



URBAN INFORMALITY AND MIGRANT ENTREPRENEURSHIP IN SOUTHERN AFRICAN CITIES

CONFERENCE REPORT

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10–11 FEBRUARY 2014

CAPE TOWN, SOUTH AFRICA

CONFERENCE REPORT



IMRC
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KEY POINTS

- The informal sector is the big story in African cities. To respond effectively, data collection and monitoring tools need dramatic improvement.
- Informal trading largely happens outside official city planning. This absence of recognition may be unconscious but is not benign.
- Ethnic networking and business positioning are of crucial importance for migrant-run small businesses.
- Those working in the informal sector in South Africa generally operate under hostile conditions.
- Volumes of trade and duties paid by cross-border traders show that this sector is significant to SADC governments.
- There is a policy contradiction between the government's promotion of business tourism and the increasingly hostile attitude towards migrant entrepreneurs.
- Xenophobia can't be ignored in debates around the way forward for informal entrepreneurship in Southern Africa.
- There is a need to look at how to assist South African traders in ways that are not discriminatory, unlawful and do not ignore the interests of wider parties.
- Zimbabwe's informal economy is the country's major employer. Also, the movement of remittances between South Africa and Zimbabwe is a large industry.
- There is an undercurrent of globalization in Maputo's markets, with used clothing from the Global North sold by Indian traders to Mozambican market traders.
- Africa has the poorest and least educated of the overseas Chinese diaspora. Chinese traders have succeeded with small businesses in Africa where local firms have failed.



Edgar Pieterse, director of the African Centre of Cities, University of Cape Town.

SETTING THE CONTEXT

Jonathan Crush, SAMP and AFSUN director:

This conference follows in the wake of the City of Johannesburg's removal in late 2013 of more than 2 000 informal traders in what it called Operation Clean Sweep.

There has been an upsurge in attacks on migrant and refugee businesses in South African cities over the past five years and the harsh official action against street traders in Johannesburg is only the latest in a series of actions with striking parallels to citizen violence against migrants.

While emotions heat up whenever foreign nationals and street trading in South Africa are discussed, bigger threats to small traders, such as supermarkets moving in as competition, seem to attract far less attention and antagonism.

With mounting anecdotal evidence that South African consumers value migrant traders for their provision of more affordable and accessible food and other goods, policy makers need to address the xenophobia inherent in attacks, official or otherwise, on foreign entrepreneurs and seek solutions that recognize the economic value they bring to the country.

There is a great need for accurate data, analysis and assessment of the contribution of migrant entrepreneurs to the economies and other aspects of cities in the Southern African region.

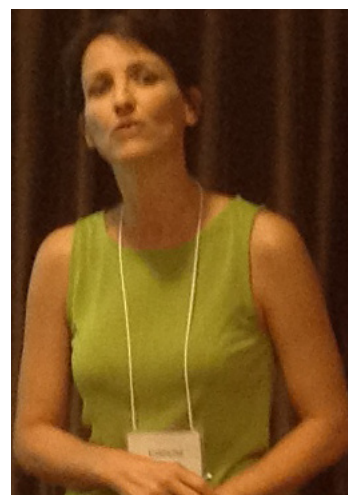
This conference, with a wide selection of participants looking at informal trade and migrant entrepreneurs in Southern Africa, seeks to start a broad conversation that recognizes that informal migrant traders are here to stay, puts in process tools to collect and monitor useful data, and builds bridges between local communities and migrants who set up shop within them.



Jonathan Crush, director of migration programme SAMP and food security network AFSUN.



Abel Chikanda, Balsillie School of International Affairs, and Edgar Pieterse.



Caroline Skinner, UCT.

SESSION ONE: URBAN INFORMALITY AND MIGRANT ENTREPRENEURSHIP – KEY ISSUES

The informal sector is the big story in African cities, said **Edgar Pieterse**, director of the **African Centre for Cities**, **University of Cape Town**, in this session chaired by **Abel Chikanda** of the **International Migration Research Centre**, **Balsillie School of International Affairs**.

