

3 Days

MACROECONOMICS FOR POLICYMAKERS 12 -14 November 2019

BACKGROUND

Macroeconomic policy provides the context and environment within which all other economic and industrial policies operate. Given the massive challenges of unemployment, inequality and poverty facing South Africa, the country requires a developmental macroeconomic stance. Unfortunately, South African macroeconomic policy and the surrounding debate has not adequately kept pace with the diverse critical and developmental scholarship that has emerged, in particular in the wake of the Global Financial Crisis.

There is increasing concern that macroeconomic policy is not doing enough to advance a developmental agenda. Macroeconomic policy faces the challenge of (re)defining its role in job creation, growing and restructuring the economy, encouraging productive investment, reducing inequality, supporting a just transition to a sustainable future, and improving socio-economic conditions in South Africa. At the same time, it must play its traditional role of ensuring a “stable” economic environment, while we revisit what this means in practice.

COURSE DETAILS

This short course focuses on the question of: what does a developmental macroeconomic policy regime look like?

It is aimed at senior government officials working on industrial and other economic policies. The aim is to open a broader, more inclusive and more informed debate on macroeconomic policy in South Africa. It will draw on the momentum created by post-crisis discussions of macroeconomic policy and the critiques of the policy status quo.

The course will draw on local and international research, together with case studies, and tackle both theoretical and policy debates and how they intersect.



Workshop fees
(which includes teas,
coffees and lunches):
R8,000 (VAT incl) per
participant.



VENUE:
TIPS Offices
234 Lange Street
Nieuw Muckleneuk
Pretoria

COURSE OUTLINE

The course will run over 3 days. It will focus on building an approach to macroeconomic policy that furthers developmental priorities and supports other facets of economic policy, such as industrial policy, in achieving their objectives. It will include a presentation and assessment of current macroeconomic policies in South Africa and other countries. It will consider the impacts of these policies in the context of an increasingly integrated and globalised economy, where the role of international finance has grown significantly, while suggesting viable alternatives where required.

Topics covered

- The evolution of the macroeconomy
- Theoretical and policy perspectives on the development and state of macroeconomics
- The role of macroeconomic policy in employment, investment, economic structure, inequality, poverty, growth and development
- The state, debt, taxation and fiscal policy
- Central banking: central bank independence and inflation targeting
- Liberalisation and the management of global financial integration
- Money and monetary expansionism
- Macroeconomics from a feminist perspective
- The trajectory of macroeconomic policy in South Africa

ABOUT THE LECTURER

Dr Gilad Isaacs is an economist with a specialisation in macroeconomics.

Gilad is the Director of the Institute for Economic Justice, an economic policy think tank, and a lecturer in the School of Economics and Business Sciences at the University of the Witwatersrand. Gilad previously headed the Corporate Strategy and Industrial Development Research Programme and the National Minimum Wage Research Initiative at Wits University. He holds two Masters degrees from New York University and SOAS, University of London, and a PhD from the latter. Gilad has been active in a number of recent economic policy processes including the Presidential Jobs Summit and the NEDLAC national minimum wage negotiations.

If you are interested in attending this workshop please contact:

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Note: The offering of the workshop is dependent on attracting a minimum number of 10 students by the time of the payment closing date while the maximum number of students is 20. Note that TIPS will not make refunds after the payment due date unless the workshop is cancelled. TIPS's invoice documentation (tax clearance, bank clearance, etc) will only be sent on request by registered post. It is therefore important to make sure that TIPS is on your organisation's list of preferred suppliers and to factor-in sufficient time for these processes