

Jobs, Diagnostics and Solutions Community of Practice (JDS CoP)

News Digest

Edition #1, April 2020

Dear members,

Welcome to the first (1) Edition of the Jobs, Diagnostics and Solutions CoP news digest, an avenue to share and exchange knowledge with fellow jobs practitioners. Many thanks to all of you who contributed their knowledge and resources. We welcome your continuous engagement and the wealth of knowledge that you bring and share.

With warm regards,
Dino, Ian and Teuta

At a Glance:

*We have **113** members from all over the world. If you have not yet registered please click at [JDS CoP Website](#)*

Featured > Ian's Vlog on Honduras Jobs Diagnostics



Honduras Jobs Diagnostic Report

Despite creating a lot of waged jobs, Honduras faces a huge challenge of informality. About 60 percent of jobs in Honduras remain low productivity and low earnings, without adequate social protection, according to the [Honduras Jobs Diagnostic](#) which was launched by Ian Walker, Veronica Michel and Junko Onishi in Tegucigalpa in February.

The report notes that regulations in product markets and in the labor market have reduced the incentive of larger, productive organizations to hire Honduran workers. For example, contrary to the World Bank's White Paper "[Protecting All](#)", Honduras places a high share of the costs of social protection onto employers, and maintains a high minimum wage. Together these raise labor costs for formal firms. A consequence of these costs, a lack of child care and safe transportation to work mean that [female labor force participation](#) in Honduras is low. See the [Vlog](#) for more details.

In Focus > Blog Series

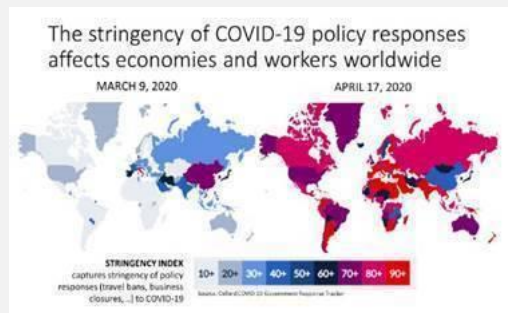
Jobs and Structural Change Blog Series

To help inform practitioners about important considerations when developing strategies to improve jobs with economic transformation, and to help deepen the global findings from [Jobs Diagnostics](#) in our [Pathways Report](#), the Jobs Group of the World Bank is running a new blog series on Jobs and Structural Change.

The series seeks to relate economic theory to global data to get at the drivers of structural change. It starts with stylized facts, before moving on to discuss different country contexts, and how different workers fare with economic transformation, [Blog#1](#) starts by pointing out that labor productivity is a necessary but insufficient condition for better jobs, contrasting how two fast growing countries (Vietnam and Zambia) had very different successes in creating waged work and reducing poverty. [Blog#2](#)



shows that the rising importance of service jobs as countries get richer corresponds almost linearly with the decline in the share of jobs in agriculture jobs, whilst manufacturing rarely accounts for more than one-fifth of all jobs in an economy.



Confronting the Jobs Impacts of COVID-19 (Coronavirus) Blog Series

The World Bank's Jobs Group started a blog series on employment policy options for the COVID-19 crisis. The series draws on best practices learned from previous crises. But it takes account of what changes in a crisis rooted in a health emergency that calls for people to work from a distance or not at all. It also highlights options for the labor markets of low and middle-income countries with high rates of informal firms and workers. Read the blog series at [Confronting the Jobs Impacts of COVID-19 \(Coronavirus\)](#)

In the News > Uganda Event



Uganda's economy needs to create twice, then over 3 times as many jobs annually in the next generation for its fast-growing and youth population. To accelerate economic growth and drive transformation, these jobs will need to bring higher labor productivity. This was the key message of the "[Uganda: Jobs Strategy for Inclusive Growth](#)" launched Tuesday February 25, jointly with the Ministry of Finance Planning and Economic Development (MoFPED). The strategy recommends improving trade by supporting private sector development, attracting more foreign direct investment and urban development. You can explore more by reading the "[Uganda Jobs Strategy: Creating More Jobs for Uganda's Youth and Economic Transformation](#)" and watching the video: [Uganda needs more formal jobs-World Bank](#).

Upcoming Events: COVID-19 eSeminar Series on YouTube

Development Policy and COVID-19 | eSeminar Series

This seminar series hosted by the World Bank's Development Research Group brings leading economists, public health experts, and other social scientists together with World Bank Group researchers to discuss emerging research on COVID-19 and its implications for development policy.

- [Financial Sector Policies to Salvage Firms Hit by COVID-19](#), Wednesday, April 29, 11am - 12:30pm ET, [YouTube](#)
- [Maintaining Finance for Firms Impacted by COVID-19: Perspectives for East Asia](#), Monday, May 4, 9:30 - 11:00pm ET, [YouTube](#)
- *Labor Mobility, Migration, and COVID-19, Forthcoming*
- *The Nexus of Macro and Environmental Policies in Designing Post-Pandemic Economic Recovery Measures, Forthcoming*
- *Modeling the Spread of COVID-19 and Connections with Air Pollution Exposure, Forthcoming*

Useful Articles and Resources

- ✚ Financial Times: **A better society can emerge from the lockdowns**. Read the full article at: <https://www.ft.com/content/5b41ffc2-7e5e-11ea-b0fb-13524ae1056b?shareType=nongift>
- ✚ **Saving Africa's Private Sector Jobs during the Coronavirus** by [ODI](#), ECDPM, ReDefine, and UNECA. Read the full article at: https://www.uneca.org/sites/default/files/PublicationFiles/saving-jobs-during-pandemic_te-velde-et-al_15-april-2020.pdf
- ✚ **The COVID-19 Conundrum in the Developing World: Protecting Lives or Protecting Jobs?** by [David A. Robalino](#). Read the full article at: <https://www.iza.org/publications/dp/13136/the-covid-19-conundrum-in-the-developing-world-protecting-lives-or-protecting-jobs>
- ✚ **Coronavirus will change the way the world does business for good.** by Beata Javorcik. Read the full article at: <https://www.ft.com/content/cc2ff3f4-6dc1-11ea-89df-41bea055720b?shareType=nongift>
- ✚ Financial Times: **Remittance flows expected to plunge more than \$100bn** by Andrew England and Leke Oso Alabi in London--Read the full article at: <https://www.ft.com/content/471cb6b2-f354-4fe0-b36f3078a506a2d8?shareType=nongift>

Contact Us

Should you have any interesting and relevant resources, suggestions or activities to share in the **next JDS CoP Monthly Digest**, please contact [Teuta Gashi](#) (CoP facilitator) and, [Dino Merotto](#) (CoP chair). Please feel free to share this digest and invite new practitioners in the field to join [JDS CoP](#).

About the JDS CoP

The Jobs Diagnostics and Solutions Community of Practice (JDS CoP) is a knowledge sharing and learning platform for officials, development practitioners, researchers and World Bank Group staff involved in developing cross-sector Jobs Strategies.

For more information, visit the [JDS CoP Website](#)