In his presentation on “Africa’s Informal Cities”, Pieterse said that the second wave of urbanization, now happening in the Global South, brings many challenges. “Countries in Sub-Saharan Africa do not have the resources, or benefits of colonization, that the Global North had to help them cope with this huge increase in numbers.”

Noting that Africa’s labour force is expected to rise to 1.2 billion by 2040 (from 400 million in 2000) and at present 63 percent of workers are in vulnerable jobs, Pieterse said reform at all levels of government is necessary to deal with this and other crises.

If current trends continue, “we can expect most African cities to demonstrate the agglomeration of multiple negative trends” related to food, water, land, employment and democratic voice, among others, he said. To respond effectively, data collection and monitoring tools need dramatic improvement.

Those working in the informal sector in South Africa generally operate under hostile conditions, said **Caroline Skinner** of **Women in Informal Employment: Globalizing and Organizing (WIEGO)**, **University of Cape Town**, in her presentation on “The South African Informal Sector – What Can We Learn from Official Data?”

There is a “glaring gap” in data, analysis and assessment of the contribution of foreigners in the informal sector to both South Africa’s economy and to poor consumers, she said, noting that “anti-foreign sentiment is rife among local and national government officials and politicians and many informal sector operators.”

The statistics show clearly that women in the informal sector earn consistently less than men, Skinner said. Also, people in the informal sector are working for many more hours for lower returns than those employed in the formal economy.

In his talk on “Doing Business with Xenophobia”, **Jonathan Crush**, director of the **Southern African Migration Programme (SAMP)** and **African Food Security Urban Network (AFSUN)**, presented SAMP research which demonstrated that levels of xenophobia in South Africa are extremely high, with denial permeating the country, including government.

With ongoing violent attacks on migrants, this is alarming, he said. It ignores the reality that, in South Africa, antipathy to migrants and refugees is acute, sharper than that witnessed in many other national contexts, including major immigration countries.

“What are we to make of so-called cleansing operations, such as Operation Clean Sweep in Johannesburg and Operation



Trynos Gumbo and Simamkele Bokolo, Africa Institute of South Africa.



Kathryn Hoefflich, Cape Town Refugee Centre; Vivence Kalitanyi, Cape Peninsula University of Technology; and Madeleine Northcote of the University of Western Ontario.

Hard Stick in Limpopo? Are these attacks on informality in general, or foreign nationals in particular?"

The poorly-conceived Licensing of Businesses Bill, which is under review, "has the major intent to circumscribe informal entrepreneurship as well as to stop foreign nationals," he said.

SESSION TWO: MIGRANT ENTREPRENEURSHIP IN INFORMAL JOHANNESBURG

Tanya Zack, University of the Witwatersrand, began this session noting that informal trading largely happens outside the planning of the City of Johannesburg. "This absence of recognition may be unconscious but it is not benign," she said in her presentation, "No Guarantees: Spatial and Economic Features of an Ethnic Entrepreneurial Space in Johannesburg."

The "Ethiopian Quarter" in inner-city Johannesburg (also known as Jeppe) is "an intense retail space" where merchandise is sold to customers from surrounding townships, rural areas and from other parts of sub-Saharan Africa. Globalization, ethnic entrepreneurialism, Johannesburg's role as a port of entry for migrants and the spatial configuration of a precinct within the city are among the elements that combine to produce this burgeoning transnational micro-economy, Zack said.

"They have produced the spark for what could shift the face of retail in Johannesburg's inner city" she said, noting that policy attention should be directed here "to harness this energy".

Andrew Charman of the **Sustainable Livelihoods Foundation**, who with colleague **Lief Petersen** talked about "Survivalists, Entrepreneurs and Charlatans: The Diverse Roles of Immigrants in the Informal Economy, Ivory Park", said their mapping of spaza shops in Ivory Park, east of Johannesburg, illustrates that Ethiopian traders in South African townships do not compete directly with each other.

