

## CALL FOR PAPERS

### **Entrepreneurship and Growth: The Role of Policy Reforms**

**Jointly sponsored by the World Bank Group and the Kauffman Foundation**

November 19-20, 2009 at the World Bank, Washington DC

#### OVERVIEW:

Entrepreneurship is important for the continued dynamism of the modern economy and contributes to economic growth. Yet many countries put in place regulations that make it more difficult to start, operate, and grow a new firm. These regulations can affect the creation of new firms, the average size of firms, and the dynamism of incumbent firms. Because of onerous regulations, many firms might choose to stay small and informal and might be unable to realize their full growth potential. For instance, the 2008 *World Bank Group Entrepreneurship Database* includes measures of entrepreneurial activity in 101 developing and industrial countries around the world over the period 2000-2007 (<http://go.worldbank.org/C8Q8EGTTH0>). The data finds significant relationships between entrepreneurial activity and the quality and governance of the legal and regulatory environment.

The conference will give priority to papers that further our understanding of the factors that contribute to greater entrepreneurship and formal sector participation, the role of entrepreneurship in promoting growth, and the impact of related policy reforms. We are also interested in papers using “experimental” field work to study the impact of policy reforms on firm entry, performance, and survival. The experimental designs can range from collecting and analyzing detailed data before and after a government reform, to simulating a particular reform with targeted or randomized interventions. While submissions from a wide range of perspectives and topics are welcome, we specifically invite papers on the following:

- The causal effects of institutional, regulatory, and fiscal reforms on entrepreneurial activity;
- The impact of reforms to encourage greater transitioning from the informal to the formal sector and the impact of formal sector registration on firm borrowing and growth;
- The effects of financial, operational, and management constraints on entrepreneurship and policies that help alleviate these constraints;
- The role of entrepreneurship in economic growth and development.
- The impact of the recent financial crisis on new business creation.

## SUBMISSION DETAILS:

Paper Submission Deadline: June 1, 2009

Decision on acceptance: August 1, 2009

Authors of accepted papers will be reimbursed for economy transportation expenses to attend the conference.

Preference is given to completed papers, although in exceptional circumstances work in progress will be considered.

Submit papers electronically (in either a .pdf or Word file) to Mani Jandu at:  
mjandu@worldbank.org

## ORGANIZING COMMITTEE:

Leora Klapper, World Bank  
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## FURTHER INFORMATION:

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More information on the *World Bank Group Entrepreneurship Database* is available at:  
<http://go.worldbank.org/C8Q8EGTTH0>