

Development Economics and Inequality Reading Group

1 Description

The reading group presents recent contributions to Development Economics. It covers three broad areas: Development Economics, Rural Development, and Poverty and Inequality. The main aim is to introduce PhD students to frontier research and to provide an opportunity to discuss and develop new ideas in an informal setting.

Timing: Once/Twice per month.

Organisers: Alessandra Pelloni, Alessandro Piergallini, Furio-Camillo Rosati, Pasquale Scaramozzino.

Credits: Two credits for both presenters and attendees.

2 Selected Readings

Development Economics

- [1] Diao, X., Ellis, M., McMillan, M., & Rodrik, D. (2025). Africa’s Manufacturing Puzzle: Evidence from Tanzanian and Ethiopian Firms. *The World Bank Economic Review*, 39(2), 308–340.
- [2] Fan, T., Peters, M., & Zilibotti, F. (2023). Growing like India—the unequal effects of service-led growth. *Econometrica*, 91(4), 1457–1494.
- [3] Bandiera, O., Bassi, V., Burgess, R., Rasul, I., Sulaiman, M., & Vitali, A. (2025). The search for good jobs: evidence from a six-year field experiment in Uganda. *Journal of labor economics*, 43(3), 000-000.
- [4] De Pleijt, A. M., & Frankema, E. (2025). The deeper roots of human capital formation and economic development in Southeast Asia, 1900–2000. *Journal of Development Economics*, 176, 103506.

Rural Development

- [1] Davis, B., Winters, P., Carletto, G., Covarrubias, K., Quiñones, E. J., Zezza, A., Stamoulis, K., & DiGiuseppe, S. (2010). A cross-country com-

parison of rural income generating activities. *World development*, 38(1), 48-63.

- [2] Feder, G., & Savastano, S. (2017). Modern agricultural technology adoption in sub-Saharan Africa: A four-country analysis. In *Agriculture and rural development in a globalizing world* (pp. 11-25). *Routledge*.
- [3] Asher, S., Campion, A., Gollin, D., & Novosad, P. (2022). The long-run development impacts of agricultural productivity gains: Evidence from irrigation canals in india. *London, UK: Centre for Economic Policy Research*.
- [4] Banerjee, A., Duflo, E., & Qian, N. (2020). On the road: Access to transportation infrastructure and economic growth in China. *Journal of Development Economics*, 145, 102442.

Poverty & Inequality

- [1] Lasso de la Vega, C., Rodríguez, J. G., & Salas, R. (2025). Distributional divergence as a unifying measurement framework. *The Journal of Economic Inequality*, 1-18.
- [2] Hvidberg, K. B., Kreiner, C. T., & Stantcheva, S. (2023). Social positions and fairness views on inequality. *Review of Economic Studies*, 90(6), 3083-3118.
- [3] Guzzardi, D., Palagi, E., Roventini, A., & Santoro, A. (2023). Reconstructing Income Inequality in Italy: New Evidence and Tax System Implications from Distributional National Accounts. *Journal of the European Economic Association*, 22(5), 2180–2224.
- [4] Nieves, G., & Piketty, T. (2025). Unequal exchange and North-South relation: evidence from global trade flows and the world balance of payments 1800-2025. *World Inequality Lab, working paper N°2025/11*.