

## LUNCHTIME TALK

# IS MICRO BUSINESS WORTH IT?

Micro-entrepreneurship may provide low individual returns, but it may also support households' livelihoods and offer them a means to cope with economic vulnerability. Its evaluation should therefore take into account both context and heterogeneity. Using a four-wave panel of 9,157 Indonesian households, this study offers a quantile estimation of the impact of micro-entrepreneurship on four complementary measures of household-level welfare – income, consumption, household, and total assets. It demonstrates substantial positive but decreasing effects on the four measures, with the highest relative returns for the poorest households. For this category, micro-entrepreneurship primarily provides returns in the form of income, translating into higher relative consumption, and more importantly, into greater relative asset accumulation.

### ABOUT THE SPEAKER



#### **Prof Virginie Vial**

Associate Professor, KEDGE Business School

Virginie Vial is Associate Professor in Development Economics at Kedge Business School, Marceilles, and Associate Research Fellow at Lyons Institute of East Asian Studies (IAO), ENS Lyons, France.

Her research deals with the measurement and determinants of economic growth and human well-being, focusing on factors such as institutions and entrepreneurship, mostly in the context of Indonesia. This focus has led to several publications in the domain of Total Factor Productivity measurement issues, accounts of industrial dynamics, the effect of corruption on firm's performance, and the effect of entrepreneurship on economic welfare in leading journals. Ongoing projects target the effect of entrepreneurship on human development, including women's empowerment, as well as Korean soft power in Southeast Asia.

### CHAIR

#### **Dr Olivia Jensen**

Senior Research Fellow, Institute of Water Policy, Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy

#### **Tuesday, 2 February 2016 12:15pm-1:30pm**

Seminar Room 3-5, Level 3, Manasseh Meyer Building, Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy  
469E Bukit Timah Road, Singapore 259774

Admission is free. Please register at [lkyschoolevents@nus.edu.sg](mailto:lkyschoolevents@nus.edu.sg)

This is a brown bag session and you are welcome to bring your packed lunch.

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