# 6th Development Economists Meeting - *DevEconMeet*

University of Palermo

01-02 October 2026

## Programme

**DevEconMeet will be held in the "Chiesa Sant'Antonio Abate" lecture hall at the Complesso Monumentale dello Steri (Rectorate of the University of Palermo), Piazza Marina 61, 90133 Palermo (PA), Italy.**

**Coffee breaks, lunches, and the social aperitif will be held at Cafè Lucà, Piazza Marina 89, 90133 Palermo (PA).**

**Each presentation will last 20 minutes. The senior and junior discussants will each have 3–4 minutes.**

**1st October: Introduction of the workshop**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| | 01/10/2026 | 9:00-9:15 | Welcome Remarks:<br>Prof. Maurizio Cellura, Director CSTE, University of Palermo (TBC)<br>Prof. Marcantonio Ruisi, Director Economics, Business and Statistics department, University of Palermo |
| | | 9:15-10:30 | Research idea presentations by first-year PhD students<br>1. Camilla Balocco, *University of Florence "Social Movements, Expropriation, and Productivity: Evidence from Brazil's Agrarian Reform"*<br>2. Lorenzo Berti, *University of Florence "Bridging Behavioral Rules and Non-Separable Household Models: an Agent-Based Representation of Smallholder Farmers' Decision-Making"*<br>3. Alexandru Arfire, Sapienza University of Rome "Mobile Connectivity and Life Shocks: Gender-Differentiated Effects on Labour and Health Outcomes" |
| | | 10:30-11:00 | Coffee break |
| Keynote Speaker | | 11:00-12:00 | Prof. Marc Bellemare, McKnight Presidential Chair in Applied Economics, University of Minnesota<br>"AI in Economics: Opportunities and Challenges for Young (and Not so Young) Researchers" |

| 1st October | | | | Senior Discussant | Junior Discussant |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | **Productivity and trust** | **12:00-13:00** | Giovanni Tumbarello, University of Palermo | Misallocation with Noisy Productivity Signals | Anzelika Zaiceva-Razzolini (online) | Carolina Arboleda Lenis |
| | | | Carolina Arboleda Lenis, Université Paris 1 - Panthéon Sorbonne, CNRS, Centre d'Économie de la Sorbonne | When the Party Is Over: The Effect of Party System Fragmentation on Clientelism | Francesco Salustri (session chair) | Giovanni Tumbarello |
| | | **13:00-14:00** | **Lunch** | | | |
| 2 | **Climate, agriculture and shocks** | **14:00-15:30** | Livia Romani, Sapienza University of Rome | Adoption Regimes of Nature-Positive Agriculture: A Network-Based Approach to Precision Targeting in Kenya | Giuseppe Maggio | Martina Farinella |
| | | | Martina Farinella, Roma Tre University | The compound impacts of floods and droughts on agricultural production: the case of Malawi | Donato Romano (session chair) | Alessandro Giacardi |
| | | | Alessandro Giacardi, Sapienza University of Rome | Remittances & Poverty: intra-household Dynamics Evidence from Senegal | Luca Tiberti | Livia Romani |
| | | **15:30-16:00** | **Coffee break** | | | |
| 3 | **Aid, conflict and public responses** | **16:00-17:30** | Dario De Quarti, Geneva Graduate Institute | Humanitarian Aid and Transport Costs: Evidence from South Sudan | Oliver Bargain | Marco Costantini |
| | | | Gabriele Musacchia, University of Palermo | My Shock Hit Differently: Political Favoritism and Fund Allocation after Hydrogeological Shocks | Marco Letta (session chair) | Dario De Quarti |
| | | | Marco Costantini, University of Florence | Schooling Under Threat: Violence and Children's Schooling in Cox's Bazar Refugee Camps | Furio Rosati | Gabriele Musacchia |
| | | **18:30-20:00** | **Networking Aperitif** | | | |

**2nd October**

| | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 4 | **Gender, health, and cultural norms** | **02/10/2026** | **9:00-10:30** | Cecilia D'Agostini, University of Florence | Social Interactions and Contraceptive Use in Egypt | Rama Dasi Mariani | Mridhula Mohan |
| | | | | Jessica Mancuso, University of Turin & CCA | When free healthcare meets gender norms: The Impact of Public Healthcare on Sex Selection | Bruno Martorano (session chair) | Cecilia D'Agostini |
| | | | | Mridhula Mohan, University of Göttingen | Girls Without Brothers: A Hidden Gender Gap in Childhood Vaccination | Mariapia Mendola | Jessica Mancuso |
| | | **02/10/2026** | **10:30-11:00** | **Coffee break** | | | |
| 5 | **Education, mobility and labour market** | **02/10/2026** | **11:00-12:30** | Ivan Camilo Velasquez Abril, UNU-MERIT | Urban Mobility and Tertiary Education: Evidence from a Cable Car System in Bogota | Pierluigi Montalbano | Jose Gregory Arcaya Caycho |
| | | | | Pegah Khabazrahimi Langroudi, Sapienza University of Rome | When Education Is Not Enough: Motherhood and Female Labour-Market Attachment in Iran | Maria Carmela Lo Bue (session chair) | Ivan Camilo Velasquez Abril |
| | | | | Jose Gregory Arcaya Caycho, University of Nottingham | Windfall Left on the Table: Labour Informality as an Export Barrier in the Age of Trade Wars | Carlo Pietrobelli | Pegah Khabazrahimi Langroudi |
| | | **02/10/2026** | **12:30-13:00** | **Lunch** | | | |
| | | **02/10/2026** | **13:00-14:30** | **Peer-to-Peer Session** | | | |