



Public Economics Capacity Building Programme

A New Dawn: Rebuilding State Capability

2019

WINTER SCHOOL PROGRAMME | 8 – 12 JULY



national treasury

Department:
National Treasury
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



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WELCOME TO THE 2019 WINTER SCHOOL



I am delighted to welcome you to the fourth consecutive Public Economics Winter School! When GTAC conceptualised the capacity building initiative in 2016, the aim was to 'strengthen graduate training and research in public economics and public policy through custom-made training opportunities, such as the Winter School, as well as a focused research and bursary programme'. Now, four years later, we have evidence that the initiative is bearing fruit. We know this not only from the structured feedback we receive, but also from demand – every year we receive more and more applications from both students and young economists working in government.

To ensure that we continuously improve and stay ahead of the many public policy and public economic challenges South Africa faces, we established an Advisory Panel in January 2019. We are grateful for their inputs, guidance and participation, and I would like to thank them here by name – Geraldine Fraser-Moleketi, Steven Friedman, Michael Sachs, Tania Ajam, Duncan Pieterse and Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka. Over and above their assistance leading up to the 2019 Winter School, they also agreed to participate in the plenary sessions on Monday. Our theme for the 2019 Winter School is '*A new dawn: Rebuilding state capability*', and all the contributions on Monday are aligned with this vision. For example, our keynote address by Professor Avni Shah is titled '*Nudging our way to a better tomorrow: Using behavioural interventions to improve welfare and well-being*'. Professor Shah is a Research Fellow of the Behavioural Economics in Action Research Cluster at the University of Toronto, Canada. On Monday morning we also host a panel discussion, offering four views on the capable state theme, including a political, gender and institution-building angle.

Selecting just three public economics themes for the Winter School week remains a challenge, as we have to choose among the many public policy priorities – deciding to focus on education rather than health and on fiscal sustainability rather than the social wage, for example. Our Advisory Panel

assisted us immensely in navigating the many possible themes to our final selection:

- *Taxes, user charges and behavioural change:* As in previous years we retain a focus on tax, but this year the curriculum design was informed by how behavioural economics can help to influence and change consumer and producer decisions towards desirable public policy objectives.
- *Education economics and financing:* The economics of education offers a substantial body of evidence-based data and research, both local and international, that can inform many policy choices. We designed a curriculum that will help scholars understand how policies, funding and politics can shape education outcomes.
- *Fiscal policy and fiscal sustainability:* The biggest public economics challenge in South Africa today is achieving fiscal sustainability in a low-growth environment. Experts from academia, government and the private sector explore these topical and complex issues.

Finally, our gratitude goes to two important partners. Global Affairs Canada have provided ongoing financial support from the very first Winter School in 2016. They have made it possible for us to expand, improve and continue this capacity building initiative. Also, the South African Reserve Bank are sharing their amazing conference centre with us. In this spirit of cooperation, I would like to remind you of the words of Lesetja Kganyago, the Governor of the South African Reserve Bank, at the opening of last year's Winter School: 'by participating in the Winter School, you are participating in the writing of the history of this country.'



Lindiwe Ndlela
Acting Head of GTAC

PARALLEL THEME SESSIONS OUTLINE

Monday, 8 July – Friday, 12 July

TAXES, USER CHARGES AND BEHAVIOURAL CHANGE

This course will focus on how behavioural economics can help to influence the behaviour of consumers and producers towards desirable public policy objectives. While a core principle of tax policy design is that taxes and other revenue instruments, such as levies and user charges, should be as neutral and economically efficient as possible, new policy challenges relating to environmental sustainability and chronic lifestyle diseases need new policy solutions. Behavioural economics is developing new methodologies and an evidence basis on which policymakers can draw when facing huge policy issues, such as human well-being, climate change, poverty, inequality and development.

EDUCATION FINANCING AND OUTCOMES

This course will focus on how education economics can help inform resource allocation choices to improve the performance of the education system. South Africa currently spends about 6% of its GDP on education, on par with many OECD countries. However, our education system continues to yield poorer outcomes than countries that spend relatively less on education. Why can we not achieve a better and more equitable distribution of resources or learning outcomes? What policy and funding requirements could bring better education outcomes? Interesting case studies and evidence-based research will be used throughout the course to help scholars understand how policies, funding and politics can shape education outcomes.

