
About the Authors

Thorsten Beck

Thorsten Beck is Professor of Economics and Chairman of the European Banking Center at Tilburg University. Before joining the university in 2008, he worked at the Development Research Group of the World Bank. His research and policy work has focused on two main questions: What is the effect of financial sector development on economic growth and poverty alleviation? What are the determinants of a sound and effective financial sector? Recently, his research has focused on access to financial services by small and medium-sized enterprises and households. Professor Beck is co-author of *Making Finance Work for Africa* and *Finance for All? Policies and Pitfalls in Expanding Access*. His country experience in both research and policy work includes Bangladesh, Bolivia, Brazil, China, Colombia, Mexico, Peru, Russia, and several sub-Saharan African countries. He is also a Research Fellow in the Centre for Economic Policy Research (CEPR) in London and a Fellow in the Center for Financial Studies in Frankfurt. He studied at Tübingen University, Universidad de Costa Rica, the University of Kansas, and the University of Virginia.

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Jennifer Blanke is Director, Senior Economist, and Head of the Global Competitiveness Network at the World Economic Forum. Since joining the team in 2002, she has written and lectured extensively on issues related to national competitiveness and has served as lead editor on a number of regional and topical competitiveness reports. From 1998 to 2002, she was Senior Programme Manager responsible for developing the business, management, and technology section of the World Economic Forum's Annual Meeting in Davos. Before joining the Forum, Dr Blanke worked for a number of years as a management consultant for Eurogroup, Mazars Group in Paris, France, where she specialized in banking and financial market organization. Dr Blanke obtained a Master of International Affairs from Columbia University and an MA and a PhD in International Economics from the Graduate Institute of International Studies (Geneva).

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Margareta Drzeniek Hanouz is Director and Senior Economist with the Global Competitiveness Network at the World Economic Forum, where she researches and writes on issues of national competitiveness, in particular related to the Arab world, Eastern Europe, and international trade. She is lead author or editor of a number of regional and topical reports and papers. Previously, she oversaw the economic modeling for some of the Forum's scenario projects and was charged with developing the economics section of the program for the World Economic Forum's Annual Meeting in Davos. Before joining the Global Competitiveness Network, Dr Drzeniek Hanouz worked for several years with the International Trade Centre in Geneva, where she was in charge of relations with Central and Eastern European countries. In this capacity, she advised governments and developed and implemented programs to strengthen the international competitiveness of businesses in the region. Dr Drzeniek Hanouz received a Diploma in Economics from the University of Münster and holds a PhD in International Economics from the University of Bochum, both in Germany.

Michael Fuchs

Michael Fuchs has worked since 2002 on financial sector development in a number of African countries, including Malawi, Nigeria, Kenya, Mozambique, Uganda and Zambia. He has led financial sector assessments in most of these countries. He has also led work and published on topics such as privatization and the efficiency of banks in Africa, sub-regional financial integration, and infrastructure financing. Prior to joining the Africa Region, Dr Fuchs worked for five years as leader of the Bank's financial sector program in Russia and earlier also in Central Asia. His background is with the Danish Ministry of Finance (1980–1983) and the Central Bank of Denmark (1983–1994). At the Danish Central Bank, he developed asset management systems for managing Denmark's foreign exchange reserves and advised on the conduct of monetary policy. He has a PhD and an MA in Economics from Copenhagen University and a BA in Social Science, Economics from the University of York (UK).

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Giuseppe Iarossi is Senior Economist in the Regional Program for Enterprise Development of the Africa Private Sector Development Group. He joined the World Bank in 1994 as part of the Research Department, where he worked on determinants of long-term growth with a particular emphasis on ethnicity in Africa. Since 1997 he has been a core team member of the Investment Climate team contributing to the development of the Enterprise Surveys Program throughout the Bank. He has managed surveys in Africa, Latin America, South Asia, and East Asia and has written a number of assessments and research papers on firm productivity and the impact of the business environment on firm performance. His interests include survey methodology and the impact of survey design effects on data accuracy, and has recently published a book entitled *The Power of Survey Design*. He holds a Master of Economics from the University of Maryland at College Park and a Master of International Affairs from the Johns Hopkins University, School of Advanced International Studies. He received an MBA from the University of Siena and a CPA certification from the University of Naples. He has taught survey methodology at the School of Advanced International Studies of the Johns Hopkins University.

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Louis Kasekende is Chief Economist of the African Development Bank (AfDB). As Chief Economist, he is the Bank's spokesperson on socioeconomic and development issues of importance for Africa. He supervises the Development Research Department, the Statistics Department, and the African Development Institute. Prior to joining the AfDB, Louis Kasekende was Deputy Governor, Bank of Uganda. He worked for 17 years in the Bank of Uganda in several capacities, including as Director of the Research Department and Executive Director with responsibility for Research and Policy. From 2002 to 2004, he was Executive Director, representing 22 African countries, on the Executive Board of the World Bank. Dr Kasekende has also served as a lecturer in Economics in Makerere University, Uganda, where he supervised MA dissertations in a wide range of areas. He has extensive research focuses both on macroeconomic and financial policies. His main work concerns financial and capital account liberalizations and structural adjustment programs. He has also published on regional trade agreements and exchange rate policy management. He is a member of the network of economists under the African Economic Research Consortium. He holds a PhD in Econometrics and an MA in Economics from the University of Manchester, UK; as well as a BA in Economics from Makerere University, Uganda.

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Robert Z. Lawrence is the Albert L. Williams Professor of Trade and Investment at the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University and a Nonresident Senior Fellow with the Peterson Institute for International Economics. He was appointed by President Clinton to serve as a member of his Council of Economic Advisers in 1999. He held the New Century Chair as a Nonresident Senior Fellow at the Brookings Institution and founded and edited the Brookings Trade Forum. Lawrence has been a Senior Fellow in the Economic Studies Program at Brookings (1983–91), a professorial lecturer at the Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies (1978–81), and an instructor at Yale University (1975). He has served as a consultant to the Federal Reserve Bank of New York, the World Bank, the OECD, and UNCTAD. He is the author of more than 100 papers and articles on topics in the field of international economics, particularly on global integration, trade in the Middle East, and the impact of trade on the labor market. He is also the author or coauthor of several books, including *Blue Collar Blues: Is Trade to Blame for Rising US Income Equality?* (2008), *US-Middle East Trade Agreements: A Circle of Opportunity* (2006), *Case Studies in US Trade Negotiation* (2006), *Anchoring Reform with a US-Egypt Free Trade Agreement* (2005), *Has Globalization Gone Far Enough? The Costs of Fragmented Markets* (2004), *Crimes and Punishment? Retaliation under the WTO* (2003), and *Globophobia: Confronting Fears about Open Trade* (1998).

Kupukile Mlambo

Kupukile Mlambo is a Lead Economist in the Office of the Chief Economist of the African Development Bank. He joined the Bank in 1997 as a Principal Research Economist. In 2000 he moved to Country Operations-West Region as a Principal Country Economist working on Ghana and Liberia, and later as Chief Country Economist working on South Africa and Swaziland. Before joining the Bank, he worked as a university lecturer in Economics, first at the University of Zimbabwe and then at the University of Fort Hare in South Africa. His research interests cover areas such as economic growth, finance, investment, and productivity growth. He has published papers in refereed journals and as chapters in edited books. Dr Mlambo holds a PhD in Economics from Göteborgs Universitet in Sweden.

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