



RIDGE Workshop on Comparative studies of the Southern Hemisphere in global economic history and development

Montevideo, Uruguay
26-27 March 2015

Scientific Organisers:

Luis Bértola, Universidad de la República, Uruguay
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The Research Institute for Development, Growth and Economics (RIDGE) and the Faculty of Social Sciences, Universidad de la República, Uruguay, are pleased to announce a call for papers for the RIDGE/PHES Workshop on Comparative studies of the Southern Hemisphere in global economic history and development, Uruguay, on 26-27 March 2015. The deadline for submission is 15 December 2014.

The 2015 meeting will take place within the framework of the First RIDGE March Forum, along with the following workshops:

- Economics of Crime, March 23-24
- Inequality and Poverty, March 24-25
- Political Economy, March 26-27

The RIDGE Forums aim to favor the spread of high quality research in economics by bringing together top local and regional researchers working on the frontier of knowledge and policymakers. Participants to the four workshops are welcome to attend the other workshops.

The following guest speakers will take part in the workshops:

Professor Gareth Austin from The Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies (IHEID), Geneva
(http://graduateinstitute.ch/directory/_/people/austin)

Gareth Austin is Professor of International History at the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies (IHEID) Geneva. He obtained his bachelor's degree in History from the University of Cambridge and his Ph.D. in Economics from the University of Birmingham. His research and teaching interests are in African and in comparative and global economic history. His primary

research has focused on West Africa, especially Ghana and the pre-colonial kingdom of Asante. He is a former editor of the Journal of African History and former president of the European Network in Universal and Global History (ENIUGH). He is a member of the Academia Europaea and Fellow of the Royal Historical Society.

Professor Jeffrey Williamson Emeritus Faculty from Harvard University
(<http://scholar.harvard.edu/jwilliamson>)

Jeffrey Williamson is Laird Bell Professor of Economics, Emeritus, Honorary Fellow in the Department of Economics at the University of Wisconsin (Madison), Research Associate at the National Bureau of Economic Research and Research Fellow for the Center for Economic Policy Research. He obtained his bachelor's degree in Mathematics from the University Wesleyan, his M.A. in Economics from Stanford University, his M.A. Honorary from Harvard University and his Ph.D. in Economics from Stanford University. He does research on economic history and the contemporary Third World.

Professor Branko Milanovic from Luxemburg Income Study Center (LIS Center)
(<http://www.gc.cuny.edu/liscenter-branko-milanovic>)

Branko Milanovic is a leading scholar in income inequality who joined The Graduate Center as Visiting Presidential Professor and Senior Scholar in the LIS Center. He obtained his Ph.D. in Economics/Statistics from the University of Belgrade. He is Presidential Fellow at City University of New York. His major fields are income inequality, globalization and global equity. He wrote numerous articles on methodology and empirics of global income distribution and effects of globalization.

The focus

In 2008 Robert Bates, John Coatsworth and Jeffrey Williamson published a paper on the 'lost decades' of the early-independence era in Africa (1970-2000) and Latin America (1820-1870), pointing to some interesting analogies in the way both regions struggled with the transition from a colonial to post-colonial social, political and economic order. There are several reasons to give the Africa-Latin America comparison some further thought. Firstly, both regions share a history of colonial occupation and European settlement, which has shaped a great deal of post-colonial development trajectories, including a legacy of deep-seated social, economic and political inequality. Secondly, the exploitation of natural resources has been key to long-term economic development patterns in both regions and has provoked serious debates about the sustainability of growth. Thirdly, Africa and Latin America share profound experiences with debt crises and macro-economic mismanagement, shaped by particular political-economic conditions. It would be very valuable to have a more systematic overview of the similarities and differences in the policy approaches towards crisis-management and the long term institutional responses to economic crisis. A fourth reason to be mentioned is that the population of African origin was and still is a very important part of the Latin American population, with a huge economic, social and cultural impact.

The Latin American-Australasian comparison, by contrast, has already deep roots. More precisely, the comparison between Argentina, Uruguay, Australia and New Zealand has been, until now, a very active field of research. Denoon, D. (1983) Dieguez, H. (1969) Duncan, T. & Fogarthy, J. (1984), Lloyd, C. (1998), Platt, D.C. and di Tella, G. (eds) (1985), Álvarez, Bértola and Porcile (2007), Schlüter (2013), Álvarez 2013 are some examples. The key topic of this comparison is twofold. On the one side, trying to explain why regions with apparent similar endowments achieved different growth rates and

standards of living. On the other side, trying to explain why, in spite of these differences, the four countries have been losing positions in the world ranking, probably as a result of their resource endowments. Topics of interest have been the structure of land property, political institutions, science and technology policies, as well as commercial policy.

This session invites those involved in development economics to engage into and further explore the potential of the Southern Hemisphere comparisons. The comparison may involve the way in which the different regions have dealt with their variegated colonial legacies, have managed their natural resources, their fiscal systems, their trade relations, FDI and education systems. The comparison may also involve the way in which both regions were drawn into the Atlantic economy after 1492, how indigenous (pre-colonial) states were transformed in this process and how systems of labour coercion operated at both sides of the Southern Atlantic. The comparison may as well involve the current economic boom in Africa (1995-present) with both the boom of the late 19th Century in Latin America and Australasia and the current boom in rich resource regions. Emphasis may be placed in: a) the different/similar global economic context in which both booms take place and b) the different/similar domestic institutional contexts in these regions now and then. The comparison can involve living standard studies (heights, real wages, GDP, education, health) or financial markets and crisis management. Indeed, there is a vast open space of potentially valuable perspectives. Such research promises to go beyond regional insights and supports a necessary step forward in developing a truly global framework for understanding long-term economic development, one that breaks with Eurocentric conceptions of development and one that places more emphasis on comparisons within and across the former 'periphery'.

Paper Submission

Full papers, written in English, must be submitted for consideration for the meeting. The cover page should include: the title of the paper, institutional affiliation, including address, phone and email of each author, and an abstract with the appropriate JEL classification.

Each author can submit and present at most one paper.

Full papers, in PDF format, should be sent to: Macarena Rodríguez Tobler: forum@ridge.uy

Important Dates

Deadline for paper submission: December 30, 2014

Notification of organizers decision: January 30, 2015

Note

The organization has funds to partially finance travel expenses of those participants not able to obtain full funding from their own sources.

Further information

Should you have any questions please contact: forum@ridge.uy or lbertola@gmail.com.

For more information see also www.ridge.uy.