# **WEDNESDAY, APRIL 19**

Innovation, Technology, and Jobs

**TIME**: 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. **VENUE**: HQ1 Atrium, IMF

IMF MANAGEMENT: Christine Lagarde, Managing Director, IMF

Innovation shapes our work, private life, and social networks. It creates opportunities for new sources of growth and new kinds of jobs, affecting societies, labor markets, and institutions. The benefits are tangible, but so is the reality that not all demographic groups and societies can adapt to new technologies at the same rate. This raises some important questions: What drives or hinders innovation? How can technological progress be used in advanced and emerging market economies to foster inclusive growth? How can policymakers foster innovation while also responding to major changes, including increased job automation? How do we maintain a qualified, competitive workforce in this fast-paced environment? Properly addressing these questions will ensure that innovation yields dividends for all.

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NEW

#### **FinTech and the Transformation of Financial Services**

**TIME:** 1:00 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.

**VENUE: HQ1 Meeting Halls A&B, IMF** 

MODERATOR: Tao Zhang, Deputy Managing Director, IMF

Emerging technologies in the financial sector ("FinTech") are driving transformational change in the provision of financial services in such areas as payments, financing, investments, financial information and advice, and asset management. These developments bring both opportunities and risks. The session will take the form of a roundtable discussion among experts on FinTech issues from the public and private sectors and academia, who will be asked to respond to a series of specific questions on how new technologies can disrupt the nature and provision of financial services and the implications that these changes may have for financial stability and regulation.

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NEW

### **Driving Digital Financial Inclusion in Africa**

**TIME:** 4:30 p.m. – 5:15 p.m. **VENUE:** HQ1 Gallery, IMF

**OPENING REMARKS:** Carla Grasso, Deputy Managing Director, IMF

MODERATOR: Eric Chinje, CEO, African Media Initiative

This session analyzes the promises and challenges of advancing digital financial inclusion in sub-Saharan Africa. Our speaker, Tayo Oviosu (CEO of Paga, a mobile money startup in Nigeria), will focus on his entrepreneurial experiences in the financial services industry, and subsequent discussion will explore how both the public and private sectors can leverage technological innovation in this field—in Africa and beyond.

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# **THURSDAY, APRIL 20**

### **Emerging Markets: Resilience in a New World**

TIME: 11:00 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.

**VENUE: HQ1 Meeting Halls A&B, IMF** 

IMF MANAGEMENT: Tao Zhang, Deputy Managing Director, IMF MODERATOR: Mark Schieritz, Economics Correspondent, Die Zeit

Emerging market economies have continued to weather well several external shocks over the past year, including rising economic nationalism and waning support for global trade in advanced economies. But these economies are likely to face significant challenges going forward. In particular, while prospects for reflation in advanced economies, including through fiscal stimulus in the United States, could provide some support for the global economy in the short run, tighter U.S. monetary policy, a stronger U.S. dollar, heightened uncertainty and volatility in the euro area, a rise in economic nationalism and trade protectionism, and a rollback of financial regulation could cloud the medium-term growth outlook for emerging market economies. The seminar brings together policymakers to discuss the implications of these economic challenges for emerging market economies.

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POLICY ISSUES

#### **Gender and Macroeconomics: What's Next?**

**TIME**: 2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. **VENUE**: HQ1 Atrium, IMF

IMF MANAGEMENT: Christine Lagarde, Managing Director, IMF MODERATOR: Sara Eisen, CNBC Anchor "Worldwide Exchange"

Although the economic benefits of female economic empowerment and the policies that support its advancement are well-known, much remains to be done to deliver on the goal of a meaningful and lasting transformation. The panel will take the debate on gender and macroeconomics one step further. Panelists will discuss the practical measures needed, look at what works and what does not, and consider what each committed partner—in government, the private sector, and beyond—needs to do to drive change.

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GLOBAL

### Global Economy on an Upswing: Can It Work for All?

TIME: 3:15 p.m. - 4:15 p.m.

**VENUE: HQ1 Meeting Halls A&B, IMF** 

IMF MANAGEMENT: David Lipton, First Deputy Managing Director, IMF MODERATOR: Rana Foroohar, Global Business Columnist, Financial Times

With buoyant financial markets and a long-awaited cyclical recovery in manufacturing and trade underway, world growth is projected to rise in 2017. However, to sustain this newfound momentum, policymakers will need to provide support where it is still needed, tackle structural impediments, and work to keep a long list of downside risks in check. The right policies will not only restart the positive feedback effects among growth, investment, and trade—they will also ensure that the enormous benefits of global economic integration are widely shared and negative impacts mitigated. The panel will discuss the current interplay among economic integration, technology advances, and growth and ways in which countries can work within and together to help ensure a durable recovery in which the benefits are widely shared and those carrying most of the burden of adjustment are supported.

