



UNIVERSITY  
OF  
JOHANNESBURG



## THE SAIFAC AFRICA FORUM

### DEVELOPMENT IN AFRICA AND THE FOURTH INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION: WHAT MODEL CAN ADVANCE THE WORST OFF?

Africa has some of the fastest growing economies in the world and a rich concentration of mineral wealth. Yet, these assets have failed thus far to transform the lives of millions of Africa's people, still beset by grinding poverty. What can be done to address these problems?

The overarching concept often utilised in relation to Africa has been 'development'. This term has been used to cover many ideas: a market-based economic growth model, and notions of African socialism. Both of these have failed to address the plight of the worst off and often resulted in the enrichment of elites instead. Development too has been the rubric under which aid has been provided to Africa: whilst a life-line for many, it fails to provide a long-term solution for socio-economic advancement. The economies of the world are also changing in light of the fourth industrial revolution and the question arises concerning the opportunities and challenges for 'development' in this changing world.

Against this backdrop, the South African Institute for Advanced Constitutional, Public, Human Rights and International Law (SAIFAC), a centre of the University of Johannesburg is organising a panel discussion to explore which developmental paradigms can truly advance the interests of the worst-off in Africa. The panel will be multi-disciplinary in recognition of the need for a more holistic approach to make progress in this area. It will consider issues that arise specifically for development in light of the fourth industrial revolution. The panel will also specifically examine the notion of the right to development and its potential to offer a paradigm for advancing the interests of the least well off which has been the subject of a recent book by one of the panellists, Prof Serges Djouyou Kamga. The book 'The Right to Development in the African Human Rights System' will be formally launched at this event.

Details of the event are as follows:

- DATE:** Thursday, 16 May 2019  
**TIME:** 17h30 for 18h00 – 20h00  
**VENUE:** Women's Gaol, Constitution Hill (Underground parking available)  
**RSVP:** Please RSVP to Naomi Hove at [naomi@saifac.org.za](mailto:naomi@saifac.org.za) for catering purposes

Refreshments will be served before the seminar.



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