



Special Economic Zones: Can they Create Jobs and Grow the Economy?

*Thursday, 14 November 2019, 9 AM to 5 PM
CDE's Office: 5 Eton Road, Parktown, Johannesburg*

- 09:00 to 09:30:** **Introduction and welcome**
Speakers: Ann Bernstein (CDE)
Sarah Logan (IGC)
Tom Farole (World Bank)
Farole to introduce the topic and explain why it is important to situate the SEZ discussion in an African context.
- 09:30 to 10:15:** **SEZs and Industrial Development in the 21st Century**
Speaker: Rocco Macchiavello (LSE) (15 mins)
Respondent: Prof Fiona Tregenna (Professor of Economics, UJ) (10 mins)
Macchiavello to speak on the potential for industrial development in developing countries and whether SEZs could play an important role in promoting manufacturing in the 21st century. Tregenna to respond based on her work on this topic and her understanding of the SA situation.
General Discussion (20 mins)
- 10:15 to 10:30:** Tea
- 10:30 to 12:00:** **Learning from challenges and opportunities in Asia and Africa**
Panel: **South Africa** - Kaashifah Beukes (Saldanha Bay IDZ CEO) (7 mins)
Pepi Silinga (Coega CEO) (7 mins) (or Mike Spicer)
Ethiopia - Hanna Arayaselassie Zemichael (Ethiopian Investment Commission) (7 mins)
Ghana - Michael Okyere Baafi (Executive Secretary of the Ghana Free Zones Authority) (7 Min)

Zambia – Moses Mwanakatwe (Acting Director, Zambia Development Agency) (7 mins)

Uganda – Richard Jabo (Executive Director, Uganda Free Zones Authority) (7 mins)

Speakers to ‘tell their stories’ – share insights into the background context, challenges and victories in their experiences with SEZs ‘on the ground’, with an emphasis on how they got business involved.
General Discussion (40 mins)

12:00 to 13:00: Lunch at CDE

13:00 to 14:30: Designing SEZ policies for success

Speaker: Tom Farole (World Bank) (15 mins)

Respondents: Prof Anthony Black (Professor of Economics, UCT) (7-8 mins) and Susanne Frick (LSE) (7-8 mins)

Farole on what the World Bank/international literature has found are prerequisites for successful SEZs, and why so many of them fail. Black to respond on the basis of his understanding of the SA situation and Frick to emphasise the dynamic benefits.

General Discussion (60 mins)

14:30 to 14:40: Tea

14:40 to 16:15: South Africa’s new IDZ/SEZ policy: Is it the right instrument, can it make a real difference, what are the alternatives?

Speaker: Maoto Molefane (DTI Director of SEZ policy) (15 mins)

Respondents: Rocco Macchiavello (LSE) 7-10 mins and Claude Baissac (CEO of Eunomix)

Molefane to briefly outline SA’s new IDZ policy, explaining how it has changed and the rationale for that change. Respondents to deliver commentary on these changes: what’s good and what needs to be done better.

General Discussion (60 minutes)

16:15 to 17:00: Summary session: global experiences with SEZs and implications for developing countries.

Speakers: CDE & IGC reflections (Ann Bernstein plus Matthieu Teachout) (7 mins each)

Stefan Dercon (7-10 mins)

Final thoughts on the day’s proceedings and what the future holds.

Concluding Discussion (15 mins)