

ID Staff research seminar schedule for MT 2022

Conveners: Tine Hanrieder and Shirin Madon

Seminars are in-person in CON 7.03, during lunchtime on Wednesdays (see exact hours below)

19 October 2022, 12:30 – 14:00

Rajesh Venogupal (LSE ID): *Can the Anti-Politics Machine be Dismantled?*

Abstract: In recent years, politics has been identified as a central problematic in development, and this has led to the systematic attempts to introduce political knowledge into the theory and practice of development. This paper evaluates the 'new politics of development agenda' of making development more politically sensitive, and asks if it can succeed. In doing so, it interrogates how politics as a category of social knowledge is constructed, and engages with Captain Kirk, Donald Rumsfeld, the Loch Ness monster, Carl Schmitt, and a Tibetan yeti. The paper is available at: <https://doi.org/10.1080/13563467.2022.2045926>.

16 November 2022, 13:00 – 14:30

Ashwini Deshpande, Professor of Economics, Ashoka University, India

Dropping Out, Being Pushed Out or Can't Get in? Decoding Declining Labour Force Participation of Indian Women (co-authored with Jitendra Singh)

Abstract: The stubbornly low and declining level of labor force participation rate (LFPR) of Indian women has prompted a great deal of attention with a focus on factors constraining women's labour supply. Using 12 rounds of a high frequency household panel survey, we demonstrate volatility in Indian women's labour market engagement, as they exit and (re)enter the labor force multiple times over short period for reasons unrelated to cropping patterns, child-birth, or change in household income or other changes in women's supply side characteristics. We suggest that frequent transitions, as well as fall in LFPR, are consistent with the demand-side constraints, viz., that women's participation is falling due unavailability of steady gainful employment. We show that women's employment is likely to suffer more than men's due to negative economic shocks, as was seen during the fallout of demonetisation of 86 percent of Indian currency in 2016. Our analysis contests the prominent narrative that women are voluntarily dropping out of the labor force due to an increase in household income and conservative social norms. Our results suggest that India needs to focus more on creating jobs for women to retain them in the labor force.

30 November 2022, 12:30 – 14:00

Faustin P. Maganga (St. John's University of Tanzania & Ruth Glass Fellow at LSE ID):

Transformations in Property Rights and Poverty in Rural Tanzania

Abstract: The presentation will highlight the findings of a long-term research project which sought to investigate the transformation of legal institutions overseeing property rights in Tanzania in order

to gain a better understanding of its impact on poverty in the rural sector. The objectives of the study were to:

- examine and compare how groups and individuals define the nature of land rights, specifically with attention to how they articulate their claims over land, both before and after titling processes were introduced.
- identify winners and losers in the formalization of land rights paying close attention to ethnic, gender, political, and social dimensions, including the impact on pastoralists and other indigenous groups.
- identify the impact of titling on credit access, land investments, land productivity, land values, and land market activity, particularly as they affect the rural poor and their incomes.
- identify the impact of titling on land disputes and their resolution. We also seek to identify the legal political and socio-economic factors that facilitate and/or constrain efforts towards better management of land conflicts.
- identify the impact of titling on rural people's security of tenure and their perceptions of security of tenure.