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Venue: Asian Development Bank Headquarters, Manila, Philippines

Global Development Network will hold its 14th Annual Global Development Conference on 'Inequality, Social Protection and Inclusive Growth' in Manila on 19-21 June 2013. About 400 participants are expected to attend the conference from all over the world including the East Asia region and the Philippines.

Background and Context

Issues related to social protection are becoming very crucial in the aftermath of the global financial crisis but also in view of growing inequality in the developing world (although recent trends and experience on inequality vary substantially among regions and countries). Indeed, there is a growing consciousness of the benefits of social protection as a measure to protect people from becoming trapped in poverty, to empower them to seize opportunities, to help workers to adjust to changes and to deal with unemployment and, thus, support productivity.

Therefore, the importance of social policies and social protection systems that address and reduce inequality and social exclusion for long-term sustainable and inclusive growth should be taken into consideration in development policy. Social protection can also support the achievement of poverty reduction, raising the income in the short run, allowing people to build their assets (such as in the case of the Brazilian *Bolsa Família* Program and the *Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino* Program of conditional cash transfers in the Philippines) and, as a result, accelerating growth, with positive spillovers at the community level (for instance, the case of the Mexican *PROGRESA/Oportunidades* Program).

Promoting inclusive growth via social protection policies can also help on the political stability front in developing countries. Yet, we need to know more about the mechanisms

and the channels through which social protection and social policy in general affect the most vulnerable in the developing world (and beyond). Furthermore, social protection policies are absolutely essential in countries suffering from "structural economic vulnerability". Finally, conceptual as well as measurement issues regarding inequality and inclusive growth require further attention and a fresh look in order to delve deeper into these issues and go beyond mainstream approaches in defining the various forms of inequality and inclusive growth (and thus the need to adopt multidisciplinary approaches on that front).

Since its inception in 1999, GDN has organized conferences in almost every region of the world. [GDN conferences](#) are also unique, not just in the sheer numbers of people who attend, but also in the range of issues they discuss and the regions they represent. Another important feature of GDN conferences is that they provide promising young researchers from developing countries with the opportunity to showcase their research in an international forum and benefit from interaction with world renowned academics and policymakers. This has important positive implications for capacity building, a central element of the GDN [mission](#).

Topics to be covered at the conference will include (but are not limited to):

- Inequality: conceptual and measurement issues
- Multidisciplinary dimensions of inequality
- Global perspectives on inequality
- The determinants of inclusive growth
- Regional perspectives on inequality and inclusive growth
- Gender, inequality and social protection
- Structural vulnerability issues
- Mechanisms to promote social protection for inclusive growth
- Lessons learnt from social protection policies
- Sectoral experiences in the area of social protection and inclusive growth
- Key challenges for social protection policies
- Inequality, social protection and inclusive growth in the context of the post-2015 development agenda

Conference Program Committee

(in alphabetical order)

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- **YAP, Josef**, East Asian Development Network and Philippine Institute for Development Studies
- **ZHUANG, Juzhong**, Asian Development Bank

Keynote Address

H.E. Benigno Simeon C. Aquino III, President of the Republic of the Philippines

Confirmed Plenary Speakers

(in alphabetical order)

- **ARYEETEY, Ernest**, Vice Chancellor, University of Ghana
- **BALISACAN, Arsenio M.**, State Secretary of Socioeconomic Planning and Director-General, National Economic and Development Authority, The Philippines
- **BENTANCOR, Andrea**, ComunidadMujer, Chile
- **CUONG, Nguyen Viet**, National Economics University, Hanoi, Vietnam
- **DE HAAN, Arjan**, International Development Research Center
- **FERREIRA, Francisco**, World Bank
- **FILER, Randall**, Hunter College, City University of New York, and Centre for Economic Research and Graduate Education-Economics Institute
- **FLORANO, Ebinezer R.**, National College of Public Administration and Governance, University of the Philippines, The Philippines
- **GALAL, Ahmed**, Director, Economic Research Forum
- **GIOVANNETTI, Giorgia**, European University Institute and University of Florence
- **HADI, Widyawati**, Universitas Indonesia, Indonesia
- **JACQUET, Pierre**, President, Global Development Network
- **KAYIZZI-MUGERWA, Steve**, Director of Development Research, African Development Bank
- **KUMMABUTR, Jeeraporn**, Thammasat University, Thailand
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- **RANIERI, Rafael**, Secretariat of International Affairs, Ministry of Planning, Budget and Management, Brazil
- **RHEE, Changyong**, Chief Economist, Asian Development Bank
- **RIBAS, Rafael P.**, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, USA
- **RIGOBON, Roberto**, Massachusetts Institute of Technology and Latin American and Caribbean Economic Association
- **ROMAN TAYAG, Pia Bernadette**, Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas, The Philippines
- **SENBET, Lemma W.**, University of Maryland and African Economic Research Consortium
- **SHEREMETA, Pavlo**, President, Kyiv School of Economics and Economics Education and Research Consortium
- **TERENYI, János (H.E.)**, Ambassador, Embassy of Hungary in India and GDN Assembly Representative
- **THOMAS, Vinod**, Director General, Independent Evaluation Department, Asian Development Bank
- **WEBER, Shlomo**, Southern Methodist University

- **WINTERS CB, L. Alan**, University of Sussex, UK
- **YAP, Josef**, President, Philippine Institute for Development Studies and East Asian Development Network
- **ZHUANG, Juzhong**, Deputy Chief Economist, Asian Development Bank
- **ZÚÑIGA, Jimena**, IERAL of the Mediterranean Foundation, Argentina

Keynote Speaker

- **BOURGUIGNON, Francois**, Paris School of Economics
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Further conference updates will be provided on the GDN website on a regular basis. Please note that this is NOT a Call for Papers.

For any queries please contact Niharika Verma, GDN Conference Assistant, email: nverma@gdn.int

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