Ethnic networking and business positioning are of crucial importance for small businesses, he said, noting that larger businesses can exert a divisive influence on the informal economy and challenge the notion of fairness in trade and restraint.

The social function of small businesses, including the role of family, is powerful in informal trading, Petersen said.

Charman and Petersen said there is much room for debate about whether issues such as setting prices for similar goods and trying to control the number of entrants in the sector is normal business practice, which has established rules, or crooked price-fixing.

Simamkele Bokolo and **Trynos Gumbo, Africa Institute of South Africa**, Pretoria, said the spaza shops trade in Soweto is dominated by migrants.

Among the strategies migrant traders use are strong reliance on mentorship by relatives, stocking their shops to meet the



Robertson Tengeh, Cape Peninsula University of Technology; Vanya Gastrow, University of the Witwatersrand; Rory Liedeman, University of the Western Cape; and Laurence Piper, UWC.

demand, working long hours and keeping their lifestyles simple to enable them to save, they noted in their talk on “Dreamers or Chancers: Interrogating Migrant Micro-Entrepreneurship Resilience in Soweto.”

They forge good relationships with customers, suppliers and members of the community, and their religious ties and perseverance sees them through difficult times, such as when they are robbed or their shops are looted, Bokolo said.

Migrant traders’ contributions to the local economy include buying stock from South African suppliers and paying rent, Gumbo said. The low prices of food and other goods in migrant-run spaza shops, as well as their proximity to customers and long trading hours, benefit the local community, even though some local shop owners view them as a threat to their businesses, he said.

SESSION THREE: MIGRANT ENTREPRENEURSHIP IN INFORMAL CAPE TOWN (1)

Pranitha Maharaj, University of KwaZulu-Natal, chaired this session that began with Laurence Piper and Rory Liedeman, University of the Western Cape, discussing “Spaza Shops, Social Networks and Business Success: Somali and South Africans in Delft, Cape Town”.

The key difference in the way Somalians and South Africans operate in the informal sector is their access to capital, Liedeman said. Clans play an important role in networking among Somalians in South African cities, he said, noting that Somalians generally have access to loans through family and friends and are able to tap into distribution and transportation networks.

In contrast, South Africans do not have comparable networks and “have a legacy of not wanting to trust each other when it comes to doing business.” South Africans who are self-employed in the urban informal economy would typically dismiss a request for start-up help from a distant relative who had recently arrived in the city because they focus on their household needs, mostly food security.

Most Somali shops, which are largely run by women, hire South Africans, said Vanya Gastrow, University of the Witwatersrand, noting that Somalians tend to rent shops, which they sleep in or beside.

“They open early, close late and have customer-focused practices,” she said in her presentation on “Somali Migrant Trade Practices and their Impact on Local Economies in the Western Cape”.

“A far higher percentage keep business records than their South African counterparts,” Gastrow said, noting also that some have religious reasons for not putting a large markup on the prices of their goods.



Godfrey Tawodzera, University of Cape Town, and Vusilizwe Thebe, National University of Lesotho.



Sally Peberdy, Gauteng City-Region Observatory.

While shops run from houses are permitted in South African townships, spaza shops need to comply with by-laws, including health and safety laws, she said.

In his talk on “The Perceived Role of Networking or Herding Behaviour on the Migration Intentions and the Entrepreneurial Activity of African Immigrants to South Africa”, **Robertson Tengeh, Cape Peninsula University of Technology**, said that the results of cross-tabulation indicate that “the influence of networks varies from one ethnic group to another.”

The only certainty is that migrant entrepreneurs “are here to stay,” he said.

“Herding behaviour plays a significant role” in explaining migrant decisions, Tengeh said, noting that a “considerable proportion” of migrants in his study noted the influence of friends in their choice of where to locate their businesses.

