

ELLA Summit on Informality and Inclusive Growth 4th & 5th October 2016

Speaker Bios¹



Haroon Borat is Professor of Economics and Director of the Development Policy Research Unit at the University of Cape Town. He's co-authored two books and published over 150 academic journal articles, book chapters and working papers, covering labour economics, poverty and income distribution.

Haroon is a Non-resident Senior Fellow at the Brookings Institution, an IZA Research Fellow (Institute for the Study of Labour), a member of the World Bank's Commission on Global Poverty, and a member of the UN-WHO's High Level Commission on Health Employment and Economic Growth.

Haroon holds a highly prestigious National Research Chair, is an Advisor on the South African Parliament's High Level Panel on Acceleration of Change and Transformation, and has served as economic advisor to former South African Ministers of Finance. He was also an economic advisor to former Presidents Thabo Mbeki and Kgalema Motlanthe, formally serving on the Presidential Economic Advisory Panel.

Morné Oosthuizen is Deputy Director of the Development Policy Research Unit at the University of Cape Town. Morné joined the DPRU in 2002, becoming Senior Researcher later that year. He became Deputy Director in 2006. After graduating cum laude with a B Comm Honours in Economics in 1999, Morné spent a year at the University of Cambridge. He then graduated cum laude from the University of Stellenbosch with an M.Comm in Economics in 2002. Morné's research interests include: labour markets, poverty, inequality, prices, and economic demography.



Leonardo Villar Gomez is Executive Director of Fedesarrollo. An Economist, he obtained his degree cum laude and Masters in Economics from the University of the Andes. He also studied at the London School of Economics, where he obtained a Master of Science (M.Sc.) in Economics and advanced doctoral studies. Prior, he was Chief Economist and Vice President of Development Strategies and Public Policies of the Andean Development Corporation (CAF). In the Colombian public sector, he was a Member of the Board of the Bank of the Republic of Colombia, and Technical Deputy Minister of Finance and Advisory Board of Foreign Trade. Leonardo has

taught at several Colombian universities and has numerous publications in the areas of macroeconomics, foreign trade and monetary, exchange and financial policy.

¹ Listed as they appear in the programme.



Guillermo Perry is a professor at Universidad de Los Andes, Colombia, a Non Resident Fellow at the Center for Global Development, Washington D.C, an advisor to the President of CAF and member of several Boards, among them GDN, Woodrow Wilson Institute (Latin American Advisory Board), FEDESARROLLO and Banco de Bogotá. He was Chief Economist for Latin America and the Caribbean at the World Bank, and held various positions in his home country, Colombia: Minister of Finance and Public Credit; Minister of Mines, and Energy; Member of the Constitutional Assembly; Director of FEDESARROLLO, and the Center for Economic Development Studies (CEDE). He has been a visiting professor at the Kennedy School at Harvard University and Oxford University. Guillermo is author or coauthor of more than twenty books and many articles on diverse development issues: growth, inequality, public finance, natural resources and trade. He is a Ph.D. candidate in Economics from MIT.

Kezia Lilenstein is a Researcher at the Development Policy Research Unit at the University of Cape Town. Kezia obtained a Masters degree in Applied Economics from the University of Cape Town (UCT). During her time at UCT she tutored extensively for the School of economics and worked as a researcher for the Southern Africa Development Research Unit (SALDRU). She also worked as an editor for an online community newspaper and managed an impact evaluation of a NUMERIC, an education-based non-profit organization. Her research interests include: Labour Economics (especially youth unemployment) and Development Economics.



Professor Imraan Valodia is Dean of the Faculty of Commerce, Law and Management at the University of the Witwatersrand. He has a doctorate in Economics from UKZN. His research interests include employment, the informal economy, gender, and industrialisation. He has published in leading international journals and is one of only a handful of South African economists with an NRF B-rating. He serves on a number of economic policy forums and has worked with leading international development organisations, including the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development, the United Nations Development Programme, UN Women, the World Bank, and Women in Informal Employment: Globalising and Organising, among others. Imraan is a part-time member of the Competition Tribunal and a Commissioner on the Employment Conditions Commission.

Angel Melguizo is currently a Senior Economist at the Organisation for Co-operation and Development (OECD) in Paris, France. Before joining the OECD, he worked as Lead Specialist in the Labor Markets and Social Security Unit at the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), as Senior Adviser at the Economic Bureau of the Spanish Prime Minister, and a Principal Economist at the BBVA Financial Group, specializing in research on pension reform, fiscal policy, and long-term economic growth.





Cristina Fernández is an Economist and Researcher at Fedesarrollo in Colombia. She has a Masters from the University of the Andes, and another from NYU. She has worked as a country economist for South Asia (India, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Bhutan, Nepal and Maldives) with IFC; Honduras with the IDB and Colombia and Brazil, with the CAF. Cristina's work included monitoring the macroeconomic situation and risk, and actively participating in the development of country strategies, as well as conducting research in the areas of monetary and exchange rate policy, trade and financial services. Previously, she worked at the Banco de la República.

Dr Sally Peberdy is a senior researcher at the Gauteng City-Region Observatory, Johannesburg. Before joining GCRO she was an associate professor at the University of the Western Cape where she taught urban geography. Previously, she worked with the Southern African Migration Project in Johannesburg. Her expertise includes the relationships between migration and development, entrepreneurship and small scale/informal sector cross border trade, labour migration, gender, human rights and civil society, xenophobia, urbanisation, as well as identity and citizenship. Her work includes policy analysis and input at municipal, provincial, national, regional and continental levels; sole and co-authorship of scholarly articles and reports for international organisations. Her focus on urbanisation, urbanism and change, includes work on uneven development in and the socio-economic and demographic dynamics of change, in city-regions.



Andrew Charman trained as a sociologist and development economist. His current research focuses on understanding the scope, scale and spatiality of the township informal economy through an examination of area case studies. His interests include studying the dynamics of micro-enterprises / entrepreneurship as well as understanding the politics of informality. Andrew has written about food insecurity in rural societies, the use of welfare transfer as a strategy to reduce unemployment, micro-enterprise competition and violent entrepreneurship, state policies to enforce informalisation and the sociology of drink and drinking. In his current role, Andrew seeks to translate research into policy measures that can better serve the needs of people living in poverty through empowering them with active citizenship to challenge unfair laws and hold politicians and policy makers to account for their development interventions.