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Rethinking traditional approaches to tackling unemployment in South Africa

26 June 2023 | 14:00 – 16:00 | Future Africa Campus auditorium, University of Pretoria

The University of Cape Town's (UCT) Econ3x3 in collaboration with the Southern Africa – Towards Inclusive Economic Development (SA-TIED), a programme that supports policymaking for inclusive growth and economic transformation in Southern Africa, is hosting a policy debate on unemployment this afternoon, Monday 26 June 2023 at the University of Pretoria.

The topic of the debate is: "Rethinking traditional approaches to tackling unemployment in South Africa: Exploring feasible, well-designed grant-based approaches for the unemployed to complement active labour - market policies".

Leading policymakers, academics and members of civil society will explore the potential impact of grant-based approaches as a complement to active labour market policies. Panellists will analyse the success of similar grant-based approaches in other developing countries and draw lessons for the current South African discussion by assessing the relationships between such grants and active labour market policies that could maximise their collective impact on employment, the feasibility of implementing such a grant, and the complexities surrounding it.

SA-TIED is a collaboration between the National Treasury of South Africa, the United Nations University World Institute for Development Economics Research (UNU-WIDER), and many other governmental and research organisations in South Africa.

Econ3x3 is an independent online economic policy newsletter based at the Southern African Labour and Development Research Unit (SALDRU) in the School of Economics at UCT. It covers research on economic policy, particularly focusing on unemployment, inequality, and poverty.

As the first instalment of the Econ3X3 and SA-TIED policy debate series, this initiative aims to promote increased engagement between policymakers and researchers while providing a forum for discussing critical policy matters that impact South Africa.

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