SESSION FOUR: MIGRANT ENTREPRENEURSHIP IN INFORMAL CAPE TOWN (2)

The local population benefits from foreign immigrant entrepreneurs by learning how to run a small business, said **Vivence Kalitanyi, Cape Peninsula University of Technology**, in his presentation on “Migrants and their Entrepreneurial Skills in South Africa: Assets or Liabilities?”

In his research, 120 African immigrant entrepreneurs in and around Cape Town who employ South Africans

were interviewed. Among the findings were that almost all migrant entrepreneurs in these areas were men and that Malawian and Mozambican immigrants were mostly involved in clothes production or curio selling, Zimbabweans in car repair and curio-selling activities, while West Africans mainly ran ethnic businesses related to clothes, food retailing and restaurants.

South Africans employed by these migrant entrepreneurs learned financial and communication skills essential to successful small business operations, Kalitanyi said.

Kathryn Hoeflich, Cape Town Refugee Centre, in her presentation, “Providing Refugees and Asylum Seekers with Micro-Capital for Business Start-Ups: A Case Study from Cape Town”, told the story of a man who approached the centre for a loan for a driving business.

“He saved from this and managed to buy equipment that would enable him to turn to his passion, which was to start a landscaping business. He now employs two South Africans, and ups this to more than 10 South Africans in high season.

“Not all our loans turn into this kind of success story. Saving and investing in capital were the secret to his success. His constraint is that, as a refugee, he has no access to loans,” she said.

Other problems include xenophobic attacks on migrant businesses and misalignment of skills. Teachers, engineers, nurses and economists are among migrants needing assistance and, while they are suited to formal employment, they choose running a micro-business because it is “almost impossible” to enter South Africa’s formal economy with a Section 22 permit issued to asylum seekers.



Vanya Gastrow, University of the Witwatersrand.



Ines Raimundo, Eduardo Mondlane University, Maputo.

Madeleine Northcote of the **University of Western Ontario**, presenting research done with Belinda Dodson, told the story of a 33-year-old Congolese man who came to South Africa when his visa for the UK fell through. He started off pushing trolleys to eke out a living and is now an electrician contractor who is proud to say that he worked on the electricity in retired Archbishop Desmond Tutu's house in Cape Town.

In "Linking Documentation to Livelihood and the 'Ingenuity Economy' Amongst Cape Town's Refugees", Northcote said social capital and personal background play an essential role in refugees' ability to integrate into Cape Town's informal economy. Challenges they face include increasing institutional and bureaucratic hurdles, and the need to send remittances to family in their country of origin as well as secure their own basic livelihoods.

SESSION FIVE: MIGRANT ENTREPRENEURSHIP IN DIFFERING CONTEXTS

In this session, chaired by **Sally Peberdy**, **Gauteng City-Region Observatory**, **Chamba Lawrence Petkou**, **Walter Sisulu University**, said that as a survival strategy, with the number of immigrants into South Africa rising and all heading for large cities, many immigrants are now moving to less urbanized parts of the country.

Those who settled more than 10 years ago in Mthatha, a town in South Africa's Eastern Cape province, speak the

local language fluently and have established complex social networks with locals, he said in his presentation, "Survival Strategies of African Migrants in the Former Transkei: A Case Study of Cameroonians, Ghanaians and Nigerians in Mthatha."

In contrast to relative newcomers, they have legal documentation and rented accommodation to live in as well as a foothold in the informal economy, which is dominated by migrants, he said.

Levels of xenophobia are as bad as in the rest of South Africa, Petkou said, noting that migrants in Mthatha face similar adversities to foreigners in other parts of the country.

With the high level of unemployment, migrants have to use a range of strategies to survive, said **Pranitha Maharaj**, noting that many start their own small businesses, some do street trading, while others open small shops.

Presenting research done with colleague **Akwa Tafur**, **University of KwaZulu-Natal**, "Livelihood Strategies of Cameroonian Immigrants in Durban", Maharaj said survey respondents "found it easier to find work with other Cameroonians, who were more willing to hire them."