FISCAL POLICY AND FISCAL SUSTAINABILITY

This course will focus on South Africa's fiscal sustainability – how do we define fiscal sustainability and how do we achieve this in a low-growth environment? In an effort to respond to these issues, we will explore the following three sub-themes: (1) macroeconomic policy challenges, (2) growth, fiscal efficiency and equality, and (3) fiscal consolidation, risks and liabilities. During the course you will have the opportunity to debate big issues facing fiscal policy: what defines sustainability, efficiency fairness and growth?

DAY 1 MONDAY, 8 JULY 2019 • PLENARY SESSION

A NEW DAWN: REBUILDING STATE CAPABILITY

Room: Main Auditorium

TIME	TOPIC	PRESENTERS
8:30 – 9:30	Registration	
9:30 – 9:40	Welcome and housekeeping by the facilitator	Ms Lynette Ntuli
9:40 – 10:00	Words of welcome and official opening	Ms Lindiwe Ndlela Acting Head: GTAC Mr Dondo Mogajane Director - General: NT Hon. Sandra McCardell High Commissioner: Canada Dr David Masondo Deputy Minister of Finance
10:00 – 10:30	Keynote address: Nudging our way to a better tomorrow: Using behavioural interventions to improve welfare and well-being	Prof. Avni Shah University of Toronto
10:30 – 11:00	TEA AND GROUP PHOTO	
11:00 – 12:30	Panel discussion: A new dawn: Rebuilding a credible and professional public service <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The politics of policymaking • Professionalising and upping the game of public service in the 21st century • From institution breaking to institution making: It is a New Dawn • When some are more equal than others 	Prof. Steven Friedman University of Johannesburg Dr Geraldine Fraser-Moleketi Former Minister of Public Service and Administration Mr Edward Kieswetter Commissioner: SARS Ms Anne Githuku-Shongwe UN Women
12:30 – 13:00	Fiscal incidence: Race, space, class and gender	Dr Tania Ajam University of Stellenbosch
13:00 – 14:15	LUNCH	
14:15 – 15:00	The modern mixed economy: What explains the growth of government?	Prof. Michael Sachs University of Witwatersrand
15:00 – 15:30	TEA	
15:30 – 16:30	Policy challenges in South Africa: Reflections by an outside insider	Prof. Finn Tarp UNU-Wider
16:30 – 17:00	Address from the OECD	Mr Pascal Saint-Amans Director of Centre for Tax Policy and Administration: OECD
17:30 – 19:00	Cocktail function	

DAY 2 TUESDAY, 9 JULY 2019 • PLENARY SESSION

Room: Main Auditorium

TIME	TOPIC	PRESENTERS
8:30 – 10:00	Tax and behavioural economics: Application and international experience	Chair: Chris Axelson Speaker: Justine Burns Respondent: Avni Shah
10:00 – 10:30	TEA AND MOVE TO PARALLEL SESSIONS	

TAXES, USER CHARGES AND BEHAVIOURAL CHANGE

Sub-theme: Behavioural Insights for Tax Design • Chair: Tania Ajam

Room: Conference A

TIME	TOPIC	PRESENTERS
10:30 – 11:30	Principles of tax policy and user charging	Ada Jansen
11:30 – 12:30	Tax and behavioural science: South African applications	Justine Burns
12:30 – 13:30	LUNCH	
13:30 – 14:30	The South African tax system: Institutional arrangements and performance trends	Chris Axelson Respondent: Mamiky Leolo
14:30 – 15:30	The political economy of taxation and user charging	Ada Jansen Respondent: Ingrid Woolard
15:30 – 15:45	TEA	
15:45 – 17:00	Introduction to group projects: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do the costs of a sugar, tobacco or alcohol tax outweigh its benefits? • Should user charges (like toll fees) ever be used because they are anti-poor? • Is the carbon tax in South Africa an effective response to the climate crisis? • Are taxes better for behavioural change than direct regulation and user charges? 	Project leaders: Asanda Ntunta Maxwell Motloung Baneng Naape Malope Mampholo

DAY 2 TUESDAY, 9 JULY 2019

EDUCATION ECONOMICS AND FINANCING

Sub-theme: Introduction, Sector Overview and Early Grade Reading - Chair: Russell Wildeman

