



POVERTY TRAPS: AN EMPIRICAL AND THEORETICAL ASSESSMENT

Naples, 30 - 31 October 2009
Villa Doria D'Angri, Via Petrarca 80



The University of Naples Parthenope, with funding from the Ministry of University and Research (MIUR), is organizing an international conference on “**Poverty Traps: An Empirical And Theoretical Assessment**”

Although over the last decade there has been an unprecedented global wealth creation, the number of regions that seemed to be trapped in poverty has substantially increased.

Poverty traps are self-reinforcing mechanisms where countries or regions suffer from persistent underdevelopment.

Theoretical and empirical literature suggests that many factors might contribute to the formation of a poverty trap. Some of these include: limited access to credit and capital markets, extreme environmental degradation, corrupt governance, low degree of regional integration, poor education systems, lack of public health care, poor infrastructure.

Evidence on how policymakers should react in order to achieve sustained economic growth indicates that tackling poverty traps with small policy changes would be inefficient. In this case, large policy changes, often referred as Big Push, have to be made. These issues pose substantial policy challenges to influence the dynamics of poverty and inequality.

The aim of the conference is to bring together researchers interested on the above themes in order to provide a forum for exchange of knowledge on poverty traps.

Contributed papers are invited on all topics related to the themes of the conference. Empirical and theoretical papers dealing with the following themes are particularly welcome:

- The role of Institutions and social capital
- Financial and credit market imperfections
- Demography and family structures;
- Human capital and migration flows
- Basic research and technological innovation
- Structural change and dualism
- Policy issues

Invited Speakers

Confirmed invited speakers include: **Costas Azariadis** (UCLA), **Keith Blackburn** (University of Manchester) and **Oded Stark** (University of Bonn).

Registration

Deadline for registration is October 5th, 2009. Registration is free. The Organization will cover admission to all scientific session, lunches and coffees during the meeting and congress package.

A conference dinner is organized for the evening of October 30th, 2009. A contribution of EURO 50,00 is requested to participate. A contribution of EURO 50,00 is also requested for each accompanying person.

Special Issues

The Manchester School and **Rivista Italiana di Economia** (RIE) have agreed to publish a special issue collecting empirical and theoretical papers dealing with the conference topics.

Submission & Important Dates

Paper submission is possible through the following webpage:

<http://economia.uniparthenope.it/ise/sito/conferenze/miurVinci/index.htm>

Where extended abstracts or complete papers should be uploaded by 20 July, 2009. Authors will be notified regarding acceptance or rejection by September, 11th 2009.

Deadline for paper submission:	20 July, 2009
The date for notification:	11 September, 2009
Deadline for registration:	5 October, 2009
The date of the workshop:	30-31 October, 2009

Scientific Committee

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