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NTERNATIONAL MONETARY FUND

REGIONAL ISSUES

# FRIDAY, APRIL 21

### **Sub-Saharan Africa: How to Return to Vigorous Growth?**

**TIME**: 10:00 a.m. – 11:15 a.m.

VENUE: HQ1 Meeting Halls A&B, IMF

IMF MANAGEMENT: Mitsuhiro Furusawa, Deputy Managing Director, IMF

MODERATOR: Antoinette Sayeh, Distinguished Visiting Fellow, Center for Global Development

Amid lackluster global growth, emerging market and developing economies face significant policy challenges in maintaining the levels of growth required to move out of poverty. Last year was particularly difficult for sub-Saharan Africa, with growth estimated to have been negative in per capita terms and to have slowed in the majority of countries. However, this picture masks considerable differences. Commodity exporters, including many of the region's largest countries, are facing severe economic strains. But some sub-Saharan African countries continue to register robust growth, due to ongoing infrastructure investment, strong growth in private consumption, and improvement in the business climate. However, even in those countries, concerns are rising with regard to the sustainability of the policies employed to support the recent growth momentum. This seminar is an opportunity to reflect on the challenges faced by sub-Saharan Africa and to identify policies—macroeconomic and structural—that could reinvigorate growth in the region.

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GLOBAL

#### 50 Years After: The SDR's Role in the IMS

TIME: 11:30 a.m. – 12:45 p.m. VENUE: HQ1 Meeting Halls A&B, IMF

MODERATOR: Maury Obstfeld, Economic Counsellor and Director, Research Department, IMF

In 1967, the IMF membership reached agreement on creating the special drawing right (SDR), the official reserve asset allocated and administered by the IMF. While to date the SDR has played a minor role in the international monetary system, the global financial crisis and its aftermath have spurred renewed debate over its role. This role includes not only its original function as an international reserve asset, but also other functions, such as the SDR as a vehicle for financing the provision of conditional liquidity, a denomination for financial instruments, and a unit of account. This seminar will examine how a greater role for the SDR in these areas would impact the functioning of the international monetary system, in today's increasingly multipolar and financially interconnected global economy.

Join the conversation #IMFSDR

NEW

## **Productivity in the Age of Fewer, Older Workers**

TIME: 4:30 p.m. – 5:45 p.m.

VENUE: HQ1 Meeting Halls A&B, IMF

MODERATOR: Jared Bernstein, Senior Fellow, Center on Budget and Policy Priorities

The workforce in 2050 will look very different from that of today, as aging continues and working-age populations start to shrink. In an era of such profound demographic change, a productivity revolution becomes a necessity. Can automation boost workers' productivity, especially for those in the ranks of the elderly? Does the way we currently measure output and productivity truly capture the "new economy" and how the younger, techsavvy generations work? How can companies leverage technology and a "more experienced" workforce? Can innovation, family, and immigration policies help? Join us in seeking answers to these questions and exploring policy options to address the challenges posed by demographic changes around the world.

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# **SATURDAY, APRIL 22**

### **Central Bankers and Inclusive Growth**

TIME: 2:00 p.m. - 3:15 p.m.

**VENUE: HQ1 Meeting Halls A&B, IMF** 

**OPENING REMARKS:** David Lipton, First Deputy Managing Director, IMF

MODERATOR: Tobias Adrian, Financial Counsellor and Director, Monetary and Capital Markets Department, IMF

Concerns have been raised that central bank and regulatory policies in the aftermath of the global financial crisis have contributed to inequality, having favored the rich and large financial institutions while leaving the poor worse off. This session will focus on the importance of central banks and regulators recognizing their crucial roles in supporting inclusive growth. After introductory remarks by Mr. Lipton, the panel discussion will zoom in on the interplay between financial services and inequality. The event will address key questions, such as: Do the individual benefits of wider access to financial services translate to the aggregate level? How can we limit the risk that financial deepening will exacerbate inequality? Can central bank and regulatory policies be fine-tuned to better support inclusive growth—for example, How can financial institutions be encouraged to take small deposits and hold productive assets, such as loans to start-ups and technologically innovative businesses?

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GLOBAL

#### A Conversation on the U.S. Economy

**TIME**: 4:15 p.m. – 4:55 p.m. **VENUE**: HQ1 Atrium, IMF

**IMF MANAGEMENT:** Christine Lagarde, *Managing Director*, *IMF* 

President Trump has called for a recalibration of economic policies in the United States to raise growth and income. In this one-on-one conversation, IMF Managing Director Christine Lagarde speaks with U.S. Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin about the administration's new policy vision, exploring both domestic and global ramifications.

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# **SUNDAY, APRIL 23**

### **Digitalization: Revolutionizing Fiscal Policy and Systems**

TIME: 3:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.

**VENUE:** HQ1, Meeting Halls A&B, IMF

IMF MANAGEMENT: David Lipton, First Deputy Managing Director, IMF MODERATOR: Martin Sandbu, Economics Writer, Financial Times

Technology is transforming both the way we live and the policies that guide government decisions. Panelists will discuss the difficult balancing act that policymakers face between unlocking this potential to revolutionize fiscal policy formulation and implementation on the one hand, and societies' privacy concerns and public sector capacity constraints on the other. They will also reflect on the implications of digitalization for countries at different stages of development and seek to identify ways in which countries can embark on the digital reform path.

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