Room: Syndicate Rooms 2 & 3

TIME	TOPIC	PRESENTERS
10:30 – 11:30	Introduction to education economics	Nic Spaul
11:30 – 12:30	An overview of the South African basic education system (mandate, size, priorities, financing, trends and gaps)	Carol Nuga-Deliwe
12:30 – 13:30	LUNCH	
13:30 – 14:30	The national planning and monitoring framework and education plans: Approach, trends and issues	Thabo Mabogoane John Kruger
14:30 – 15:30	Case study: Reducing learning inequalities for improved outcomes – Lessons learnt from experimental research and early grade reading studies in South Africa	Stephen Taylor Brahm Fleisch
15:30 – 15:45	TEA	
15:45 – 17:00	Introduction to group projects: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can we reduce learning inequalities? • Can the language of instruction improve learning outcomes? • Are views about gender a hindrance to better education and labour market outcomes? • Is it possible to achieve improved education outcomes with limited resources? 	Project leaders: Shaneel Ragoo Natalie van Reenen Lerato Monaisa Pheeha Morudu

DAY 2 TUESDAY, 9 JULY 2019

FISCAL POLICY AND FISCAL SUSTAINABILITY

Sub-theme: Fiscal Policy and Macro Stabilisation • Chair: Andrew Donaldson

Room: Main Auditorium

TIME	TOPIC	PRESENTERS
10:30 – 11:20	Session 1: Fiscal policy in theory and practice Fiscal policy in theory: An overview of the framework Fiscal policy in practice: What keeps me up at night!	Krige Siebrits Ian Stuart
11:20 – 12:30	Session 2: Macroeconomic policy challenges in South Africa Monetary–fiscal coordination Fiscal multipliers and financial sector dynamics Macroeconomic policy and development	Kuben Naidoo Konstantin Makrelov Saul Levin
12:30 – 13:30	LUNCH	
13:30 – 15:30	Panel discussion: Getting the macro-policy mix right in South Africa	Facilitator: Andrew Donaldson Panel: Kuben Naidoo Michael Sachs Chris Loewald Thabi Leoka
15:30 – 15:45	TEA	
15:45 – 17:00	Introduction to group projects: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is government too big? • Should Eskom be bailed out? • Can fiscal policy stimulate growth? • Do we need greater monetary expansion? 	Project leaders: Julius Pain Cassandra Dunstan Vusi Maupa Sinazo Madolo

DAY 3 WEDNESDAY, 10 JULY 2019 • PLENARY SESSION

Room: Main Auditorium

TIME	TOPIC	PRESENTERS
8:30 – 10:00	South Africa's economic outlook	Chair: Ian Stuart Speaker: Elna Moolman Respondent: Lumkile Mondi
10:00 – 10:30	TEA AND MOVE TO PARALLEL SESSIONS	

TAXES, USER CHARGES AND BEHAVIOURAL CHANGE

Sub-theme: Indirect Taxes and Behavioural Change • **Chair:** Tania Ajam

Room: Conference A

TIME	TOPIC	PRESENTERS
10:30 – 11:30	Designing efficient tobacco and alcohol taxes: International experience	Corné van Walbeek Sam Filby
11:30 – 12:30	Case study: Tobacco and alcohol taxes in South Africa	Corné van Walbeek Laura Rossouw Respondent: Mpho Legote
12:30 – 13:30	LUNCH	
13:30 – 14:30	The sugar tax: Lessons from international experience for developing countries	Corné van Walbeek Respondent: Avni Shah
14:30 – 15:30	Case study: The sugar tax in South Africa – A National Treasury perspective	Mpho Legote Respondent: Avni Shah
15:30 – 15:45	TEA	
15:45 – 17:00	Project preparation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do the costs of a sugar, tobacco or alcohol tax outweigh its benefits? • Should user charges (like toll fees) ever be used because they are anti-poor? • Is the carbon tax in South Africa an effective response to the climate crisis? • Are taxes better for behavioural change than direct regulation and user charges? 	Project leaders: Asanda Ntunta Maxwell Motloung Baneng Naape Malope Mampholo

DAY 3 WEDNESDAY, 10 JULY 2019

EDUCATION ECONOMICS AND FINANCING

Sub-theme: Perspectives and Debates • Chair: Spencer Janari

Room: Syndicate Rooms 2 & 3

TIME	TOPIC	PRESENTERS
10:30 – 11:30	Can language determine education outcomes? An economics perspective	Nompumelelo Mohohlwane
11:30 – 12:30	Pursuing education imperatives of the NDP and SDGs: What are the opportunities and pitfalls we face in building censal and sample-based monitoring of learning outcomes at primary level?	Martin Gustafsson
12:30 – 13:30	LUNCH	
13:30 – 14:30	Educational outcomes in South Africa: An overview of the causes and consequences	Montfort Mlachila Tlhalefang Moeletsi
14:30 – 15:30	Panel discussion: How significant are resources and socio-economic background as determinants of school and education system performance?	Panel: Albert Chanee Daniel McLaren Janeli Kotzé Nkosana Dolopi
15:30 – 15:45	TEA	
15:45 – 17:00	Project preparation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can we reduce learning inequalities? • Can the language of instruction improve learning outcomes? • Are views about gender a hindrance to better education and labour market outcomes? • Is it possible to achieve improved education outcomes with limited resources? 	Project leaders: Shaneel Ragoo Natalie van Reenen Lerato Monaisa Pheeha Morudu