Noting that the decision to move to South Africa is usually a household rather than an individual decision, she said that most migrants feel that it is their responsibility to financially support family "left behind in their home country."

For most, South Africa was not their preferred destination and they found it took a long time and was difficult to adjust to life in a new country, with language a major barrier to integration.



Conference participants at the University of Cape Town's Graduate School of Business on 11 February 2014.

SESSION SIX: INFORMAL CROSS-BORDER ENTREPRENEURSHIP IN SOUTHERN AFRICA

In this session, chaired by **Jonathan Crush**, **Sally Peberdy** said the volumes of trade and duties paid by cross-border traders show that, as well as contributing to the tax base, this sector of regional trade is significant to SADC governments and regional groups including SADC, which aim “to promote development through growing intra-regional trade.”

In her presentation, “Monitoring Small-Scale Cross-Border Trade in Southern Africa: Contributions, Costs and Opportunities,” Peberdy noted that problems faced at borders include high and fluctuating duties, unwarranted confiscation of goods, long queues and physical harassment. The research she presented showed the results of a SAMP survey that monitored the activities of traders as they passed through 20 land border posts connecting 11 Southern African countries.

“Women comprise a significant proportion of traders and constituted the majority of traders crossing through nine of the border posts surveyed including two of the busiest, Lebombo (South Africa) and Beitbridge (Zimbabwe),” she said.

Most traders are shoppers who travel frequently for short visits to buy goods to sell in their home country, or who buy goods in their home countries to sell in another country, Peberdy said.

The types of goods they carry vary widely, but food is dominant – fruits and vegetables as well as meat, fish and eggs – “which has implications for food security.”

Two decades of political and economic problems have transformed Zimbabwe into a migrant-sending country, said **Godfrey Tawodzera**, African Centre for Cities, University of Cape Town.

Most estimates put the number of Zimbabweans in South Africa between 1.5 and 3 million, he said in his talk on “Migrants in the Informal Sector: The Case of Zimbabweans in South Africa”. Findings by SAMP show that almost half of surveyed migrants’ main reason for coming to South Africa was to find work in the informal sector.

Tawodzera said there is a seeming disjuncture in that the poorest communities in South Africa are not the most xenophobic.

The cross-border movement of remittances between South Africa and Zimbabwe has grown into a large industry dominated by Johannesburg-based Ndebele migrants, said **Vusilizwe Thebe**, National University of Lesotho, in his talk on “The ‘Malayisha’ System: A Livelihood Channel in Need of Regulatory Framework”.

The “same day or overnight” service moves people, goods and cash remittances between Johannesburg and even remote parts of Matabeleland, he said. Operators will transport “anything and everything, all you have to do is pay their price”.

This system of cross-border transportation is always cheaper and more convenient for rural people because it goes from



Percy Toriro, University of Zimbabwe, and Andrew Brooks, King's College London.



Terence McNamee, Brenthurst Foundation, Johannesburg.

door to door, Thebe said. It needs a framework that will legitimize and guide operations but maintain the informality, he said, noting that “most migrants are from the informal sector, they are not highly educated and would avoid doing things formally.”

SESSION SEVEN: INFORMAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP IN HARARE AND MAPUTO

Zimbabwe’s informal economy is the major employer of the working population in the country with 84% of people who make a living in the country working in this sector, said **Innocent Chirisa, University of Zimbabwe**, in his presentation on “The Nexus Between Urban Informality and Migrant Entrepreneurship in Zimbabwe”.

Just over two-thirds of people in this sector are aged between 20 and 40, he said, noting that most are in the wholesale and retail trade, or involved in the repair of motor vehicles and motor cycles.

“Urban informality is a messy reality” in Zimbabwe and the “nexus between urban informality, migration and entrepreneurship is strong, but complex,” Chirisa said, noting that public policies serve either as “drivers or constraints to informal sector growth.”

Next in this session, chaired by **Godfrey Tawodzera**, was **Percy Toriro, University of Zimbabwe**, discussing informally-sold food in Harare.

