



## ***Expanding productive capacity for achieving the sustainable development goals***

Panel discussion organized by the Committee for Development Policy

with

Diane Elson (CDP member),  
Stephan Klasen (CDP member),  
and Keith Nurse (CDP member)

Moderated by

José Antonio Ocampo (CDP Chair)

New York, 1:15-2:45 PM, 16 March 2016  
United Nations Headquarters, Conference Room 6  
UN Web TV Live and on demand: <http://webtv.un.org/>

After United Nations member States adopted the sustainable development goals (SDGs) in 2015, the international community is now focusing its attention on implementing the ambitious goals and targets. A critical element for ensuring that no country is left behind in the efforts to achieve the SDGs is to expand productive capacities in least developed countries (LDCs). While a number of LDCs managed to achieve significant economic growth in the past decades, only few have managed to structurally transform their economies towards more productive activities and sectors. Instead, many LDCs are characterized by re-primarization, decline in manufacturing and premature tertiarization of their economies.

Committee members, Professors Elson, Klasen, and Nurse will present the CDP perspectives on how LDCs and other developing countries can expand their productive capacity for achieving the SDGs. The panellists will present concrete policy recommendations for LDCs, including: growth-oriented macroeconomic and financial policies; new industrial policies taking into account the particular conditions of LDCs; investments in human capacities and social protection; and building governance capabilities. They will also review international support measures for LDCs such as preferential market access and aid for trade, and call for further enhancement and better targeting of support measures.

## Panellists

**Prof. Diane Elson** has been a member of CDP since 2013. She is Professor Emeritus, University of Essex and a research affiliate, Center for Women's Global Leadership at Rutgers University. Professor Elson has been awarded the 2016 Leontief Prize for Advancing the Frontiers of Economic Thought. Her current research interest is fiscal and monetary policy and the realization of human rights, with a particular focus on economic development and gender inequality. She has been Chair of the Department of Sociology, University of Essex, Chair, Development Studies, University of Manchester as well Special Adviser to the Executive Director of the United Nations Development Fund for Women.

**Prof. Stephan Klasen** has been a member of CDP since 2013. He is Professor of Economics and head of the Ibero-America Institute for Economic Research, University of Göttingen. His current research interest is on development and gender issues. He was a professor at University of Munich, fellow of King's College, University of Cambridge, an economist at World Bank, and consultant for the UNESCO and the OECD.

**Prof. Keith Nurse** has been a member of CDP since 2016. He is Senior Fellow, Arthur Lewis Institute of Social and Economic Studies, the University of West Indies (UWI) and World Trade Organization Chair at the UWI. His main research is on trade and globalization. He has worked extensively as a consultant to Governments and international as well as regional agencies.

## Moderator

**Prof. José Antonio Ocampo Gaviria** has been Chair of CDP since 2013. He is Professor of Professional Practice in International and Public Affairs, and Director, Economic and Political Development Concentration, School of International and Public Affairs, Columbia University. His current research is on macroeconomic theory and policy, and international financial and monetary issues. He served UN as Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs, and Executive Secretary of the ECLAC. He also served the Government of Colombia as Minister of Finance and Public Credit, and Minister of Agriculture.

## Additional information

UN ground pass is required to enter the conference building. Those who do not have UN ground passes can watch the panel discussion live or on demand through UN Web TV (<http://webtv.un.org/>).

Contact Mr. Namsuk Kim, Economic Affairs Officer, UN DESA, [kimnamsuk@un.org](mailto:kimnamsuk@un.org)  
Visit CDP website: [bit.ly/UNcdp](http://bit.ly/UNcdp)