DAY 3 WEDNESDAY, 10 JULY 2019

FISCAL POLICY AND FISCAL SUSTAINABILITY

Sub-theme: Growth, Redistribution and Fiscal Policy • Chair: Andrew Donaldson

Room: Main Auditorium

TIME	TOPIC	PRESENTERS
10:30 – 11:30	Session 1: Growth and unemployment Efficiency, equity and public economics Fiscal incidence in South Africa	Michael Sachs Ingrid Woolard
11:30 – 12:30	Session 2: Fiscal efficiency and public policy Digital government and public policy Government efficiency and public policy	Montfort Mlachila Ronette Engela
12:30 – 13:30	LUNCH	
13:30 – 15:30	Panel discussion: The role of fiscal policy in promoting growth and equality	Facilitator: Michael Sachs Panel: Ingrid Woolard Ismail Momoniat Lumkile Mondli Ayabonga Cawe
15:30 – 15:45	TEA	
15:45 – 17:00	Project preparation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is government too big? • Should Eskom be bailed out? • Can fiscal policy stimulate growth? • Do we need greater monetary expansion? 	Project leaders: Julius Pain Cassandra Dunstan Vusi Maupa Sinazo Madolo

DAY 4 THURSDAY, 11 JULY 2019 • PLENARY SESSION

Room: Main Auditorium

TIME	TOPIC	PRESENTERS
08:30 – 10:00	<p>Plenary session: Basic education outcomes and financing</p> <p>Education investment not matching outcomes – What is to be done?</p>	<p>Chair: Mampho Modise</p> <p>Speaker: Mary Metcalfe</p> <p>Respondent: Nick Taylor</p>
10:00 – 10:30	TEA AND MOVE TO PARALLEL SESSIONS	

TAXES, USER CHARGES AND BEHAVIOURAL CHANGE

Sub-theme: User Charges and Levies • Chair: Tania Ajam

Room: Conference A

TIME	TOPIC	PRESENTERS
10:30 – 11:30	Designing environmental taxes and user charging regimes: Theory and practice	Sharlin Hemraj
11:30 – 12:30	International good practice in designing and implementing carbon taxes and fuel levies	Cecil Morden
12:30 – 13:30	LUNCH	
13:30 – 14:30	Case study: The carbon tax in South Africa	<p>Cecil Morden</p> <p>Respondent: Sharlin Hemraj</p>
14:30 – 15:30	<p>Panel discussion:</p> <p>Are taxes the best way of changing behaviours in South Africa?</p> <p>(Comparing indirect levies and taxes with direct forms of regulation, e.g. salt regulation or carbon emissions regulation)</p>	<p>Facilitator: Cecil Morden</p> <p>Panel:</p> <p>Mpho Legote</p> <p>Corné van Walbeek</p> <p>Sharlin Hemraj</p> <p>Avni Shah</p>
15:30 – 15:45	TEA	
15:45 – 17:00	<p>Project preparation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Do the costs of a sugar, tobacco or alcohol tax outweigh its benefits? Should user charges (like toll fees) ever be used because they are anti-poor? Is the carbon tax in South Africa an effective response to the climate crisis? Are taxes better for behavioural change than direct regulation and user charges? 	<p>Project leaders:</p> <p>Asanda Ntunta</p> <p>Maxwell Motloung</p> <p>Baneng Naape</p> <p>Malope Mampholo</p>

DAY 4 THURSDAY, 11 JULY 2019

EDUCATION ECONOMICS AND FINANCING

Sub-theme: Topical Issues, Trends and Prospects • Chair: Xavier MacMaster

Room: Syndicate Rooms 2 & 3

TIME	TOPIC	PRESENTERS
10:30 – 11:30	Working twice as hard for half as much: The pro-female gender gap in learning outcomes in South Africa	Nwabisa Makaluza
11:30 – 12:30	What is the African experience on gender and learning outcomes?	Kubi Rama
12:30 – 13:30	LUNCH	
13:30 – 14:30	Education policy reform informed by the Labour Market Intelligence Programme	Vijay Reddy
14:30 – 15:30	Panel discussion: Partnerships for Improved Educational Outcomes – The case of the National Education Collaboration Trust (NECT)	Panel: Thirona Moodley Godwin Khosa Gail Campbell
15:30 – 15:45	TEA	
15:45 – 17:00	Project preparation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can we reduce learning inequalities? • Can the language of instruction improve learning outcomes? • Are views about gender a hindrance to better education and labour market outcomes? • Is it possible to achieve improved education outcomes with limited resources? 	Project leaders: Shaneel Ragoo Natalie van Reenen Lerato Monaisa Pheeha Morudu

