

Workshop on

"Emerging from the Crisis: Prospects and Challenges for Low-Income Countries"

Presentation by

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Discussants

Prof. Franklin Allen, University of Pennsylvania, Wharton School

Prof. Elena Carletti, Economics Department and RSCAS

Prof. Giancarlo Corsetti, Economics Department and RSCAS

Prof. Luigi Guiso, Economics Department

Chair

Prof. Massimiliano Marcellino, Head of the Economics Department

The global economic crisis has had a severe impact on low-income countries. In contrast to previous world economic downturns, low-income countries have reacted to the crisis with a robust domestic policy response. Past gains from macroeconomic stabilization and debt reduction, together with increased IMF crisis financing, have created space in many countries for short-term stimulus. The

IMF has aimed to cushion the shock by significantly scaling up its liquidity support in 2009, accommodating countercyclical responses, increased program flexibility, and reforming its low-income country instruments. The key challenge for low-income countries now is to restore economic growth and sustainable macroeconomic positions in the wake of the crisis. The meeting will focus on questions related to near-term fiscal, monetary and exchange rate policies, debt sustainability considerations, and linkages to global trends with a view of rebuilding policy buffers. It will also be an opportunity to exchange views on the post-crisis development finance architecture, including the investment-debt-growth nexus, prospects for scaling up of aid, and the role of investment flows from large emerging markets.

Tuesday 27th April 2010 at 17:00h in Sala Europa, Villa Schifanoia

Address: Via Boccaccio 121, 50133 Firenze

followed by cocktail and dinner (by invitation only)

For registration: lucia.vigna@eui.eu

Background Information
Useful links on the new policies of the IMF regarding the Low-Income Countries

LIC reforms:

<http://www.imf.org/external/pubs/ft/survey/so/2009/POL072909A.htm>

Activation of the reform:

<http://www.imf.org/external/pubs/ft/survey/so/2010/POL011110A.htm>

Two recent flagship research/outreach papers:

<http://www.imf.org/external/np/pp/eng/2009/091009A.pdf>

<http://www.imf.org/external/np/pp/eng/2009/092809.pdf>

MD's speech in Kenya

(<http://www.imf.org/external/np/speeches/2010/030810.htm>)

Factsheets

<http://www.imf.org/external/np/exr/facts/ecf.htm> (ECF)

<http://www.imf.org/external/np/exr/facts/rcf.htm> (RCF)

<http://www.imf.org/external/np/exr/facts/scf.htm> (SCF)

<http://www.imf.org/external/np/exr/facts/concesslending.htm> (Financing of Concessional Lending)

Podcast

<http://www.imf.org/external/np/seminars/eng/2010/lic/>