The informal sector in Zimbabwe’s capital sells a wide range of food items, much of it from South Africa, Toriro said.

While selling food on Harare’s streets is potentially lucrative, traders’ incomes are low and they suffer frequent losses with a very constraining regulatory environment, he said. Since the 2005 “clean up” operation “that saw the demolition of anything deemed illegal by the authorities from housing to informal trading infrastructure,” the City of Harare has barred all informal trading in the city’s central business district.

“Traders say, ‘you either have to pay them (municipal police in plain clothes) something or they will confiscate all your products or arrest you or do both. This is an impossible business. If you apply, the council will say vending is illegal, if you don’t they will still harass you – either way we are the losers,’” Toriro said.

“More women trade in daytime hours than men but then leave in the evenings, when police are most likely to come and chase traders away. Night trade is dominated by male traders.”

There is an undercurrent of globalization in Maputo’s clothing markets, **Andrew Brooks, King’s College London**, said in his presentation on “Informal Entrepreneurship in Maputo’s Clothing Markets”, noting that used clothing, which comes in sealed intact bales from the Global North, is usually sold by Indian traders to individual market traders in Mozambique.

The opening of a bale is regarded as a lottery where vendors never know what quality of clothes they will find.

Some Mozambicans have come into this line of informal work after being retrenched from the formal sector, such as train services, while others have come “up” to clothes from food and cellphone services, Brooks said. Most of these traders earn about USD5 a day.

In contrast to a common Global North vision of fashion items being a route out of poverty for Mozambicans, “I didn’t find much evidence of entrepreneurship, I mostly saw evidence of people turning their money into slightly more and then stabilizing,” he said.

SESSION EIGHT: POLICY IMPLICATIONS: THE FUTURE OF INFORMAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP IN SOUTHERN AFRICA

“Africa has more business than leisure tourists and migrant entrepreneurs – domestic and international – are business tourists,” said **Christian M. Rogerson, University of Johannesburg**, in his presentation that began this session chaired by **Paul Okwi, IDRC, Nairobi**.

There is a policy contradiction between the promotion of business tourism by the national tourism department and the local tourism industry, and the increasingly hostile attitude towards migrant entrepreneurs, he said.

Attacks on foreign traders and the Department of Trade and Industry’s informal sector business strategy “suggest potentially highly negative interventions to be enacted at national and local levels to restrict migrant entrepreneurs,” Rogerson said. A broad conversation, drawing on research done

in Johannesburg and Maseru, about migrant entrepreneurs as business tourists would be useful in drawing attention to this disconnect, he said.

Africa has the poorest and least educated of overseas Chinese diaspora, **Terence McNamee, Brenthurst Foundation, Johannesburg**, said in his presentation “A Bleak View from the African Street”.

“They are here because they couldn’t cut it in China, where it’s very competitive. Our research showed that only one in five had any merchant or trader experience before coming to Southern Africa,” he said. Chinese traders have been successful with small businesses in Africa in areas where local firms “have failed or feared to tread.”

McNamee noted much “mistrust and reticence” between Chinese and local traders and said there is a “vicious circle of corruption – the Chinese view is that there is not a level playing field, everyone’s cheating and so they are just responding to this environment.”

Regulations for informal trading that are in place are, “for the most part, reasonable, it’s the way they are implemented that is so problematic,” said **Vanya Gastrow**, in her presentation on “Trading Rights: The Formal and Informal Regulation of Somali Migrant Traders in Cape Town”.

“Municipalities are reluctant to issue business licences for spaza shops, they’ll issue certificates but not the licences that are needed, and there are other problems in application such as issuing unreasonably harsh fines.”

Noting that local grievances against foreign-run shops include the number of shops, that they are too close to those run by locals, and that their prices are too low, Gastrow said “we need to look at how to assist South African traders in ways that are not discriminatory, unlawful and do not ignore the interests of wider parties.”

