



# Tax avoidance and industrial policy implications

Jonathan Di John (SOAS), Nishal Robb (TIPS), Adeyemi Dipeolu (Govt of Nigeria)

Chaired by Tebogo Makube (the dtic)

09 September 2022 | 10h00 (SAST)

In person event: TIPS offices | 234 Lange Street | Nieuw Mucklenuk | PTA

Online: via Zoom

The African Programme on Rethinking Development Economics (APORDE), in association with TIPS and the dtic, has the pleasure to invite you to the following seminar:

Billions of dollars in tax revenues are lost each year to African governments as a result of tax havens and illicit financial flows. These much needed resources impact on the ability of governments to provide basic services and support industrial development. The presentations and panel discussion will look at issues of tax avoidance and the implications for industrial policy.

## About the Speakers



**Jonathan Di John** is a Senior Lecturer in Political Economy of Development at SOAS, University of London. His research interests include the political economy of industrial policy, taxation and tax reform, conflict and war in mineral abundant economies, and the political economy of governance and growth in oil economies. Dr Di John was a Research Fellow on the Crisis States Research Centre at the London School of Economics from 2001-2010 and Acting Director 2009-10.



**Nishal Robb** joined TIPS in September 2022. He holds an MSc from SOAS, University of London, and BA Honours (Economic History) and BSocSci (Politics, Philosophy and Economics) from the University of Cape Town. Prior to joining TIPS, Nishal worked as an Economist at the Centre for Competition, Regulation and Economic Development (CCRED) at the University of Johannesburg (UJ), and as National Training and Organising Coordinator for Equal Education (EE). He has worked on a range of topics including the history of South Africa's labour-intensive clothing industry; the impact of poor school safety on education; the financialisation of South African firms and implications for structural transformation; illicit financial flows, tax havens and industrial development in South Africa.



**Adeyemi Dipeolu** is Special Adviser to the President on Economic Matters in Nigeria where he provides policy advice on development, macroeconomic, industrial, trade and technological issues. In his current role Dr Dipeolu led technical work on Nigeria's Economic Recovery and Growth Plan 2017-2020, its Economic Sustainability Plan in response to the COVID-19 Pandemic and the National Development Plan 2021-2025. Prior to his current role, Dr. Dipeolu was at the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa where he served variously as Chief of Staff, Director of Capacity Development and Coordinator of the African Trade Policy Centre. While at ECA, Dr Dipeolu led the Secretariat of the High Level Panel on Illicit Financial Flows and conceptualised and supervised the work on a Transformative Industrial Policy for Africa. He had earlier served in the Nigerian Foreign Service where he rose to the rank of Ambassador after serving in Caracas, Addis Ababa, Pretoria and Geneva and as Special Assistant for Economic Policy in the Presidency. Dr. Dipeolu studied at the Universities of Ife, Oxford, Cambridge and South Africa. He was conferred with a Fellowship of the Nigerian Economic Society in 2019.

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