



**International
Growth Centre**

FINAL PROGRAMME

IGC Cities Conference

Thursday 21st - Friday 22nd May 2015

Tower 2, Room 9.04 (9th floor)
London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE)

THURSDAY 21 MAY

0800–0830 **REGISTRATION**

0830–0930 **“Creative destruction: Barriers to urban growth and the Great Boston fire of 1872”**

Presenter: Richard Hornbeck (Harvard University and NBER)

Discussant: Kate Vyborny (Duke University)

0930–1030 **“Location, search costs and youth unemployment: A randomized trial of transport subsidies in Ethiopia”**

Presenter: Simon Franklin (Oxford University)

Discussant: Bryce Millett Steinberg (Harvard University)

1030–1100 **TEA/COFFEE BREAK**

1100–1200 **“Economic development and the spatial allocation of labour: Evidence from Indonesia”**

Presenter: Gharad Bryan (LSE and IGC)

Discussant: Daniel Sturm (LSE)

1200–1300 **“Shelter from the storm: Upgrading housing infrastructure in Latin American slums”**

Presenter: Sebastian Galiani (University of Maryland)

Discussant: William Cobbett (Cities Alliance)

1300–1400 **LUNCH**

1400–1430 **“Political Economy of Cities”**

Presenter: Abhijit Banerjee (MIT)

1430–1530 **“Cities in bad shape: Urban geometry in India”**

Presenter: Mariaflavia Harari (MIT)

Discussant: Melanie Morten (Stanford University)

1530–1630 **“Transport infrastructure, urban growth and market access in China”**

Presenter: Matthew Turner (Brown University)

Discussant: Sam Marden (LSE)

1630–1700 **TEA/COFFEE BREAK**

1700–1800 **“The geography of development: Evaluating migration restrictions and coastal flooding”**

Presenter: Klaus Desmet (Southern Methodist University)

Discussant: Clare Balboni (LSE)

1800–1930 **Expert panel discussion: Methods, experiments, and data**

Discussants:

- Nathaniel Baum-Snow (Brown University)
- Marcel Fafchamps (Stanford University)
- Stephen Redding (Princeton University)

FRIDAY 22 MAY

0830–1030 **Expert panel discussion: South Asia**

Discussants:

- Gilles Duranton (Wharton, University of Pennsylvania)
- Mushfiq Mobarak (Yale School of Management and IGC)
- Ijaz Nabi (Lahore University of Management Sciences and IGC)
- Taibur Rahman (Ministry of Planning, Bangladesh)

1030–1100 **TEA/COFFEE BREAK**

1100–1300 **Expert panel discussion: Africa**

Discussants:

- Vernon Henderson (LSE)
- Alexander Moradi (University of Sussex)
- Tony Venables (University of Oxford and IGC)
- Hugh Wenban-Smith (Independent Researcher)
- Robert Kyukyu (Kampala City Council Authority, Uganda)

1300–1400 **LUNCH**

1400–1600 **Expert panel discussion: Public finance and urban growth**

Discussants:

- Tim Besley (LSE and IGC)
- David Albouy (University of Illinois)
- Adnan Khan (LSE and IGC)
- Mihaly Kopanyi (World Bank)
- Meembo Changula (Ministry of Local Government and Housing, Zambia)

1600–1630 **TEA/COFFEE BREAK**

1630–1830 **Expert panel discussion: Threats to urban life**

Discussants:

- Nava Ashraf (Harvard Business School and IGC)
- Edward Glaeser (Harvard University and IGC)
- Esteban Rossi-Hansberg (Princeton University)
- Guy Michaels (LSE)
- Rudiger Ahrend (OECD)