DAY 4 THURSDAY, 11 JULY 2019

FISCAL POLICY AND FISCAL SUSTAINABILITY

Sub-theme: Fiscal Sustainability • Chair: Andrew Donaldson

Room: Main Auditorium

TIME	TOPIC	PRESENTERS
10:30 – 11:30	<p>Session 1: Fiscal consolidation</p> <p>South Africa's fiscal consolidation: A historical and international context</p> <p>When the cycle becomes the trend: Emerging market experience with fiscal policy during the last commodity cycle</p>	<p>Debra Makwiramiti</p> <p>Rashaad Amra</p>
11:30 – 12:30	<p>Session 2: Fiscal risks: Liabilities, state-owned companies and wages</p> <p>Contingent liabilities</p> <p>SOCs and fiscal policy in South Africa</p> <p>The public sector salary bill: Structure and risk</p>	<p>Khetha Dlamini</p> <p>Avril Halstead</p> <p>Antony Altbeker</p> <p>Hermi Boraine</p>
12:30 – 13:30	LUNCH	
13:30 – 15:30	<p>Panel discussion:</p> <p>Debt and fiscal sustainability: New macroeconomic thinking: Relevance for South Africa</p>	<p>Facilitator: Ayabonga Cawe</p> <p>Panel:</p> <p>Jannie Rossouw</p> <p>Kenneth Creamer</p> <p>Michael Sachs</p> <p>Thabi Leoka</p>
15:30 – 15:45	TEA	
15:45 – 17:00	<p>Project preparation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is government too big? • Should Eskom be bailed out? • Can fiscal policy stimulate growth? • Do we need greater monetary expansion? 	<p>Project leaders:</p> <p>Julius Pain</p> <p>Cassandra Dunstan</p> <p>Vusi Maupa</p> <p>Sinazo Madolo</p>

DAY 5 FRIDAY, 12 JULY 2019

GROUP PROJECT PRESENTATIONS

TIME	TOPIC	VENUES AND PRESENTERS
7:30 – 8:30	Working breakfast with top ten students	David Masondo Dondo Mogajane Edward Kieswetter
8:30 – 10:30	Project presentations in theme rooms Taxes, user charges and behavioural change Education economics and financing Fiscal policy and fiscal sustainability	Conference A Syndicate rooms 2 & 3 Main auditorium
10:30 – 11:00	TEA AND MOVE TO MAIN AUDITORIUM	
11:00 – 12:30	Q & A session with National Treasury Directors: <i>Directors share their academic and work experience and respond to questions from the participants</i>	Moderator: Roy Havemann National Treasury Directors: Debra Makwiramiti Khetha Dlamini Spencer Janari Shaneel Ragoo Mpho Legote Sharlin Hemraj
12:30 – 13:00	Recognition for best project team in each theme Closing	Dondo Mogajane Lindiwe Ndlela
13:00 – 14:00	LUNCH, CERTIFICATES AND DEPARTURE	



**Panel member
and speaker**

TANIA AJAM

Tania Ajam is the tax theme coordinator of the 2019 Winter School. She is an Associate Professor in Public Policy, Economics and Finance at the School of Public Leadership at Stellenbosch University. An economist with broad experience in the design, analysis and implementation of fiscal policy, intergovernmental fiscal relations and government-wide monitoring and evaluation systems, she holds an M.Bus.Sc. (Cape Town) and a PhD in Public Management (Pretoria). Tania served on the Financial and Fiscal Commission and on the Board of the South African Reserve Bank. She was also a member of the Davis Tax Review Committee.



**Panel member
and speaker**

GERALDINE FRASER-MOLEKETI

Geraldine Fraser-Moleketi is a former Vice-President of the African Development Bank, where she helped mainstream gender in bank policies and operations. She also served as Minister of Public Service and Administration for two consecutive terms and was named the '2016 *New African* [magazine] Woman of the Year'. Geraldine holds a Master of Administration degree (Pretoria) and is a fellow of the Institute of Politics, Kennedy School of Government (Harvard). She completed a leadership course at Wharton Business School (Pennsylvania) and was recently awarded a Doctor of Philosophy (honoris causa) degree by the Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University.



