



For immediate release

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Is Industrialisation Still the Best Path to Development?

With more than a billion people still in poverty globally, the need for industrial development in poor countries is more acute than ever. Industrialisation leads to quality jobs, diversified economies and opportunities for education, training and innovation.

But is industrialisation still possible given the global economic crisis and environmental constraints? Can the developing world learn anything from the success of East Asia? Is Africa doomed to industrial stagnation? And what is the impact of China and India on industrial development in other parts of the globe? How critical is entrepreneurship and innovation and what is the role of the state?

These questions will be addressed at an international workshop on 22 - 23 October 2009: 'Pathways to Industrialisation in the 21st Century: New Challenges and Emerging Paradigms'. The event is jointly organised by the United Nations University (UNU-MERIT and UNU-WIDER) and the United Nations Industrial Organisation (UNIDO). Venue: UNU-MERIT, Keizer Karelplein 19, 6211 TC Maastricht, The Netherlands. Tel: + 31 (0)43 388 4400

Keynote speakers include:

- Professor Adam Szirmai : Industrialisation and Development
- Professor Mike Hobday : Industrialisation and Development: Lessons to be Learned from the Asian Experience
- Dr John Page: Should Africa Industrialise?
- Professor Hal Hill : Industrialisation after a Deep Economic Crisis: Indonesia
- Professor Zoltan Acs: Measuring the Conditions for Entrepreneurial Innovation for Industrialisation
- Professor Morris Teubal : Promoting Innovation in Less Developed Countries
- Professor John Weiss: Industrial Policy and Current Challenges for Industrialisation

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For further information see: http://www.wider.unu.edu/events/project-meetings/2009-project-meetings/en_GB/27-08-2009/ and <http://www.merit.unu.edu/>

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