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Centre for Economic Case Studies

Company Profile



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About **Us**

The Centre for Economic Case Studies (CECS) is a research and policy hub that engages in comprehensive research focused on critical socioeconomic issues, including poverty, inequality, and unemployment.

By leveraging the specialized knowledge of its in-house experts, CECS ensures high-quality analysis and insights. In cases where additional expertise or resources are needed, the centre has the flexibility to contract with external researchers and institutions, further enhancing the quality of its research output.



What **We Offer**

In addition to its core research activities, CECS also undertakes commissioned research projects that align with the specific needs of various stakeholders, providing tailored solutions and recommendations.

To foster knowledge sharing and professional development, the centre organises a variety of courses, conferences, and training sessions aimed at equipping participants with the latest findings and methodologies in socioeconomic research. Through these initiatives, CECS aims to make a meaningful impact on policy and practice within the communities it serves.

Our Publications

1. Practical Books

Comprehensive texts that delve into various economic theories, practices, and case studies, offering in-depth analyses and insights into current and historical economic issues.

2. Discussion Papers

Informative documents that present preliminary research findings and stimulate debate on specific economic topics, enabling scholars and practitioners to engage with emerging ideas and methodologies.

3. Impact Assessments

CECS engages in comprehensive economic impact assessments to evaluate the potential effects of various community projects, including the anticipated financial benefits and broader socioeconomic implications.

4. Presentations

Visual and oral summaries of complex economic concepts, research findings, and policy recommendations, designed to engage audiences in academic, professional, and public discourse on critical economic issues.

5. Policy Briefs

Strategic documents that outline specific recommendations for public policy, addressing economic challenges and proposing actionable solutions aimed at fostering sustainable development.

6. Quarterly Reports

Detailed assessments and evaluations of economic data and trends, providing essential information for policymakers, businesses, and researchers to understand market dynamics and make informed decisions.



Research Areas

CECS conducts its research under the guidance of six distinct Programme Areas, each encompassing a diverse array of activities designed to further understanding and innovation in their respective fields

Localisation

Focusing on the intersection of local economies and technological advancements, this area investigates how localized efforts can drive innovation. Research projects emphasize the importance of regional resources and talent in fostering new ideas and products.



Economic Development

Here, our team analyses past economic trends and the historical context of economic policies. The goal is to glean insights that can inform present-day economic development strategies, aiming to foster growth and equity, especially in underdeveloped regions.



Climate Change

This area focuses on the intricate relationship between human activity and environmental shifts. Research initiatives delve into the impacts of climate change on ecosystems and communities, exploring sustainable practices and policy recommendations.



Livelihoods

This area aims to study the complex social and economic factors that impact the livelihoods of various communities. Research is directed towards understanding community resilience, sustainability practices, and the socioeconomic challenges that citizens face.



Industrial Organization

This programme examines the structure, behaviour, and performance of firms and industries. Through rigorous research, it seeks to understand competitive dynamics, market regulations, and how these elements influence innovation and consumer welfare.



SMMES

Dedicated to fostering local business initiatives, this programme examines what drives successful entrepreneurship in different contexts. It encourages research on supportive ecosystems that help local entrepreneurs thrive.

Mission & Vision



Our Vision

Our vision is to create a just society where the benefits of economic prosperity are shared fairly among all members of the community. In this ideal, every individual has equal access to economic opportunities and can actively participate in shaping decisions that affect their lives.



Our Mission

Our mission is to enhance the quality of policy decisions through providing policy-relevant research that resonates with the everyday experiences of South African citizens. This includes challenging the prevailing economic narrative and creating open spaces for policy dialogue.



Our Culture

At CECS, we pride ourselves on being an inclusive and value-driven organization that fosters a collaborative environment focused on social and economic progress. We hold each other in high regard, recognising both our humanity and intellectual contributions.

Our Partners

As a research and policy center, CECS builds strong connections among the research community, progressive civil society, activist organizations, and a range of stakeholders in government and business.

Our research agenda evolves through ongoing collaboration with these social partners, ensuring that our project outputs are not only relevant but also easily applicable for policy use.



As long as poverty, injustice & inequality persist, none of us can truly rest.

Our Events

Engaging in discussions from a grassroots perspective guarantees that everyone's voice is heard and valued, ensuring nobody gets overlooked

01 Webinars

CECS hosts a series of webinars that tackle various topics impacting citizens at the grassroots level. These discussions cover important issues such as the minimum wage, government social relief programs, unemployment, poverty, inequality within communities, as well as opportunities available for the youth.



02 Community Outreach

CECS organises events in community centres across various provinces in South Africa. The community outreach hosted by CECS offers delegates a deep dive into the latest economic and political developments. These events allow delegates, primarily community members, to listen to and interact with key decision-makers.

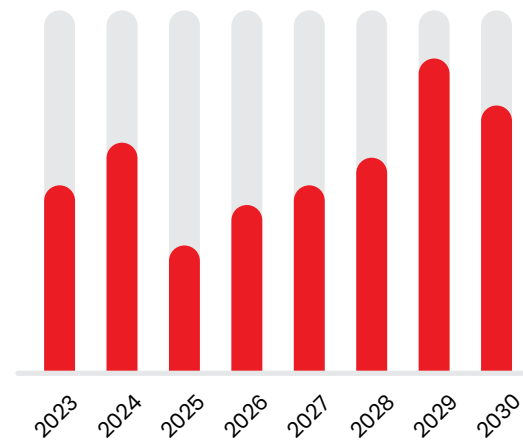
03 Annual Symposium

The Annual Symposium hosted by the Centre for Economic Case Studies (CECS) serves as an invaluable platform for researchers and thought leaders to converge over a two-day event. This gathering not only facilitates in-depth discussions but also fosters collaboration among experts dedicated to addressing pressing issues in various fields.

Our Reach

So far, we have held two annual conferences, organized thirteen community outreach programs, published twelve discussion papers, and made a positive impact on over 200 lives.

- **+6 Communities**
- **+12 Projects**
- **+200 Lives Impacted**



Governance

In South Africa, CECS operates as both a Registered Non-Private Company and a Non-Profit Organisation. The activities of this organisation are governed by its Constitution, Memorandum, and Articles of Association. While one of CECS's objectives is to promote research on policy-related issues, the organisation does not adopt any institutional policy positions nor does it endorse specific political parties.

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CECS research may present various perspectives on policy; however, neither the Trustees of the Non-Profit Organisation nor those of the Company conduct prior reviews of its publications. The opinions articulated in the published research are solely those of the authors and do not reflect the views of CECS.