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Minister Trevor Manuel to speak at SA Child Gauge 2012 launch 17 October, 15h30, 6 Spin Street, Cape Town

Rising inequalities and its impact on South Africa's children will be in the spotlight at the launch of the South African Child Gauge 2012 in Cape Town next week.

The event will be hosted jointly by the Children's Institute, University of Cape Town, UNICEF South Africa, and UCT's Southern Africa Labour and Development Research Unit.

Now in its seventh year, the South African Child Gauge serves as an annual barometer of the situation of South Africa's children. This year's focus on 'Children and inequality: Closing the gap' resonates with the new National Development Plan, which identifies poverty and inequality as critical challenges.

Speakers at the launch include Minister Trevor Manuel of the National Planning Commission in the Presidency; South African Human Rights Commissioner, Lindiwe Mokate, UNICEF South Africa's the deputy representative, George Laryea-Adjei; and UCT's Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Professor Crain Soudien.

The South African Child Gauge tracks new legislative developments affecting children; presents child-centred data; and reflects - through a set of short, succinct and relatively plain language essays - on a theme pertaining to children's well-being. These essays are penned by academic, civil society and sometimes government leaders in the field.

Children are more affected by poverty and income inequality, which impact on their survival, development and life trajectories. This situation has serious consequences for today's children, and for South Africa's future.

Date: 17 October 2012 **Time**: 15h00 for 15h30 – 17h00 Venue: 6 Spin Street, Cape Town **Contact:** Charmaine Smith, Communication Manager, Children's Institute, UCT: <u>charmaine.smith@uct.ac.za</u> or 083 304 9600

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