**Panel member
and speaker**

STEVEN FRIEDMAN

Steven Friedman is a research professor in the Faculty of Humanities, University of Johannesburg. A political scientist who specialises in the study of democracy, he researched and wrote on the transition to democracy and on the relationship between democracy, inequality and economic growth. He writes a weekly column in *Business Day* and has published numerous journal articles and book chapters.



PHUMZILE MLAMBO-NGCUKA

Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka is United Nations Under-Secretary-General and Executive Director of UN Women. Ms Mlambo-Ngcuka served as Deputy President of South Africa from 2005 - 2008, overseeing programmes to combat poverty and bring the advantages of a growing economy to the poor, with a particular focus on women. Prior to this, she served as Minister of Minerals and Energy from 1999 to 2005 and Deputy Minister in the Department of Trade and Industry from 1996 to 1999. She was a Member of Parliament from 1994 to 1996 as part of South Africa's first democratic government. She has completed her PhD on education and technology at the University of Warwick, United Kingdom.



SUBETHRI NAIDOO

Subethri Naidoo is the Chief Director overseeing the Strategy, Management and Communications unit in the Office of the Head of GTAC. She previously managed the local government portfolio support in USAID, served as a governance advisor at DFID, and spent six years at the World Bank as a regional governance specialist. Ms. Naidoo holds a degree in teaching and political science, as well as a master's degree in public and development management from the University of the Witwatersrand.



LINDIWE NDLELA

Lindiwe Ndlela is the Acting Head of GTAC. Lindiwe has worked in local government policy research and programme management since 1995. Her experience includes managing a consulting firm, where she led teams on projects such as infrastructure development, intergovernmental relations, governance and institutional development. Lindiwe holds a master's degree in Local Governance and Development from the University of the Witwatersrand. She joined GTAC in May 2017.

**Panel member
and speaker**



DUNCAN PIETERSE

Duncan Pieterse is Acting DDG of Economic Policy in the National Treasury. Dr Pieterse holds a PhD, Masters and Bachelor of Business Science degrees in Economics from the University of Cape Town where he has taught on a part-time basis. Before joining the National Treasury, he was a visiting research fellow at Brown and Yale Universities, a consultant on public expenditure management for local and provincial government and also worked as a project manager on various economic development projects in Southern Africa.



MICHAEL SACHS

Michael Sachs is an Adjunct Professor at the University of the Witwatersrand's Southern Centre for Inequality Studies. During 2018 he worked at the Gauteng Health Department, before which he was Deputy Director-General of the Budget Office at the National Treasury. His previous positions at the Treasury include Chief Director of Fiscal Policy and Chief Director of International Finance and Development. Michael holds an MSc in Economics from the School of Oriental and African Studies (London), and an MPA/ID in International Economics from the Kennedy School of Government (Harvard). He completed his secondary education at the ANC's Solomon Mahlangu Freedom College in Tanzania.

**Panel member
and speaker**



ANTONY ALTBEKER

Antony Altbeker has worked in government on and off since 1994, when he joined the Ministry for Safety and Security. He is an economist, holding a Master of Commerce degree from the University of the Witwatersrand. Antony currently works on a variety of research projects for the National Treasury through GTAC. He has published three books on crime and criminal justice in South Africa.



RASHAAD AMRA

Rashaad Amra studied economics to change the world, starting his career at the National Treasury with the naïve expectation that a good paper or two would do just that. Although he hasn't (yet) changed the world, he has developed expertise in several fields, including energy, industrial policy, regulation, macroeconomics, infrastructure and modelling, and may have found his calling in public and fiscal policy. He plies his trade as an economist at the Parliamentary Budget Office, advising public representatives on the multiple dimensions of the budget. Rashaad holds a master's degree in Economics (cum laude) from the University of Stellenbosch.



CHRIS AXELSON

Chris Axelson is the Acting Chief Director for Economic Tax Analysis at the Tax and Financial Sector Policy unit at the National Treasury. He previously worked at HM Revenue & Customs, Deutsche Bank and Genesis Analytics in a variety of roles. He holds an MCom in Economic Science from the University of the Witwatersrand and is a CFA charterholder.



