jutta URPILAINEN, EU Commissioner for International Partnerships, European Commission
 - Clément BEAUNE, French Secretary of State to the Minister for Europe and Foreign Affairs
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15h30 – 15h35: Release of a short video on the EU reference document on inequality

15h35 – 17h00: High-level panel on “Inequalities in a world in crisis”

The 2020 UNDP report on “Covid-19 and Human Development” argues that crises, even of short duration, have unequally distributed long-term effects on human development. The impact of the current health crisis is economic and social, but weights more on the most vulnerable households. This panel aims to discuss the implications of this crisis for the reduction of inequalities and for international solidarity.

Speakers:

- Branko MILANOVIĆ, Senior scholar - the Stone Center on Socio-Economic Inequality
- Gabriela BUCHER, Executive Director - Oxfam International
- Koen DOENS, Director-General for International Partnerships (INTPA), European Commission
- Rémy RIOUX, Chief Executive Officer – Agence Française de Développement (AFD) - Chairman – International Development Finance Club (IDCF)
- Nora LUSTIG, Founding director – Commitment to Equity Institute (CEQ)
- Magdy MARTINEZ-SOLIMAN, Director - Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation (AECID) – pre-recorded video

Moderated by: Nozipho Tshabalala

Day 2- March 23rd, 2021

Session 1.1: 10h00-12h00 - African inequalities

The aim of this session is to discuss inequality in Africa, building on the results of three studies conducted in Ghana, Kenya and South Africa under the aegis of the African Centre of Excellence for Inequality Research. The discussion will be an opportunity to present an overview of inequalities in Africa and to review specific topics tackled in these research projects, such as fiscal policy, vulnerability and inequality of opportunity.

Setting the scene: **Murray Leibbrandt**, Director - University of Cape Town, Southern Africa Labour and Development Research Unit (SALDRU) - African Center of Excellence for Inequalities Research (ACEIR)

Projects:

- [Understanding the dynamics of the earnings distribution in South Africa](#) - **Vimal Ranchhod** - University of Cape Town, Southern Africa Labour and Development Research Unit (SALDRU)
- [The dynamics and interactions of income inequality and inequality of opportunity in Ghana](#) - **Robert Osei** - University of Ghana, Institute of Statistical, Social and Economic Research (ISSER)
- [Inequalities and fiscal policy in Kenya](#) - **Damiano Kulundu Manda** - University of Nairobi

Discussant: **Cécile Valadier**, Deputy Director - Economic Analysis and Public Policy Department – Agence Française de Développement (AFD)

Moderated by: Krisztina Bombera

Session 1.2: 10h00-12h00 - Climate change, natural resources and inequality

The negative effects of inequality and climate change on socioeconomic outcomes are mutually reinforcing and difficult to disentangle. This session will focus on projects that have studied not only the links between environmental changes and inequality but also how strategies to respond to climate change, such as agroecology, might affect income distribution.

Setting the scene: **Carlos Gradín**, Research fellow - United Nations University World Institute for Development Economics Research (UNU-WIDER)

Projects:

- [Climate variability and inequalities in Indonesia and in Vietnam](#) - **Grazia Pacillo** - International Center for Tropical Agriculture (CIAT)
- [Inequalities and environmental changes in the Lower Mekong river basin](#) - **Linh Huynh** - Institut de Recherche pour le Développement (IRD)
- [Agroecology and income inequalities in rural regions in Senegal](#) - **Moussa Sall** - Institut Sénégalais de Recherches Agricoles (ISRA), Université de Thiès

Discussant: **Stefano Signore**, Head of Unit - F1. Climate change and Sustainable Energy; Nuclear Safety – Directorate-General for International Partnerships (INTPA) – European Commission

Moderated by: Suyin Aerts

Session 2.1: 15h00-17h20 – Tools

Reducing inequalities implies being able to measure and describe them. This session will be an opportunity to present the various tools developed or expanded through the Research Facility on Inequalities. These tools, ranging from inequality diagnostics to fiscal incidence assessments and distributional analysis of development cooperation projects, offer a wide array of options for both policymakers and development practitioners to mainstream and efficiently tackle inequalities in their policies and strategies.

Setting the scene: **Anda David** – Scientific Coordinator EU-AFD Research Facility – Agence Française de Développement (AFD)

Projects:

- [Fiscal incidence analysis](#) - **Jon Jellema** - Commitment to Equity Institute (CEQ), Tulane University
- [Inequality diagnostic tool](#) - **Murray Leibbrandt** - African Centre of Excellence for Inequality Research (ACEIR)
- [Multidimensional inequalities framework analysis](#) - **Ana Claver** - Oxfam Intermón
- [The distributional impacts of development cooperation projects](#) - **Christian Morabito** - Escuela de Alta Dirección y Administración (EADA)

Discussants:

- **Philippe Galland**, Deputy Head of "Social Link" Division - Agence Française de Développement (AFD)
- **Udo Bullmann**, Member of the European Parliament

Moderated by: Krisztina Bombera

Session 2.2: 15h00-17h00 - Inequality drivers

To understand inequalities and their evolution, it is crucial to understand their determinants. The three studies presented in this session focus on the territorial nature of inequalities, their reaction to shocks and policies, and the structural causes of their evolution. Building on the cases of Cameroon, Ivory Coast and Tunisia, the three projects provide an overview of both macro and microlevel drivers of income distribution.

