



AERC 56th Plenary Session on

“Poverty, growth, redistribution, and social inclusion in times of Covid-19 pandemic in Africa”

Monday, May 30, 2022 - 1500Hrs (GMT+3)

Chair of Session **Professor Finn Tarp,**
University of Copenhagen
Opening Session: 15:00- 15:45

Welcoming and Opening Remarks **Professor Njuguna Ndung’u,**
Executive Director, AERC
15.05-15.15
Presentation of AERC New Website
Senvy Maistry
Chief Communications Officer, AERC
Keynote Address **Professor Leonard Wantchekon**
15:15-15.45 Princeton University

Paper Presentations

First Presentation: “Poverty reduction through growth, redistribution and social
15:45– 16:05 inclusion in times of COVID-19 pandemic in Africa: the underlying
mechanisms”

Discussant: **Professor Germano Mwabu,**
16:05-16:15 University of Nairobi, Kenya
Carlos Gradín,
Research Fellow, UNUWIDER

Second Presentation: “Revisiting poverty trends and the role of social protection systems in
16:15-16:35 Africa during the COVID-19 Pandemic”,

Discussant: **Dr Kibrom Abay,**
16:35-16:45 Country Program Leader, and Research Fellow, IFPRI
Prof Björn Nilsson,
University of Paris XI

Health Break: 5 Minutes

**Third Presentation:
16:50-17:10**

“The labor market impact of COVID-19 lockdowns: Evidence from Ghana”

Dr. Simone Schotte, Research Associate, UNUWIDER

**Discussant:
17:10- 17:20**

Professor Anthony Wambugu, University of Nairobi

**Fourth Presentation:
17:20-17:40**

“What can Africa learn from a better understanding of the interaction among growth, inequality and poverty in its fight against the Covid-19 pandemic? ”

Erik Thorbecke, H.E. Babcock Professor of Economics Emeritus, Cornell University

**Discussant:
17:40- 17:50**

Dr. Christian Ebeke, Senior Economist, IMF

Floor Discussion: 10 minutes

Health Break: 5 minutes

Policy Reflections

**Policy Reflections:
18.05-19.05**

Moderator: Dr. Jane Kiringai

Chairperson, Commission for Revenue Allocation, Kenya

Honorable **Mthuli Ncube**,
Minister of Finance, Zimbabwe (TBC)

Honorable **Gov. Dr. Denny Kalyalya**,
Governor Bank of Zambia

Honorable **Gov. Dr. Wilson T. Banda**,
Governor Reserve Bank of Malawi

Dr. Rose W. Ngugi,
Executive Director, Kenya Institute for Public Policy Research and Analysis

**Wrap-Up
19.05 – 19.10**

Abebe Shimeles, Director of Research, AERC