AGENDA

Monday 10th February

- 8:00 Registration
- 8:30–9:40 **SESSION 1: Urban Informality and Migrant Entrepreneurship – Key Issues**
Chair: **Abel Chikanda**
Introduction and Welcome: **Jonathan Crush**
Edgar Pieterse, African Centre for Cities, University of Cape Town: “Africa’s Informal Cities”
Caroline Skinner, WIEGO, University of Cape Town: “The South African Informal Sector – What Can We Learn from Official Data?”
Jonathan Crush, Balsillie School, Queen’s University and University of Cape Town: “Doing Business with Xenophobia”
- 9:40–11:00 **SESSION 2: Migrant Entrepreneurship in Informal Johannesburg**
Chair: **Caroline Skinner**
Tanya Zack, University of the Witwatersrand: “No Guarantees: Spatial and Economic Features of an Ethnic Entrepreneurial Space in Johannesburg”
Andrew Charman and **Leif Petersen**, Sustainable Livelihoods Foundation: “Survivalists, Entrepreneurs and Charlatans: The Diverse Roles of Immigrants in the Informal Economy, Ivory Park”
Simamkele Bokolo and **Trynos Gumbo**, Africa Institute of South Africa, Pretoria: “Dreamers or Chancers: Interrogating Migrant Micro-Entrepreneurship Resilience in Soweto”
- 11:00–11:20 Refreshments
- 11:20–13:00 **SESSION 3: Migrant Entrepreneurship in Informal Cape Town (1)**
Chair: **Pranitha Maharaj**
Laurence Piper and **Rory Liedeman**, University of the Western Cape: “Spaza Shops, Social Networks and Business Success: Somali and South Africans in Delft, Cape Town”
Vanya Gastrow, University of the Witwatersrand: “Somalinomics: Somali Migrant Trade Practices and their Impact on Local Economies in the Western Cape”
Robertson Tengeh, Cape Peninsula University of Technology: “The Perceived Role of Networking or Herding Behaviour on the Migration Intentions and the Entrepreneurial Activity of African Immigrants to South Africa”
- 13:00–14:00 Lunch
- 14:00–15:20 **SESSION 4: Migrant Entrepreneurship in Informal Cape Town (2)**
Chair: **Robertson Tengeh**
Vivence Kalitanyi, Cape Peninsula University of Technology: “Migrants and their Entrepreneurial Skills in South Africa: Assets or Liabilities?”
Kathryn Hoefflich, Cape Town Refugee Centre: “Providing Refugees and Asylum Seekers with Micro-Capital for Business Start-Ups: A Case Study from Cape Town”
Madeleine Northcote and **Belinda Dodson**, University of Western Ontario: “Linking Documentation to Livelihood and the ‘Ingenuity Economy’ Amongst Cape Town’s Refugees”
- 15:20–15:40 Refreshments

15:40–17:00 SESSION 5: **Migrant Entrepreneurship in Differing Contexts**

Chair: **Sally Peberdy**

Chamba Lawrence Petkou, Walter Sisulu University: “Survival Strategies of African Migrants in the Former Transkei: A Case Study of Cameroonians, Ghanaians and Nigerians in Mthatha”

Akwa Tafur and **Pranitha Maharaj**, University of KwaZulu-Natal: “Livelihood Strategies of Cameroonian Immigrants in Durban, South Africa”

Tuesday 11th February

8:30–9:40 SESSION 6: **Informal Cross-Border Entrepreneurship in Southern Africa**

Chair: **Jonathan Crush**

Sally Peberdy, Gauteng City-Region Observatory: “Monitoring Small Scale Cross-Border Trade in Southern Africa: Contributions, Costs and Opportunities”

Godfrey Tawodzera, African Centre for Cities, University of Cape Town: “Migrants in the Informal Sector: The Case of Zimbabweans in South Africa”

Vusilizwe Thebe, National University of Lesotho: “The ‘Malayisha’ System: A Livelihood Channel in Need of Regulatory Framework”