Setting the scene: **Denis Cogneau**, Professor Paris School of Economics (PSE) - Research Director, Institut de Recherche pour le Développement (IRD) - Directeur d'études, Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales (EHESS)

Projects:

- [Economic, social and regional inequalities in Tunisia](#) - **Mongi Boughzala** - Agence Nationale pour la Promotion de la Recherche Scientifique (ANPR), Université de Tunis El Manar
- [Inequalities in access to basic services and impact of public policies in Côte d'Ivoire](#) - **Koffi Christian N'da** - Laboratoire d'Analyse et de Modélisation des Politiques Economiques (LAMPE)
- [Structural change, growth models and inequalities in Cameroon](#) - **Isaac Tamba** - Institut National de la Statistique du Cameroun (INS)

Discussant: **Françoise Rivière**, Head of Economy and Strategy Unit, Africa Department - Agence Française de Développement (AFD)

Moderated by: Suyin Aerts

Day 3 – March 24th, 2021

10h00-10h40 – Release of short videos with testimonies from the country projects

- Manuela DE ALLEGRI, Leader of Research Unit “Health Economics and Finances” - University of Heidelberg
- Dr. PHUNG Duc Tung, Director - Mekong Development Research Institute (MDRI)
- Florent SASSATELLI, Head of the "Social Sectors" cluster - AFD Office in Burkina Faso
- Riina KLONKA, EU Ambassador to South Africa.
- Javier Marcelo ARROYO, Municipal Executive Secretary - Autonomous Municipal Government of La Paz, Bolivia

Session 3.1: 15h00-17h00 - Public and private services

Fiscal policy is one of the most important tools policymakers have to reduce inequality. However, its effects depend on the social policies in place and the structure of services available. This session will focus on the projects that have analyzed not only different angles of social policy and their impact on income distribution, but also the situations in which the private sector can be an alternative.

Setting the scene: **Shahra Razavi**, Director - Social Protection Department – International Labour Organization (ILO)

Projects:

- [Understanding the role of taxation in the fight against inequalities](#) –

Lisa Chauvet – Université Paris 1 Panthéon Sorbonne – Institut de Recherche pour le Développement (IRD) – Centre d'Economie de la Sorbonne (CES),

Akim Al Mouksit - Université Mohammed VI Polytechnique - Développement, Institutions, mondialisations (DIAL)

- [Assessing equity in health spending in Sub-Saharan Africa](#) - **Manuela de Allegri** - University of Heidelberg
- [The distributional impact of social protection](#) – **Liyousew Borga** - University of Luxembourg
- [Public policies, private higher education development and inequalities](#) – **Jaime Aragón Falomir** - Université des Antilles - Centre Population et Développement (CEPED)

Discussant: **Holger Kuhle**, Policy Advisor - Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ)

Moderated by: Christopher Burns

Session 3.2: 15h00-17h00 - Spatial inequalities

Measures at the national level often mask significant disparities among territories. The projects presented in this session use approaches that go beyond the national averages to conduct precise analyses at the local level. Covering topics that go from access to basic services to intergenerational mobility, the studies presented in this session will highlight the importance of spatial inequalities in shaping the global picture.

Setting the scene: **Raymundo Campos**, Professor-researcher - Centro de Estudios Económicos (CEE), Colegio de México (COLMEX)

Projects:

- [Inequalities in urban water services in Bolivia](#) – **Sarah Botton** – Agence Française de Développement (AFD)
- [Impact of affordable housing on urban inequalities in South Africa](#) - **Ivan Turok** - Human Sciences Research Council (HSRC)
- [Analyzing inequalities in socioeconomic trajectories in Burkina Faso](#) - **Jean-François Kobiané** - Institut Supérieur des Sciences de la Population (ISSP)
- [Inequalities, social mobility and perceptions in Mexico](#), – **Aurora Ramirez** and **Roberto Vélez**, Colegio de Mexico (COLMEX) and Centro de Estudios Espinosa Yglesias (CEEY)

Discussant: **Palesa Ryan**, Head: Social Health and Education - Development Bank of Southern Africa (DBSA)

Moderated by: Krisztina Bombera

Day 4 – March 25th, 2021

15h00-16h00: Keynote and discussion

- Thomas PIKETTY, Director - World Inequality Lab
- Minister Arturo HERRERA GUTIERREZ, Ministry of Finance and Public Credit, Mexico

16h00-17h00: Closing panel discussion

The closing plenary will be a panel discussion on policies to overcome inequalities and the political economy barriers that might exist. This panel will also be the opportunity to launch the second phase of the Research Facility on inequalities, which aims to support four countries (Mexico, South Africa, Colombia and Indonesia) in designing and implementing policies to reduce inequality.

Speakers:

- Minister Arturo HERRERA GUTIERREZ, Ministry of Finance and Public Credit, Mexico
- Lucas CHANCEL, Co-director - World Inequality Lab (WIL)
- Martin SEYCHELL, Deputy General Director - Directorate-General for International Partnerships (INTPA), European Commission
- Tanya COX, Director – Concord (TBC)
- Thomas MELONIO, Director of Innovation, Research and Knowledge Division – Agence Française de Développement (AFD)

Moderated by: Nozipho Tshabalala