

*COST Workshop*  
**Firm-Level Data Analysis in Transition and Developing Economies**  
**April 23-24, 2009**

**University of Edinburgh**  
**Edinburgh**  
**Scotland**

## **Final Programme**

### **Thursday, April 23**

8:30 *Morning coffee and registration (COST sign-in)*

9:00 Session I (Chair: John Earle)

**Caroline Paunov** and Ana M. Fernandes, “Does Tougher Import Competition Foster Product Quality Upgrading?”

**Marc-Andreas Muendler** and Naécio Aquino Menezes-Filho, “Labor Reallocation in Response to Trade Reform”

**Carolina Villegas-Sanchez**, Sebnem Kalemli-Ozcan, and Herman Kamil, “Currency Mismatches on Balance-Sheets and Financing Constraints: The Role of Foreign Ownership During Crises”

11:00 *Break*

11:20 Session II (Chair: David Brown)

**Marcela Eslava**, John Haltiwanger, Adriana Kugler, and Maurice Kugler, “Trade Reforms and Market Selection: Evidence from Manufacturing Plants in Colombia”

**Amil Petrin**, “Explaining Reallocation’s Apparent Negative Contribution to Growth in Developing Countries: Evidence from Chile and Colombia”

12:40 *Lunch*

1:40 Session III (Chair: Mark Schaffer)

**Randolph Luca Bruno**, Maria Bychkova, and Saul Estrin, “Institutional Determinants of New Firm Entry in Russia: A Cross Regional Analysis”

**J. David Brown** and John S. Earle, “Microcredit, Employment, Sales, and Survival: An Empirical Evaluation Using a Panel Matching Estimator”

3:00 Poster Session and Afternoon Tea

**Gaaitzen J. de Vries**, “Productivity in a Distorted Market: The Case of Brazil's Retail Sector”

**John S. Earle** and J. David Brown, “Understanding the Contributions of Reallocation to Productivity Growth: Lessons from a Comparative Firm-Level Analysis”

**Peter Harasztosi** and Gábor Békés, “Agglomeration and Trading Activity of Firms”

Rana Hasan and **Niny Khor**, “Enterprises in Asia”

**Ousmanou Njikam**, “Trade Reform and Labor Market Adjustment in Cameroon”

**Georgios A. Panos**, Asli Demirgüç-Kunt, and Leora F. Klapper, “Entrepreneurship in Post-Conflict Transition: The Role of Informality and Access to Finance”

**Amil Petrin** and Jagadeesh Sivadasan, “Estimating the Impact of Job Security Provisions on the Efficiency of Resource Allocation: Evidence from Changes in Firing Costs in Chile”

**Neil Rankin** and Volker Schöer, “Exporting, Labour Demand and Wages in South Africa”

**Christine Richmond**, “Firm Size Distribution and the Impact of Corruption: Evidence from Cote D'Ivoire”

**Markus Taussig** and Edmund Malesky, “Property Rights and Enterprise Formalization: The Contingent Role of Regulatory Institutions”

**Tran Toan Thang**, “Spillovers from FDI: Alternative Way to Explain the Mixed Results”

**Håle Utar**, “Technological Diffusion Through Export: Access to Foreign Service Market”

5:00 Keynote

**Johannes Van Biesebroeck**, Loren Brandt, and Yifan Zhang, “Firm-level Productivity in the Chinese Manufacturing Sector”

7.30 *Burns Supper at the Raeburn Room, Old College, University of Edinburgh*

## Friday, April 24

9:00 Session IV (Chair: Johannes van Biesebroeck)

**Sašo Polanec**, Aleksandra Gregorič, and Sergeja Slapničar, “Pay Me Right: Reference Values and Executive Compensation”

**Koen Schoors** and Bruno Merlevede, “Openness, Competition, Technology and FDI Spillovers: Evidence from Romania”

**Selin Sayek** and Seda Köymen, “The Role of Human Capital in Productivity Spillovers from FDI: An Empirical Analysis on Turkish Manufacturing Firms”

11:00 *Break*

11:20 Session V (Chair: Mark Roberts)

**Diana Pop**, Gilles Chemla, and Adrian Pop, “Emerging Regulatory Governance: Contextual Evidence on Going Private Transactions”

**Carsten Sprenger**, “The Choice of Ownership Structure: Evidence from the Russian Mass Privatization”

**Lisbeth la Cour** and Delia Baghdasaryan, “Competition, Ownership and Productivity: A Panel Analysis of Czech Firms”

1:20 *Lunch*

2:20 Session VI (Chair: Atanas Christev)