9:40–11:00 SESSION 7: **Informal Entrepreneurship in Harare and Maputo**

Chair: **Godfrey Tawodzera**

Innocent Chirisa, University of Zimbabwe: “The Nexus between Urban Informality and Migrant Entrepreneurship in Zimbabwe”

Percy Toriro, University of Zimbabwe, P Toriro Planning: “Assessing the Footprint of Harare’s Informally-Sold Food”

Andrew Brooks, King’s College London, UK: “Informal Entrepreneurship in Maputo’s Clothing Markets”

11:00–11:20 Refreshments

11:20–13:00 SESSION 8: **Policy Implications: The Future of Informal Entrepreneurship in Southern Africa**

Chair: **Paul Okwi**

Christian M. Rogerson, University of Johannesburg: “Migrant Entrepreneurs or Business Tourists?”

Terence McNamee, The Brenthurst Foundation: “A Bleak View from the African Street”

Vanya Gastrow, University of the Witwatersrand: “Trading Rights: The Formal and Informal Regulation of Somali Migrant Traders in Cape Town”

13:00–14:00 Lunch and Departure

PARTNER ORGANIZATIONS

The Urban Informality and Migrant Entrepreneurship in Southern African Cities conference was hosted by the African Centre for Cities, the Southern African Migration Programme, the International Development Research Centre, the Gauteng City-Region Observatory, the International Migration Research Centre and the African Food Security Urban Network.

The **African Centre for Cities (ACC)** (www.africancentreforcities.net), based at the University of Cape Town, South Africa, seeks to facilitate critical urban research and policy discourses for the promotion of vibrant, democratic and sustainable urban development in the global South from an African perspective.

The **Southern African Migration Programme (SAMP)** (www.queensu.ca/samp) is an international partnership network linking organizations committed to training, public education, policy development, research and delivery of technical expertise on migration and development issues.

The **International Development Research Centre (IDRC)** (www.idrc.ca) is a Canadian Crown corporation established in 1970 to help developing countries find solutions to their problems. IDRC encourages and supports researchers and innovators in those countries to find practical, long-term

solutions to the social, economic, and environmental problems their societies face. Its main goals are to find ways to reduce poverty, improve health, support innovation, and safeguard the environment.

The **Gauteng City-Region Observatory (GCRO)** (www.gcro.ac.za) is a partnership between the University of Johannesburg (UJ), the University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg (Wits) and the Gauteng Provincial Government (GPG), with local government in Gauteng also represented on the GCRO Board. GCRO collects data and benchmarks the city-region, provides policy analysis and support, undertakes applied research, and publishes critically reflective academic work.

The **International Migration Research Centre (IMRC)** (imrc.ca), Balsillie School of International Affairs, Canada, is a research centre whose mandate is to serve as a focal point for debate, research, policy analysis, and proposal development related to international migration and mobility at the global, national and regional scale.

The **African Food Security Urban Network (AFSUN)** (www.afsun.org) is a Canada–Africa network of organizations committed to research, training and policy intervention to address the crisis of food insecurity in African cities, including the role of the urban informal food economy.

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PRESENTATIONS

Workshop presentations can be found under Presentations on the Publications page of the AFSUN website: www.afsun.org/publications/

MEDIA

Television news

Jonathan Crush interviewed on eNCA: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8Cs-m7ZcO8o&feature=youtu.be>

Newspaper op-ed

“Despite state denial, xenophobia is highly destructive force in SA” – Jonathan Crush: <http://www.afsun.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/02/Cape-Argus-E-dition-Weekend-Argus-Sunday-Edition-9-Feb-2014-Page-21.pdf>

Website report

Mistra Urban Futures – report by Saskia Greyling: <http://www.mistraurbanfutures.org/sv/urban-informality-and-migrant-entrepreneurship>

Social media

This conference was comprehensively covered on Facebook and Twitter through Moving on Empty and on the homepage news section of the AFSUN website, www.afsun.org.



[facebook.com/MovingOnEmpty](https://www.facebook.com/MovingOnEmpty)



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