

10th New Frontiers in African Economic History Workshop:

**Is Africa Growing out of Poverty?
Africa's Economic Transition in Historical Perspective**

30-31 October, 2015

Venue: Impulse, Stippeneng 2

Wageningen University Campus
Building no. 115 (Futurum)

Friday, 30 October

8.30-9.00 Registration and Coffee

9.00-9.10 Opening and welcome

9.10-11.00 Session 1: Key notes on Africa's 'Green Revolution'

Chair: Ewout Frankema

Gareth Austin (Graduate Institute Geneva)

Historical perspectives on a possible African Green Revolution: land-extensiveness and intensification in African economic history

Ken Giller (Wageningen University)

How small is beautiful?

----- 11.00 -11.30 Coffee -----

11.30 – 12.50 Session 2: Parallel sessions

Session 2A: Bureaucratic capacity and corruption (Room A)

Chair: Danielle Teeuwen

Valentin Seidler (Princeton) and Claudia Williamson (Mississippi)
Bureaucratic capacity and the success of institutional transplants

Hanaan Marwah (LSE) and Aaron Graham (Oxford)
African 'corruption' in comparative historical perspective: Institutional arrangements for government contracts in post-colonial Africa and pre-modern Europe

Session 2B: Money, credit and debt in East and South Africa (Room B)

Chair: Kostadis Papaioannou

Karin Pallaver (Bologna)
The great shilling swindle: The circulation of money and the East African Rupee crises in Kenya and Uganda (1912-1923)

Johan Fourie (Stellenbosch) and Christie Swanepoel (Stellenbosch)
Does secure property rights cause debt? Evidence from colonial South Africa

Session 2C: Fiscal policies and public finance (Room C)

Chair: Corinne Boter

Abel Gwaindepi (Stellenbosch)
From a night-watchman to a developmental state? An investigation of the revenue and expenditure patterns of the British Cape Colony, 1820-1910

Leigh Gardner (LSE)
'Vague expectations and sentimental considerations': Lending to Africa under colonial rule, 1880-1938

----- **12.50-14.00 Lunch** -----

14.00-16.00 Session 3: Parallel sessions

Session 3A: Agriculture, land rights and economic development (Room A)

Chair: Pieter Woltjer

Alexa Tiemann (St. Gallen)
Customary land rights and contemporary development in Africa

Henry Kam Kah (Buea, Cameroon)
2G Agriculture, Food Sustainability and Poverty Reduction in Cameroon

Tobias Axelsson (Lund), Jutta Bolt (Groningen) and Erik Green (Lund)
Labour mobility and institutional control: Wage shares and profitability of large-scale tobacco farming in colonial Malawi and Sumatra, c. 1900-1950

Session 3B: Colonial taxation (Room B)

Chair: Alberto Feenstra

Thilo Albers (LSE) and Marvin Suesse (Humboldt Berlin)
Colonial fiscal institutions in Africa: How they persisted, when they changed, and why

Bas de Roo (Ghent)
Negotiating colonial tariff policies: customs and commerce in the Congo (1886-1914)

Jens Andersson (Lund)
The evolution of state capacity in West Africa - fiscal volatility and economic development in Benin, Côte d'Ivoire, Niger and Senegal 1850-2010

Session 3C: Living standards in Uganda and Nigeria (Room C)

Chair: Elise van Nederveen Meerkerk

Michiel de Haas (Wageningen)
An exception that proves the rule? Uganda's cotton revolution in a comparative African perspective

Shane Doyle (Leeds)
The impact of educational, medical and income inequalities on health and longevity in historical perspective: the case of Uganda c.1920-1985

Taiwo Aderemi (Ibadan)
Minimum wage and the working poor in Nigeria: Is there a link?

----- 16.00 – 16.30 Coffee -----

16.30-18.30 Session 4: Parallel sessions

Session 4A: Economic growth and income distribution (Room A)

Chair: Anton Schuurman

Morten Jerven (Simon Fraser)

African Poverty by Numbers: A historical perspective on evidence, definitions and narratives

Evert Los (Wageningen) and Cornelis Gardebreek (Wageningen)

Unravelling the links between agriculture and economic growth: A panel time series approach for post-WWII Africa

Mark Nyadoro (Harare) and Tinotenda Dube (Harare)

Poverty and income distribution in Sub-Saharan Africa

Session 4B: Labour and taxation in Portuguese Africa (Room B)

Chair: Danielle Teeuwen

Kleoniki Alexopoulou (Wageningen) and Dacil Juif (Wageningen)

Colonial origins of the threefold reality of Mozambique: fiscal capacity and labour systems

Felipa Ribeiro da Silva (IISH Amsterdam)

Women and labour in Sub-Saharan African economy, 1800-2000: the case of Mozambique

Pedro Goulart (Lisbon)

Child labour in Africa's colonial system: the case of Portugal's colonies, 1870-1973

Session 4C: Ethnicity, mobility and development (Room C)

Chair: Pim de Zwart

Oliver Vanden Eynde (PSE), Patrick M Kuhn (Durham) and Alexander Moradi (Sussex)

Ethnicity and Job Performance in the Kenyan Police (1940-1970)

Jean-Louis Arcand (Graduate Institute Geneva) and Dany Jaimovich (Goethe University Frankfurt)

Does ethnic diversity decrease economic interactions? Evidence from exchange networks in rural Gambia

Amin George Forji (Helsinki)

Political Sovereignty, Political Elites and the Crisis of Economic Development in Postcolonial Africa

----- 20.00 Dinner -----

Saturday, 31 October (8.30-9.00 Coffee)

9.00-11.00 Session 5: Parallel sessions

Session 5A: Settler farming in East and Southern Africa (Room A)

Chair: Anton Schuurman

Jutta Bolt (Groningen), Erik Green (Lund) and Ushe Kufakunirari (Harare)

What is beautiful? The inverse relationship between farm size and productivity in maize farming in Southern Rhodesia 1900-1965

Ewout Frankema (Wageningen), Erik Green (Lund) and Ellen Hillbom (Lund)

Endogenous processes of colonial settlement: The success and failure of European settler farming in Sub-Saharan Africa

Maria Fibaeck (Lund)

Coffee production in Kenya 1940 to 1963: Did the settler farms gain from increased competition?

