

Guidelines for Presenters

The length of each parallel session is 90 minutes. There will be 3 to 4 presentations in each parallel session.

Presenters are asked to present research related to the topic of the parallel session, with concrete policy implications. Presentation time is limited to 15 minutes per presenter for four-paper sessions and 20 minutes per presenter for three-paper sessions, followed by a joint 30-minute Q&A with audience participation.

Presenters can use a visual aid such as PowerPoint or Prezi if they wish.

Each session will be chaired by a chairperson. The chair will introduce the speakers and manage the time to ensure that each speaker has an equal amount of time available and that the discussion with the audience is engaging and runs smoothly.

Guidelines for Session Moderators

The session chairs are responsible for moderating the parallel session.

The chair is responsible for welcoming the audience, introducing the speakers, and general timekeeping in a session. Presenters should be introduced briefly by name and affiliation.

When the presentations and discussant comments are completed, the session chair will open the floor to a general discussion and Q&A with the audience.

FINAL PROGRAMME

Updated as of 6 October 2026

Day 1: Friday 9 October 2026

Time	Programme			
08:00 – 08:30	Welcome and Registration Cultural Booth Experience – Tea appreciation			
08:30 – 08:35	Welcome Remarks Prof. Kunal SEN Professor of Development Economics, Global Development Institute, University of Manchester			
08:35 – 08:40	Welcome Remarks Prof. Nancy IP President, The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology			
08:40 – 08:50	Group Photo			
08:50 – 09:50	Keynote Address 1 “Industrialization, Decent Jobs and the UN's Sustainable Development Goals: A New Structural Economics Perspective.” Prof. Justin Yifu LIN Professor and Dean, Institute of New Structural Economics, Peking University			
09:50 – 10:20	Transition and Coffee Break			
10:20 – 11:50 Parallel block 1	Track 1	Track 2	Track 3	Track 4
	AI, Technology, & Structural Transformation	Labour Markets in the Long Run	Gender and Labour Markets	Labour Market Policies, Programs, Regulations & Institutions
	Kaisa Group Lecture Theatre (G/F)	Room 1038 (1/F)	Room 2042 (2/F)	Room 4042 (4/F)
	Moderator: Kunal SEN	Moderator: Piotr LEWANDOWSKI	Moderator: Mario GRONERT	Moderator: Haroon BHORAT

[161] From AI Exposure to AI Requirements: Evidence from Job Postings in Colombia Alexander Sarango-Iturralde Université Paris 1, Panthéon-Sorbonne & IRD	[258] Long-Run Effects of Universal Pre-Primary Education Expansion: Evidence from Argentina Guillermo Cruces UDESA Argentina and University of Nottingham	[106] Do Digital Extension Services Create Jobs? Gender-Differentiated Evidence from Nigeria Abdulrazaq Kamal Daudu University of Ilorin, Nigeria	[306] Road to Jobs? Transportation Investments and Sectoral Labor Reallocation Andu Berha University of Alberta, Canada
[222] Industrial Automation and Economic Transition in an Emerging Economy: Evidence from Viet Nam Andrés César Center for Distributive, Labor, and Social Studies (CEDLAS), Universidad Nacional de La Plata (UNLP), Argentina	[406] Memories of War: Wartime Sacrifice and Educational Recovery in China Jinyuan Liu Renmin University of China	[186] Droughts beyond the farm: Gendered Labour Market Responses and Sectoral Spillovers in a Diversified Economy Natalia Tellez-Lara London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE)	[030] Assessing the Impact of Tax-Benefit Policies on Inequality of Opportunity: Evidence from Brazil and Peru Anustup Kundu University of Western Australia India
[026] Artificial Intelligence, Intangible Capital, and Productivity Measurement in the Algorithmic Economy Jamiil Jeetoo United Nations Development Programme, Mauritius and Seychelles	[372] The Long-Run Effects of Conditional Cash Transfers: the Case of Bolsa Família in Brazil Guido Neidhöfer ZEW Mannheim & Turkish-German University	[360] The impact of meaningful connectivity on economic participation in a South African township Helanya Fourie Bureau for Economic Research, Stellenbosch University	[308] Rural Roads and Firm Behavior in India Binay Shankar Shiv Nadar Institution of Eminence

