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Impact of smallness and remoteness on growth: The special case of the Pacific Island countries

Tuesday 22 May 2012 12.30 – 1.30 pm, light lunch will be provided

Crawford School Seminar Series

Dinuk Jayasuriya

Postdoctoral Fellow, Development Policy Centre, Crawford School of Public Policy

Acton Theatre Level 1, J.G. Crawford Building, Lennox Crossing, ANU



The World Bank recently released a Pacific Futures document which emphasises an economic geographic perspective to development in the Pacific. In this seminar Dinuk Jayasuriya attempts to provide evidence for the Bank's position by drawing on his paper (joint with the World Bank) that shows nations that have both small populations and are remote face a significant disadvantage in terms of their growth prospects.

This is important for the Pacific Island countries, which represent 9 out of the top 11 'small' and 'remote' countries. The paper estimates the average per capita growth penalties faced by Pacific

Island countries as between 1.34 and 4.48 percentage points per annum during the period 1995 to 2009. The paper uses cross-sectional OLS and system GMM dynamic panel estimators in its analysis. The results could have important policy implications relating to whether Pacific Island countries should receive aid flows.

Dinuk Jayasuriya is a post-doctoral fellow at the Development Policy Centre. His research interests include program evaluation and Pacific development issues. Prior to this he worked for the World Bank Group in the Pacific. Dinuk's co-author, Vivek Suri, is currently the Lead Economist for the World Bank, Pacific, based in Sydney.

Further information about the Crawford School: crawford.anu.edu.au

Presented by

Crawford School of
Public Policy

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Registration required

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