Session 5B: Labour markets and structural change (Room B)

Chair: Danielle Teeuwen

Jeanne Cilliers (Stellenbosch)

Farms to factories? Structural change and occupational mobility before and after industrial take-off: a micro-level case study of 19th century settler South Africa

Rebecca Simson (LSE)

Patronage or Meritocracy?: Public Sector Employment in Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda since Independence

Kate Frederick (Wageningen)

Global and local factors in African deindustrialization: the case of cotton cloth in the Lower Shire Valley

Session 5C: West African slave and commodity trades (Room C)

Chair: Elise van Nederveen Meerkerk

Angus Dalrymple-Smith (Wageningen) and Pieter Woltjer (Wageningen)

Commodities, prices and risk: A study of merchant decision making in the British transatlantic slave trade 1740 - 1808

Federico Tadei (Bocconi)

Colonial trade and extractive institutions in British and French Africa

Cyrelene Amoah-Boampong (University of Ghana)

Contesting the State in Ghana's Cocoa Trade

----- **11.00-11.30 Coffee** -----

11.30 – 12.50 Session 6: Parallel sessions

Session 6A: Demography and deindustrialization (Room A)

Chair: Kleoniki Alexopoulou

Ushe Kufakurinani (Harare)

A Sinking Ship? Zimbabwe's Pathway to De-industrialisation 2000 to 2015

Frans Huijzendveld (Wageningen)

Western science and household strategies in the light of a long predicted Malthusian crisis in the West-Usambara highlands of Tanzania, 1900-2014

Session 6B: Service provision in the copper mines (Room B)

Chair: Michiel de Haas

Iva Pesa (ASC Leiden)

Service provision on the Zambian Copperbelt from an economic perspective. The disjuncture between economic growth, housing, water and energy provision, 1940-2015

Dacil Juif (Wageningen) and Ewout Frankema (Wageningen)

From coercion to compensation: Comparative living standards of copper mine workers in the Belgian Congo and Northern Rhodesia, c. 1910-1970

Session 6C: Pre-colonial state formation (Room C note: session ends at 13.00; 30 mins. per paper)

Chair: Corinne Boter

Nonso Obikili (Economic Research South Africa)

Climate, yams and pre-colonial centralization in Africa

Ewout Frankema (Wageningen) and Marlous van Waijenburg (Northwestern)

The material foundations of the Sub-Saharan African state in historical perspective

Dieter von Fintel (Stellenbosch) and Johan Fourie (Stellenbosch)

The pre-colonial roots of structural unemployment

----- **12.50-14.00 Lunch** -----

14.00-16.00 Session 7: Parallel sessions

Session 7A: Disease, commerce and agriculture (Room A)

Chair: Elise van Nederveen Meerkerk

Klass Rönnbäck (Gothenburg)

Working in the 'White Man's Grave' - Compensating Wage Differentials and Epidemiological Risk on the 18th century Gold Coast

Angus Dalrymple-Smith (Wageningen) and Ewout Frankema (Wageningen)

Slave ship provisioning in the long 18th century. A boost to West African commercial agriculture?

Miguel Suárez Bosa, Francisco Suárez Viera and Daniel Castillo Hidalgo (Las Palmas de Gran Canaria)

Ports and their influence on the Economic Activity in Northwestern Africa: Development or Economic Growth? (1850-1939)

Session 7B: Climate, conflict and violence (Room B)

Chair: Alberto Feenstra

Chibuike Uche (ASC Leiden)

"They milked the cow but did not feed it to grow fat": Idi Amin, British government and the expulsion of Asians from Uganda

Abel Ezeoha (Ebonyi, Nigeria)

Changing dynamics of armed conflicts in Africa: Impact on economic growth and well-being

Kostadis Papaioannou (Wageningen) and Michiel de Haas (Wageningen)

Climate Shocks, Cash Crops and Resilience: Evidence from colonial tropical Africa

Session 7C: Missions, demography and gender (Room C)

Chair: Pim de Zwart

Johannes Norling (Michigan)

A New Framework for Measuring Heterogeneity in Childbearing Strategies When Parents Want Sons and Daughters

Shane Doyle (Leeds), Felix Meier zu Selhausen (Sussex, Southern Denmark, MMU Uganda) and Jacob Weisdorf (Southern Denmark, CEPR)

Religion, numeracy and disease: lessons from Ugandan missionary hospital patient registry, 1908-1970

Alexander Moradi (Sussex) and Felix Meier zu Selhausen (Sussex, Southern Denmark, MMU Uganda)

Strategies of Christian growth: Evidence from locational choice in Ghana 1846-1938

----- 16.00 – 16.15 Coffee -----

16.15 – 17.15 Session 8: Closing address

Leonard Wantchekon (Princeton University)

Cultural Dividends in Economic Development: Evidence from Post-Colonial Africa

----- 17.15-18.00 Drinks! -----