

MARTIN RAVALLION

# Direct interventions against poverty in poor places

14.30–18.30 Wednesday 23 March 2016  
Aula (room) Stockholm School of Economics, Bertil Ohlins gata, Stockholm

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You are cordially invited to the 2016 WIDER Annual Lecture by Martin Ravallion. He will discuss the economic and political issues of the use of direct interventions, such as cash transfers and in kind contributions, against poverty. The event is organized in collaboration with the Stockholm Institute of Transition Economics (SITE).

The new millennium has seen a huge increase in the use of direct interventions against poverty in the developing world. Payments in cash or in kind are targeted in ways to identified poor families. There is much hope for these interventions, but also much frustration; their performance in reality has often fallen short of policy

makers' expectations. The lecture will review the economic and political issues that arise, and the evidence on both the successes and failures, based on the many impact evaluations that have been done over the last 15 years. Lessons will be drawn for making these programmes more effective, and challenges will be identified

for future research aiming to better inform policy choices. The lecture will draw in part on Ravallion's new book, *The Economics of Poverty: History, Measurement and Policy*.

**The event will be webcast live.**

## SPEAKER

**MARTIN RAVALLION** is a leading economist in the research of poverty and policies for fighting it. Ravallion is best known for his proposal of the '\$1 per day' poverty line, which became widely accepted as a universal measurement for monitoring progress against global poverty. He has done extensive research on poverty, linking economic policies to the welfare of poor people, and the evaluation of anti-poverty programmes.

Ravallion is the Edmond D. Villani Chair of Economics at Georgetown University. Previously he was the Director of the World Bank's Development Research Group and has advised numerous governments and international agencies on poverty reduction policies. Currently, he is the President of the Society for the Study of Economic Inequality, a Senior Fellow of the Bureau for Research in Economic Analysis of Development,



a Research Associate of the National Bureau of Economic Research, USA, and a non-resident Fellow of the Center for Global Development.

## PROGRAMME

14:30 – 15:00 Registration and coffee

15:00 – 17:30

### Welcome

Torbjörn Becker, Director of SITE and Lena Ingelstam, Director of Partnerships and Innovations at Sida

### Introduction

Finn Tarp, Director of UNU-WIDER

### Annual Lecture

Martin Ravallion, Edmond D. Villani Chair of Economics at Georgetown University

### Discussion

Annika Sundén, Chief Economist of Sida and Tony Addison, Chief Economist & Deputy Director of UNU-WIDER

### Q&A

17:30 – 18:30 Reception and refreshments



Register online:  
[wider.unu.edu/AL20](http://wider.unu.edu/AL20)