	[411] When Does AI Displace Workers? The Role of Firm-Provided Training Charles Udomsaph Georgetown University	[291] Place-Based Initiatives and Educational Outcomes: Evidence from India's Aspirational Districts Programme Parul Gupta Dhirubhai Ambani University, India	[409] What Is in Childcare: Childcare Attributes and Mothers' Employment Daniel Halim World Bank Group	[257] Mother-Only Leave and the Within-Couple Income Gap: Evidence from Vietnam's 2013 Maternity Leave Extension (Virtual) Ha Linh Bui Australian National University
11:50 – 12:50	Lunch break Venue: G/F, UniQue, Conference Lodge			
13:00 – 14:00	Special Sessions:			
	World Bank “A presentation on bringing analysis to policy dialogue with applications to AI, gender, and informality.” Presented by Mei Mei Aileen LAM, Economist, Jobs and Growth Global Unit of the Fiscal Policy and Growth Department, World Bank Group Manuela FRANCISCO, Global Director for Fiscal Policy and Growth, World Bank Group Kaisa Group Lecture Theatre (G/F)	International Labour Organization “Lifelong Learning and Skills for the Future: Building Inclusive and Responsive Learning Systems for a Changing World” Chair: Prof. Haroon BHORAT Professor of Economics and Director of the DPRU Presenter: Dr. Verónica ESCUDERO, Senior Economist and Chief of the Skills, Active Labour Market Policies and Policy Evaluation Team, ILO Discussant: Prof. Uta SCHÖNBERG The Hong Kong Jockey Club Professor in Economics and Chair of Economics, The University of Hong Kong Room 2042 (2/F)		
14:00 – 14:15	Transition break			

	Track 1	Track 2	Track 3	Track 4
14:15 – 15:45 Parallel block 2	AI, Technology, & Structural Transformation	Skills, Education, & Lifelong Learning	Gender and Labour Markets	Labour Market Policies, Programs, Regulations & Institutions
	Kaisa Group Lecture Theatre (G/F)	Room 1038 (1/F)	Room 2042 (2/F)	Room 4042 (4/F)
	Moderator: Haroon BHORAT	Moderator: Gary FIELDS	Moderator: Cecilia POGGI	Moderator: Sam JONES
	[316] Skills That Pay: Digital Skills Demand and Wage Premia in Asia and the Pacific <i>Silvia Garcia Mandico</i> <i>Asian Development Bank</i>	[174] From Skills to Jobs: The Impact of Training on Employment in Senegal (Virtual) <i>Rana Cömertpay</i> <i>Luxembourg Institute of Socio-Economic Research</i>	[055] Can Protection Become Promotion? The Interactive Effects of Labor and Financial Frictions on Women Entrepreneurs <i>Jennifer Poole</i> <i>American University</i>	[348] The Determinants and Dynamics of Minimum Wage Non-Compliance under Protracted Conflict: Evidence from Palestine <i>Rabeh Morrar</i> <i>An-Najah National University</i>
	[038] Automation, Firms and Workers: Evidence from South Africa <i>Justice Mensah</i> <i>World Bank</i>	[400] Vocational Training and Women's Work in Nepal: Employment Composition and National-System Evidence <i>Krishna Sharma</i> <i>Stanford University</i>	[327] Sowing Seeds of Mobility: The Gendered Impact of Land Reform <i>Rachel Ngai</i> <i>London School of Economics and CEPR</i>	[364] The Impacts of Negative Income Tax on Labor Market and Household Expenditure <i>Sangyoon Park</i> <i>Hong Kong University of Science and Technology</i>
	[035] Automation and Task Differences across Countries <i>Lianyi Hu</i> <i>East China University of Science and Technology</i>	[052] Cambodia's Higher Education Expansion, Employment Composition, and Structural Transformation <i>Seyhakunthy HUN</i> <i>Graduate School of International Development, Nagoya University, Japan</i>	[247] Landslides, Household Resilience and Time Allocation in India <i>Sila Mishra</i> <i>Indian Institute of Technology Kanpur</i>	[260] Households, Frictions and Gender Gap: A Search Model of Labour Force Participation in India <i>Aakash Dev</i> <i>National Council of Applied Economic Research</i>