HERMI BORAINÉ

Hermi Boraine is Chief Director for Quantitative Data Analytics in the Public Expenditure and Policy Analysis team in GTAC. She focuses on the optimal use of government's administrative and other data systems in support of decision-making on public expenditure. Before joining GTAC, Hermi gained public sector experience as a senior data specialist in the Department of Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation and at the National Advisory Council on Innovation. Hermi obtained a PhD in Mathematical Statistics from the University of Pretoria, where she lectured and supervised PhD and master's students in Time Series Analysis, Multivariate Statistics, Actuarial Statistics and Official Statistics.



JUSTINE BURNS

Justine Burns is an Associate Professor in the School of Economics at the University of Cape Town and a research associate of the Southern African Labour and Development Research Unit. Her research interests include behavioural and experimental economics, trust and social capital, discrimination, labour markets and social networks, and intergenerational mobility. Her experimental work has focused on the effects of racial identity and income inequality on individual decision-making, as well as group cooperation in the provision of public goods. Justine has also published work on educational mobility, social assistance, and the feasibility of a wage subsidy to promote employment.



GAIL CAMPBELL

Gail Campbell is the Chief Executive Officer of the Zenex Foundation, a non-profit, independent donor organisation that invests in mathematics, science and language education. She has been involved in developmental philanthropy for over 20 years, with a particular emphasis on school education. Gail practised as a social worker, working primarily with women and youth, before lecturing in Social Work at the University of Natal. She then joined ABSA as General Manager of Corporate Social Investment, where she was responsible for the ABSA Foundation and pioneered the Employee Giving Programme. Gail serves on a number of non-profit boards in education.



AYABONGA CAWE

Ayabonga is a development economist, columnist, radio presenter, photographer and activist. He is the Managing Director of Xesibe Holdings (Pty) Ltd, a platform involved in advisory, facilitation and content development across a range of fields. His experience includes economic research, policy and supply chain analysis, advocacy, development programme design, and monitoring and evaluation. Ayabonga sat on both the National Minimum Wage Advisory Panel (which advised on the R20/hour proposal) and the VAT zero-rating review panel appointed by the Minister of Finance. He holds an MCom (cum laude) in Development Theory and Policy from the University of the Witwatersrand.



ALBERT CHANEE

Albert Chanee is the Deputy Director-General for Education Policy and Planning in the Gauteng Department of Education. He is responsible for education policy, planning, and monitoring and evaluation, including province-wide learner testing and whole-school evaluation. He studied Education, Mathematics, Computer Science and Psychology, and completed postgraduate studies in Applied Education Economics and Planning. He also holds a professional teaching qualification, and has completed programmes focusing on education, public sector financing, and monitoring and evaluation.



KENNETH CREAMER

Kenneth Creamer is an academic economist at the University of the Witwatersrand. He holds master's degrees in Law (Wits) and Financial Economics (School of African and Oriental Studies, London) and a PhD (Wits), which was awarded a Gold Medal by the Economic Society of South Africa. An NRF-rated researcher, Kenneth has published on macroeconomics and fiscal, monetary, competition and labour market policy in local and international academic journals. He is a member of the management of SASSFE (which raises funds for tertiary students in need of support) and of Creamer Media, the publisher of *Engineering News*, *Mining Weekly* and *Polity*.



KHETHA DLAMINI

Khetha Dlamini works in the fiscal policy section of the National Treasury and is responsible for research and planning. He has been at the Treasury for five years, working to strengthen fiscal risk reporting and reporting on the public sector balance sheet. Before joining the Treasury, Khetha worked in management consulting, where he covered a range of sectors, including electric power and natural gas, transport and logistics, telecommunications, banking and consumer goods. Khetha trained as an economist at the University of the Witwatersrand, where his research interests included electric utilities and corporate finance.



NKOSANA DOLOPI

Nkosana Dolopi is the Deputy General Secretary of SADTU; his main priorities include organisational renewal and improving service to members, while maintaining SADTU as a beacon of hope for improving the conditions of service of teachers and education employees. He joined SADTU in 1995, and rose through the ranks to become Northern Cape Province's Education Convener and thereafter, Provincial Secretary. He was first elected as Deputy General Secretary during the National General Council in 2009 and was re-elected in 2010 and 2014. He was taught at Griquatown Combined School, where he was also the Head of Department for Social Sciences.



ANDREW DONALDSON

Andrew Donaldson served as the inaugural head of GTAC and is currently based at the Southern African Labour and Development Research Unit at the University of Cape Town. His earlier responsibilities included the National Treasury's work on social security, the creation of the Jobs Fund, and the establishment of GTAC. He joined the former Department of Finance in 1993 and in 2001 was appointed Deputy Director-General for the Budget Office and Public Finance in the Treasury. Andrew studied at Stellenbosch University, the University of South Africa and Cambridge University. He taught Economics at the former University of Transkei, Rhodes University and the University of the Witwatersrand.



