



International  
Growth Centre

\*\* DRAFT \*\* PROGRAMME

# Africa Growth Forum 2015

United Nations Conference Center (UNCC)  
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

## Programme Day 1 | Monday 29 June

### 1730–1900 PUBLIC LECTURE

**Chair:** H.E. Ato Newai Gebreab (Executive Director, Ethiopian Development Research Institute)

**Presenter:** Professor John Sutton (LSE)

**Discussants:**

- Mr Fitsum Arega (Director General, Ethiopian Investment Commission)
- Mrs Juliet Kairuki (Director, Tanzania Investment Centre) *TBC*

### 1900–2100 WELCOME RECEPTION

## Programme Day 2 | Tuesday 30 June

### 0800–0900 REGISTRATION

### 0900–1000 OPENING SESSION

**Keynote speech:** H.E. Dr Arkebe Equbay (Special Advisor to the Prime Minister, Ethiopia)

**Speakers:**

- Dr Alemayehu Seyoum Taffesse (Country Director, IGC Ethiopia)
- Professor Jonathan Leape (Executive Director, IGC)

### 1000–1045 FRAMEWORK SESSION: FIRMS

**Framework Presenter:** Professor Rocco Macchiavello (University of Warwick)

**Policymaker Discussants:** *TBC*

**Key Questions:**

1. What are the major constraints and drivers of productivity growth in farms and firms?
2. How can governments help increase firm productivity through policy action?

### 1045–1115 TEA & COFFEE

1155–1300

### KEYNOTE SPEECH

**Presenter:** Professor Stefan Dercon (DFID & University of Oxford)

**Policymaker Discussants:** *TBC*

1300–1400

### LUNCH

1400–1530

### SESSION 1: MOBILE MONEY

**Presenters:**

- Professor Pedro Vicente (Lead Academic, IGC Mozambique & Universidade Nova de Lisboa)
- Professor William Jack (Associate Professor of Economics, Georgetown University)

**Policymaker Discussants:** *TBC*

**Key Questions:**

1. What are the major implications for macroeconomic policy of the rapid spread of mobile money?
2. Does mobile money increase financial inclusion of the poor and if so what are its main benefits?
3. What types of regulations are needed to spur development, and to spur competition between the telecommunication companies and banks?

1530–1600

### TEA & COFFEE

1600–1730

### PANEL DISCUSSION: ENERGY ISSUES IN AFRICA

**Presenter and Moderator:** Professor Robin Burgess (Director, IGC & LSE)

**Policymaker Panellists:** *TBC*

**Key Questions:**

1. In what ways can demand-side policies complement supply side investments in power?
2. What are the obstacles preventing governments from attracting more private capital into the power sector?
3. Can new policies and public investments spur development off-grid power so as to raise rural productivity?

1900–

### CONFERENCE DINNER

## Programme Day 3 | Wednesday 1 July

0900–1100

### FRAMEWORK SESSION: IMPROVING THE DELIVERY OF SERVICES

**Chair:** Hugh Cole (IGC)

**Framework Presenter:** Professor Oriana Bandiera (Research Programme Director, State & LSE) - *via skype*

**Presenters:**

- Professor Andrew Zeitlin (Lead Academic, IGC Rwanda & Georgetown University)
- Professor Tessa Bold (Lead Academic, IGC Uganda & Goethe University Frankfurt) *TBC*

**Senior Policymaker Panellists:** *TBC*

**Key Questions:**

1. How can governments improve the systematic recruitment of public servants?
2. How can governments improve and incentivise the performance of public servants?
3. Are there ways to harness private monitoring efforts to improve public services?
4. How can governments use private firms to spur service delivery?

1100–1130

### TEA & COFFEE

1130–1300

### SESSION 2: TAXATION

**Presenters:**

- Professor Nada Eissa (Lead Academic, IGC South Sudan & Georgetown University)
- Dr Adnan Khan (Research and Policy Director, IGC)

**Policymaker Discussants:** *TBC*

**Key Questions:**

1. What are the key deficiencies to tax policies limiting buoyancy, equity, and the tax base?
2. How can tax administration improve revenues both by improving collections and widening the tax net?
3. How much are tax holidays to promote industry and other activities contributing to the unusually wide disparity in Africa between statutory revenue projections and actual collections?

1300–1400

### LUNCH

1400–1530

### SESSION 3: CONTAINING CONTAGION - LESSONS FROM EBOLA FOR AFRICA

**Presenters:**

- Dr Rachel Glennerster (Lead Academic, IGC Sierra Leone & MIT)
- Herbert McLeod (Country Director, IGC Sierra Leone)

**Policymaker Discussants:** *TBC*

**Key Questions:**

1. What are the lessons other African countries can learn from the Ebola epidemic?
2. What is/should be the impact of regional cooperation on containing contagion?

1530–1600

### TEA & COFFEE

1600–1730

### PANEL DISCUSSION: CITIES AND URBANISATION IN AFRICA

**Chair:** Representative from (Ministry of Urban Development, Housing and Construction) *TBC*

**Framework Presenter:** Professor Gharad Bryan (Research Programme Director, Cities & LSE)

**Policymaker Panellists:** *TBC*

**Key Questions:**

1. How should sanitation infrastructure be financed and delivered?
2. How can governments encourage firm agglomeration and the benefits of increased density?
3. How can governments attract private investment for city infrastructure?

1730–1830

### PANEL DISCUSSION: KEY TRANSFORMATIONAL CHALLENGES IN AFRICA

**Chair:** Professor Tony Venables (Director, IGC & University of Oxford)

**Policymaker Panellists:** *TBC*

1830–1845

### CLOSING SESSION/THANKS

**Chair:** Professor Jonathan Leape (Executive Director, IGC)

1900–

### CONFERENCE DINNER

**Chair:** *TBC*

**Keynote Speech:** Professor Tony Venables (Director, IGC & University of Oxford)