	[148] Exposure to Digital Automation and Jobs in Global Value Chains <i>Maria Savona</i> <i>SPRU – University of Sussex</i>	[295] Progress and Persistence: Race and Intergenerational Educational Mobility in South Africa <i>Tim Köhler</i> <i>University of Cape Town</i>	[149] Factories and Fertility: The Impact of Manufacturing Growth on Son Preference <i>Rikhia Bhukta</i> <i>Ahmedabad University, India</i>	[121] Agricultural Adaptation to Drought: Evidence from Vietnam <i>Nguyen Vuong,</i> <i>University of Tsukuba</i>
15:45 – 16:00	Coffee break			
16:00 – 17:00	Special Sessions:			
	UNU-WIDER “Race and Discrimination” Chaired and presented by “ Unequal Returns: School-to-Work Transitions in South Africa Using Population-Wide Administrative Data ” Rodrigo OLIVEIRA Research Fellow, UNU-WIDER “ The Path After Access: The Long-Term Impacts of Affirmative Action in a Selective University in Brazil ” Alej SANTOS (FGV-EASP) “ Soft Skills and Hiring Discrimination ” (Virtual) Christian VALENCIA (University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign) Kaisa Group Lecture Theatre (G/F)	DPRU “ Social assistance in search of employment generation and poverty reduction: Case studies from South Africa ” Chaired by Prof. Haroon BHORAT Professor of Economics and Director of the DPRU “ Cash Transfers and Labour Supply Under Structural Unemployment ” Benjamin STANWIX (DPRU) “ The Covid-19 Social Relief of Distress Grant: A Comparative Poverty Reduction Assessment ” Morne OOSTHUIZEN (DPRU) “ Ameliorating the Consequences of Coal Job Destruction: A Just Transition Policy Matrix Approach ” Francois STEENKAMP (DPRU) <i>Format: 3 presentations of 15 mins each, followed by 15 mins of question time at the end.</i> Room 2042 (2/F)		

17:30	Shuttle bus pick-up at Conference venue lobby on G/F and depart for the Gala Dinner Venue
18:15 – 20:15	Gala Dinner Serve authentic Cantonese cuisine, complemented by a traditional lion dance performance supported by the Hong Kong Tourism Board and an Erhu performance by HKUST students. Venue: Garden Room, New World Millennium Hong Kong Hotel Address: 72 Mody Road, Tsim Sha Tsui East, Kowloon, Hong Kong SAR GPS: https://maps.app.goo.gl/RW6xXNdC3tQypqgRA
20:30	Shuttle Bus back to Conference Lodge only

Day 2: Saturday 10 October 2026

Time	PROGRAMME
08:00	Arrival
08:30 – 09:30	Keynote Address 2 “Structural Transformation and Displacement Effects in Manufacturing” Prof. Uta SCHÖNBERG The Hong Kong Jockey Club Professor in Economics and Chair of Economics, University of Hong Kong
09:30 – 11:00	Policy Panel: “AI Adoption and Transformation of Work in Asia-Pacific” Moderator: Prof. Albert PARK , Chief Economist, Asian Development Bank Panelists: • Prof. Kar Yan TAM, Chair Professor of Information Systems, Business Statistics and Operations Management, Acting Director of HKUST IEMS • Ms. Kelly FORBES, President and Executive Director, AI Asia Pacific Institute • Prof. Rachel NGAI, Professor of Economics, Department of Economics, London School of Economics
11:00 – 11:30	Coffee break