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Godwin Khosa is the Chief Executive Officer of the National Education Collaboration Trust, having previously been the Chief Executive Officer of JET Education Services. The early 2000s saw Godwin honing his research skills as research manager at the Human Sciences Research Council. Before this, he served as policy analyst and senior manager at the Centre for Education Policy Development. Godwin holds a Master of Management in Public and Development Management (Wits); a postgraduate diploma in Public Policy and Administration (Wits); a BA Honours in Geography (UNISA); and a BA Education (UNIN).



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Janeli Kotzé is a researcher in the Research Coordination, Monitoring and Evaluation Directorate at the Department of Basic Education, where she works on early childhood development and early grade reading. She holds a PhD in Economics (Stellenbosch), which focused on the complexities of the South African education crisis and on improving national policy around this issue. Before joining the department, Janeli was involved in various local and international research projects on the evaluation of national policy, cross-national comparisons of educational achievement, learning trajectories of children over time, and the interaction between low-quality schooling and child poverty.



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Mpho Legote is the Director for VAT, Excise Duties and Subnational Taxes at the National Treasury's Economic Tax Analysis unit. He joined the Treasury in 2007 as an intern, rising through the ranks to his current position. He has worked on tax policies related to VAT, alcoholic beverages, tobacco products and the health promotion levy on sugary beverages, and participated in implementing environmental fiscal reform policy, including the carbon tax. Mpho holds a BCom Economics from the University of the Witwatersrand and an Honours degree in Economics from the University of South Africa.



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Mary Metcalfe has worked in education since 1974. After lecturing at the Johannesburg College of Education and the University of the Witwatersrand, she served as Gauteng MEC, first for Education and then for Agriculture, Conservation, Environment and Land Affairs. She later headed the Wits School of Education before becoming the Director-General of the Department of Higher Education and Training in 2009. Mary is currently a Director at PILO, which piloted a model (funded by the National Education Collaboration Trust) for improving the education system in KwaZulu-Natal. The model is now being implemented in a large number of schools in three provinces.



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ISMAIL MOMONIAT

Ismail Momoniat is the Head of the Tax and Financial Sector Policy division at the National Treasury. He started his career as a lecturer in Mathematics at the University of the Witwatersrand, was an organiser of the United Democratic Front, and later worked in the ANC's Economic Policy Department. He joined the Treasury in 1995, as part of the team modernising the Budget process. He has driven key legislation on public finance, retirement reforms, and financial sector regulatory and legislative reforms. He holds an MSc from the London School of Economics and an MSc (Mathematics) from the University of the Witwatersrand.



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Cecil Morden is an economist who works as an independent analyst and (part-time) extraordinary lecturer at the Africa Tax Institute at the University of Pretoria. He was previously the Chief Director: Economic Tax Analysis at the National Treasury, responsible for tax policy advice and the estimates of tax revenue. He was instrumental in designing the mineral and petroleum royalty regime and government's environmental fiscal reform initiatives. Cecil studied at the University of the Western Cape and the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, and holds a BCom Honours (Economics), a Secondary Teachers Diploma, and a master's degree in Economics.



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Following ten years of teaching maths and science in Johannesburg high schools, and a four-year posting as Subject Advisor for Mathematics for the Soweto Region of the Department of Education and Training, Nick Taylor has been involved in research on schools and teachers for over 30 years. In 2012–15, he was seconded to the Ministry of Basic Education, where he established the National Education Evaluation and Development Unit. Nick's recent projects include an evaluation of the national school curriculum for the Department of Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation and a research project on support for secondary school teachers in 48 sub-Saharan countries.



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Corné van Walbeek joined the School of Economics at the University of Cape Town in 2000 and was its Director between 2009 and 2012. He is currently the Director of Research on the Economics of Excisable Products (REEP), a research unit with eight researchers and four postdoctoral fellows. REEP focuses on using fiscal tools to improve public health. Corné's research interests are the economics of tobacco control, alcohol policy, and the recently introduced tax on sugar-sweetened beverages.



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GTAC is an agency of South Africa's National Treasury, and was formally established in March 2012. GTAC provides advisory and technical consulting services to South African organs of state, and contributes to public service research and capacity building. Our vision is to serve as a creative centre of excellence for shared learning and advisory support in public policy and fiscal and financial analysis and management.



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