



THE AMERICAN UNIVERSITY IN CAIRO

الجامعة الأمريكية بالقاهرة

AUC International Conference on Research in African Challenges (ICRAC)

Track B: Trade, Responsible Business and Labor Market for Poverty Reduction

SUB-TRACK B1: LABOR MARKET POLICIES TO REDUCE POVERTY

Chair: Dr. Jamal Haider

Co-chair: Dr. Bruno Crépon

Alleviating poverty is a key challenge for Africa. To address this challenge, one needs to acknowledge that the primary problem of the poor is that, by definition, they have low income and precarious jobs. The best way to alleviate poverty is to increase the income of the poor by providing productive jobs that lead to higher income. Among other labor-market channels, reducing poverty could, thus, happen via generating employment, increasing employability, and making the labor markets more efficient. In addition minimum wage policies, policies to alleviate child labor as well as immigration have all played a role in reducing poverty. The impact of job matching schemes, on-the-job training, job-coaching, professional counseling, and vocational training on youth self-employment and youth wages and how all this impact poverty needs to be examined. That said, submissions of both theoretical and empirical academic papers are welcome as long as they are related to the theme of "labor market policies to reduce poverty".

Biographies

Jamal Ibrahim Haider is an assistant professor of economics at The American University in Cairo (AUC). He joined AUC after completing a three-year postdoctoral research fellowship at Harvard University. He holds a PhD in economics from the Paris School of Economics, University of Paris-1 Pantheon Sorbonne (FR), MA degree in applied economics from Johns Hopkins University (US) and MSc degree in international finance from Cass Business School, City University London (UK). Previously, he worked at the World Bank, International Finance Corporation, International Monetary Fund, and Institute of International Finance in Washington DC. His fields of specialization are international economics and development economics.

Bruno Crépon is a researcher at Centre de Recherche en Économie et Statistique (CREST) and an Associate Professor at ENSAE and École Polytechnique. The focus of his research is on policy evaluation with special attention to labor market policies. Bruno is a Co-Chair of Jameel poverty action lab; J-PAL's Labor Markets sector and a member of J-PAL's executive committee. Bruno earned his PhD from Université de Paris, Sorbonne.