	Track 1	Track 2	Track 3	Track 4
11:30 – 13:00 Parallel block 3	AI, Technology, & Structural Transformation	Skills, Education, & Lifelong Learning	Inclusion, Job Quality, & Decent Work	Demographic Shifts: Youth, Aging Labour Force, and Migration
	Kaisa Group Lecture Theatre (G/F)	Room 1038 (1/F)	Room 2042 (2/F)	Room 4042 (4/F)
	Moderator: Piotr LEWANDOWSKI	Moderator: Gary FIELDS	Moderator: Marc BECKMANN Benjamin PERCLIK	Moderator: Cuong Viet NGUYEN
	[070] Climate Change and Heterogeneous Impacts on Sectoral Labor Allocation in Africa <i>Martin Paul Jr. Tabe-Ojong World Bank</i>	[083] Degrees without Destination: The Compound Effect of Gender and Migration on Education-Occupation Mismatch in the Indian Labour Market <i>Shruti Priya Centre for Economic Studies and Policy (CESP), Institute for Social and Economic Change (ISEC),</i>	[384] Together in Search: Experimental Evidence from Coordinating Travel Among Women Job-Seekers in Urban India <i>Smit Gade Good Business Lab, India</i>	[266] Measuring Sensitive Outcomes Through Ballot-Bag Surveys <i>Ahmed Elsayed American University in Cairo</i>
	[125] Economic Impacts of AI Adoption and Diffusion: Evidence from Asia and the Pacific <i>Roshen Fernando Asian Development Bank</i>	[368] The Labor Market Impacts of Vocational School Expansion: Evidence from Indonesia <i>Xing Xia National University of Singapore</i>	[383] 50 shades of informality: A gender analysis of informal labour and precarious working conditions (Virtual) <i>Isaac Lopez-Moreno Flores University of Manchester</i>	[220] Impacts of Large-Scale Agricultural Investments on Rural Development: Evidence from Senegal <i>Mouhamed Rassoul SY, Wageningen University and Research (WUR)</i>
	[041] Beliefs, Reputation, and Barriers to Entry in Online Labor Markets <i>Ruoxuan Wu</i>	[067] Chinese Import Penetration, Labour Market Rigidities and Local Labour Markets: Evidence from South Africa	[267] Mentorship networks and the early career outcomes of college-educated women	[087] Agricultural Mechanization Under Migration <i>Yi Xiang, The University of Hong Kong</i>

	<i>Asian Development Bank</i>	<i>Raynold Runganga University of Cape Town</i>	<i>Maria Oaquim de Medeiros Princeton University</i>	
	[315] Skills and AI Ecosystems: Evidence from Brazilian Microregions <i>Tommaso Ciarli UNU-MERIT; SPRU, University of Sussex</i>	[401] Vocational Training to Improve Labor Market Integration of Young Refugees <i>Till Wicker Academia Sinica (Taipei)</i>	[379] The Subcontracting Paradox in India's Informal Manufacturing Sector <i>Adwitiya Mishra BML Munjal University</i>	[006] Agricultural adaptation to labor-supply shocks: Insights from the Syrian refugee inflow in Turkey <i>Oussama Ben Atta Université Jean Monnet Saint Etienne - GATE Lyon Saint Etienne</i>
13:00 – 14:00	Lunch break Venue: UniQue, Conference Lodge			
14:00 – 15:30 Parallel block 4	Track 1	Track 2	Track 3	Track 4
	AI, Technology, & Structural Transformation	Skills, Education, & Lifelong Learning	Gender and Labour Markets	Labour Market Policies, Programs, Regulations & Institutions
	Kaisa Group Lecture Theatre (G/F)	Room 1038 (1/F)	Room 2042 (2/F)	Room 4042 (4/F)
	Moderator: Mei Mei Aileen LAM	Moderator: Rodrigo OLIVEIRA	Moderator: Kunal SEN	Moderator: Verónica ESCUDERO
	[336] Structural transformation stalled: counting the labour market costs of macroeconomic distress in Mozambique <i>Sam Jones UNU-WIDER</i>	[345] The Changing Dynamics of Skill Premium in India <i>Mrinalini Jha Ashoka University, Department of Economics, Rajiv Gandhi Education City, India</i>	[143] Estimating Labor Demand Using Dynamic Framework: Evidence from Manufacturing Firms in Ethiopia <i>Eyayu Tesfaye Mulugeta Addis Ababa University, Ethiopia</i>	[197] Heat Stress and Labor Share: Evidence from Indian Manufacturing <i>Garima Jasuja Euro-Mediterranean Center on Climate Change (CMCC), Venice, Italy & Department of Environmental Sciences, Informatics and Statistics, Ca' Foscari University of Venice, Italy</i>

