



THE AFRICAN PROGRAMME ON RETHINKING DEVELOPMENT ECONOMICS (APORDE)

Social policy responses to the Covid-19 pandemic

Speakers: Jayati Ghosh, Ruth Castel-Branco and Kate Philip

The Covid-19 pandemic has exacerbated and brought into sharper focus existing inequalities in countries around the globe, with a devastating impact on the most vulnerable in society. Shortcomings in the capacity of states to provide urgent relief to their citizens as well as the ability of health systems to cope with the crisis and other long-term structural fault lines have been laid bare. This panel, the second of two on the economic and social impact of the pandemic, explores social policy responses to Covid-19 with lessons from southern Africa, India and elsewhere.

About the Speakers



Jayati Ghosh is Professor of Economics at the Centre for Economic Studies and Planning, School of Social Sciences, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi. From January 2021 she will join the University of Massachusetts at Amherst. She was educated at Delhi University, JNU and Cambridge University, where she obtained her Ph.D. in 1983. Since 2002 she has been the Executive Secretary of International Development Economics Associates (IDEAs), an international network of heterodox development economists (www.networkideas.org). Her current research interests include globalisation, international trade and finance, employment patterns in developing countries, macroeconomic policy, issues related to gender and development, and the implications of recent growth in China and India. She has authored/edited 18 books and nearly 200 scholarly articles.



Ruth Castel-Branco is the Research Manager for the Future of Work(ers) Project at the Southern Centre for Inequality Studies at the University of the Witwatersrand. She has a BA in Geography and African Studies from the University of Wisconsin-Madison (2005), an MA in Development Studies from the University of KwaZulu-Natal (2012) and is currently finalizing her PhD in Sociology at the University of the Witwatersrand (2020). Previously, Ruth worked at the International Labour Office in Mozambique on social and maternity protection. Her research interests include informal worker organising and workers' rights, redistributive policies and social protection, agrarian transformation and the changing nature of work.



Kate Philip is author of *Markets on the Margins: Mineworkers, Enterprise Development and Job Creation*. She is a development strategist with over 25 years of experience in policy development and implementation. She is currently supporting the Project Management Office in the Presidency, in relation to the Presidential Youth Employment Initiative and the design of an employment stimulus in response to the Covid crisis. She has a strong background in the design of public employment programmes. This includes South Africa's Community Work Programme; through the International Labour Organisation, she also supported the Government of Greece in the design and delivery of their public employment programme.

Monday

7 Sept 2020

Virtual Seminar ZOOM

14h30 (SAST)

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For any queries contact:

Rozale@tips.org.za