

JGP Special Seminar

(Division of Natural Resource Economics English Lecture Series No.7)

The Role of Social and Solidarity Economy in Developing Countries: The Experience of Tanzania

by Prof. Faustine K. Bee

(Vice Chancellor, Moshi Co-operative University, Tanzania)

Today there is a growing consensus that Social and Solidarity Economy (SSEs) play significant roles in socio-economic, cultural, and political development globally. Consequently, many countries world over as well as bilateral organizations are advocating promotion of SSE as an alternative and an inclusive development strategy. In this presentation, we will attempt to discuss the role of SSEs in socio-economic development in developing countries by drawing experiences from Tanzania. The paper identifies five forms of SSEs that actively operate in Tanzania, namely Co-operatives, NGOs, Associations, Foundations and Community based Organizations. The paper notes that all these forms of SSEs are playing critical roles in the advancement of both economic and social development of individuals, communities, and the nation as a whole through contribution to local development and poverty reduction, employment creation, provision of social services and environmental protection, improved access to financial services, and social protection, and advancement of human rights. Furthermore, they facilitate the promotion of democratic practices and good governance that are critical elements in advancing human rights and promoting human justice. The future of SSEs is bright given the growing socio-economic and political crises in the contemporary world. For this reason, developing countries ought to create conducive environment for the growth of SSEs and for them to operate effectively within the national legal and socially acceptable frameworks. However, SSEs also experiences some problems and challenges as well.



All interested students and faculty are welcome to attend!!

Dr. Faustine K. Bee is Vice Chancellor and Professor of Development Economics at Moshi Co-operative University, Tanzania. He holds a PhD in development studies from the University of South Africa. His main research interests include agricultural cooperative development, agricultural policy changes, rural financial markets, and social and solidarity economy in developing countries, particularly in Tanzania.

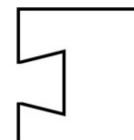
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