	[054] Can Migration Barriers Save Firm Productivity in a Developing Country? Zhangfeng Jin Zhejiang University of Technology, China	[223] Inequality, Informality, and Optimal Progressivity Luigi-Maria Briglia University of Tübingen	[022] An Integrated Employment Policy for Decent Work and Structural Transformation in India Amit Basole Azim Premji University	[298] Racing to the top? Foreign firms and local markets: Evidence from Vietnam Trang Tran Yamanashi Gakuin University
	[105] Do Agglomeration Externalities Form Service Clusters? Evidence from a Location Lottery Yuki Higuchi Sophia University	[382] Use It or Lose It? The Value of a STEM Degree in the Saudi Labor Market Cian Mulligan King Abdullah Petroleum Studies and Research Center (KAPSARC), Riyadh, Saudi Arabia	[338] Stuck in the Fields: How rising temperatures deepen gender inequality in rural India Manisha Mukherjee UNU-MERIT and Maastricht University	[132] Electricity Supply and Contract Compliance in the MSE sector A Lab-in-the-field Experiment in Nigeria (Virtual) Miguel Nino Zarazua SOAS University of London
		[313] Can Smallholders Benefit from Complex Information?: Digital Water Quality Monitoring in Vietnamese Aquaculture Aya Suzuki The University of Tokyo and United Nations University	[407] Weathering Challenges: Distributional Impacts of Climatic Shocks on Household Consumption in Mozambique Gabriel Monteiro, Carnegie Mellon University	[061] Carbon Taxation and Firm Behavior in Emerging Economies: Evidence from South Africa Daniel Overbeck National University of Singapore
		The role of firms in shaping the work, study, and graduation choices of student employees Ciprian Domnisoru Aalto University		

15:30 – 16:00	Coffee break Cultural Booth Experience – Paper Cutting	
16:00 – 17:00	Special Sessions:	
	The Institute for Structural Research (IBS) and HKUST Institute for Emerging Market Studies (IEMS) “Understanding AI exposure, job tasks, and skill use across the development spectrum?” Chaired by Dr. Verónica ESCUDERO, Senior Economist and Chief of the Skills, Active Labour Market Policies and Policy Evaluation Team, ILO “Which Workers in the Philippines are Most Exposed to AI?: Insights from ADB Jobs and Skills Surveys” Prof. Albert PARK Chief Economist, Asian Development Bank “Workers’ exposure to AI across development stages” Dr. Piotr LEWANDOWSKI President of the Board at Institute for Structural Research (IBS) “Public Perceptions of AI Impact on Work in Hong Kong” Prof. Kar Yan TAM, Chair Professor of Information Systems, Business Statistics and Operations Management, Acting Director of HKUST IEMS Kaisa Group Lecture Theatre (G/F)	Agence Française de Développement (AFD) “Pollution and environmental shocks in Asian labour markets: Exposure, labour market outcomes, and gendered effects” Chaired by Dr. Cecilia POGGI Senior Economist and Social Protection Research Officer, French Development Agency (AFD) Research Department “Who counts as an outdoor worker?” Dr. Hema SWAMINATHAN, Senior Economist (Gender), Asian Development Bank (ADB) “Impact of extreme temperatures and air pollution on labor supply and earnings: Evidence from Vietnam” Dr. Cuong Viet NGUYEN, Lecturer, Vietnam National University (VNU), and Vice Director, Mekong Development Research Institute (MDRI) Room 2042 (2/F)
17:00 – 17:05	Transition break	
17:05 – 17:15	Closing remarks Prof. Kar Yan TAM, Acting Director of HKUST IEMS Word of Thanks: Steering Committee	
17:15	End of programme	