



Invitation

# Francis Wilson Memorial Lecture

The University of Cape Town, SALDRU and DataFirst invites you to the second annual Francis Wilson Memorial Lecture.

## Topic

How to build – and break – a capable state: structural reform and institution building in the democratic era.

## Date

Tuesday, 16 April 2024

## Time

18:00 SAST

## Venue

Lecture Theatre 3, Kramer Law Building,  
Middle Campus, University of Cape Town

## Format

Hybrid



Guest Speaker  
Mr Trevor Manuel

Mr. Manuel had a distinguished career in public service, including serving as one of South Africa (and the world's) longest-serving Ministers of Finance. During this tenure in government, he also served as Minister in the Presidency and as head of the National Planning Commission. Before 1994, Mr. Manuel was a stalwart of the anti-apartheid movement and an activist.

He is currently the Non-Executive Chairperson of Old Mutual and Trustee of the Allan & Gill Gray Philanthropies. He is also a senior advisor to the Rothschild Group and Deputy Chairperson of Rothschild SA and a board member of several companies.

Amongst many international posts, he has chaired the International Monetary Fund's Development Committee, served as Special Envoy for Development Finance for UN Secretaries-General Kofi Annan and Ban Ki-Moon, and served on the Commission for Africa and the task team on Global Public Goods. In 2011 he became a Co-chair of the Transitional Committee of the Green Climate Fund, a UN fund to help poorer nations combat and adapt to climate change. Mr. Manuel has received numerous honorary doctorates and awards, being named Africa Finance Minister of the Year in 2007.

## REGISTER

### [In-person attendance](#)

Refreshments will be served after the lecture.

### [Register for the webinar](#)

For any queries relating to the lecture email [saldru@uct.ac.za](mailto:saldru@uct.ac.za)



Francis Wilson was the founding Director of the Southern Africa Labour and Development Unit (SALDRU) and of DataFirst, and was among the most pre-eminent economic researchers of his time. His work, combined with a strong social conscience, made him a leading voice for economic justice in apartheid South Africa, exposing the hardship and poverty caused by the migrant labour system and the mining industry. He spearheaded the first nationally representative survey of South Africa and was a fierce proponent of open data.

SALDRU carries out applied empirical research and capacity building with an emphasis on poverty and inequality, labour markets, human capital and social policy. They strive for academic excellence and policy relevance.

DataFirst is an open data service, disseminating over 500 studies to researchers throughout the world. It has run workshops on data curation and data quality for many African national statistics agencies. The unit was the first recipient of the NSTF-South32 award in Data for Research.