**Gábor Békés** and Carlo Altomonte, “Trading Activities, Firms and Productivity”

**Alexandru Voicu**, “Adding Rungs to the Exporting Ladder: Plant-Level Exporting Dynamics and Total Factor Productivity Growth”

**Jagadeesh Sivadasan** and Juan Carlos Hallak, “Productivity, Quality and Exporting Behavior Under Minimum Quality Requirements”

4:20 *Break*

4:30 Keynote

**Roberts, Mark J.**, Bee Yan Aw, and Daniel Yi Xu, “R&D Investment, Exporting, and Productivity Dynamics”

6.15 *Whisky Experience (until 7.15)*

7.30 *Dinner at the Amber Restaurant*

### Acknowledgments

This workshop is an activity of COST Action IS0701, which supports a network of economists analyzing firm-level data ([web.ceu.hu/labor/cost](http://web.ceu.hu/labor/cost)). We are also grateful to SIRE (Scottish Institute for Research in Economics), IDRC (Canada’s International Development Research Centre), and ACES (Association for Comparative Economic Studies) for financial support, and to Stuart Sayer, Edgard Rodriguez, and Josef Brada for facilitating this support. The main organizers of workshop are SIRE (local organization) and the Upjohn Institute for Employment Research (scientific organization), and we especially thank Gina Reddie and Joanne Lowery for their extraordinary efforts. The Scientific Committee includes J. David Brown, John S. Earle, and Johannes van Biesebroeck.

## Speakers

Gábor Békés  
Institute of Economics  
Hungarian Academy of Science  
Hungary

J. David Brown  
Heriot-Watt University  
UK

Randolph Luca Bruno  
University of Bologna  
Italy

Gaaitzen J. de Vries  
University of Groningen and GGDC  
Netherlands

John S. Earle  
Upjohn Institute for Employment Research  
Central European University  
Hungary

Marcela Eslava  
Universidad de Los Andes/CEDE  
Colombia

Niny Khor  
Asian Development Bank  
Philippines

Georgios A. Panos  
University of Aberdeen Business School  
CELMR  
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Koen Schoors  
Ghent University  
Belgium

Peter Harasztosi  
Central European University  
IEHAS  
Hungary

Lisbeth la Cour  
Copenhagen Business School  
Denmark

Bruno Merlevede  
University of Ghent  
Belgium

Marc-Andrea Muendler  
University of California-San Diego  
CESifo  
USA

Ousmanou Njikam  
University of Yaoundé  
Cameroon

Caroline Paunov  
OECD Development Centre  
France

Amil Petrin  
University of Minnesota  
USA

Sašo Polanec  
University of Ljubljana and  
Institute for Economic Research  
Slovenia

Diana Pop  
Sorbonne Graduate Business School  
University Paris  
France

Neil Rankin  
University of the Witwatersrand  
South Africa

Christine Richmond  
UCLA  
USA

Mark J. Roberts  
Pennsylvania State University  
USA

Selin Sayek  
Bilkent University  
Turkey

Jagadeesh Sivadasan  
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Carsten Sprenger  
Higher School of Economics  
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Håle Utar  
University of Colorado at Boulder  
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Markus Taussig  
Harvard Business School  
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Johannes Van Briesebroek  
University of Toronto  
University of Leuven  
Belgium

Carolina Villegas-Sanchez  
University of Houston  
USA

Tran Toan Thang  
University of Essex  
UK

Alexandru Voicu  
City University of New York–  
College of Staten Island  
IZA  
USA

**Additional guests and participants are**

Atanas Christev  
Heriot-Watt University  
UK

Neil McCulloch  
University of Sussex  
UK

Mark Schaffer  
Heriot-Watt University  
UK

Shaolin Wang  
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UK

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UK

Oleksandr Talavera  
Robert Gordon University  
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Xuan Wang  
University of Dundee  
UK

Thomas Flochel  
University of Edinburgh  
UK

Stuart Sayer  
University of Edinburgh  
UK

Mr Rosen Chowdhury  
University of Dundee  
UK

Ed Hopkins  
University of Edinburgh  
UK

Gina Reddie  
University of Edinburgh  
UK

**Directions**

The workshop will take place at the University of Edinburgh, School of Business, Lecture Theatre 1 (LT1), 7 Bristo Square, Edinburgh EH8 9AL

The Thursday evening Burns Supper will take place in the Raeburn Room, Old College, University of Edinburgh. The Raeburn Room (Room 104) is located on the ground floor of Old College (South side, Administrative Offices entrance).

On Friday, the whisky experience will be held at The Scotch Whisky Heritage Centre, 354 Castlehill, The Royal Mile, Edinburgh, EH12NE

The Amber Restaurant is within the premises of The Scotch Whisky Heritage Centre.

A map indicating each of the venues will be provided on the day.