

CBLG BULLETIN OCTOBER/NOVEMBER 2020

# CBLG Research Newsletter

Showcasing great research



JAMES COOK  
UNIVERSITY  
AUSTRALIA

# Townsville

Professor Peter Case

## Improving smallholder farmer technology adoption

### Agricultural Research

CBLG's Professor Peter Case and adjunct senior research fellow Dr Kim Alexander led a project funded by the Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research (ACIAR) to improve the uptake of innovative farm technologies in Laos (2016-20). Adjunct senior research fellows John Connell and Dr Garry Greenhalgh were also closely involved in the design and delivery of this project that involved an international cross-disciplinary team of researchers which included: Dr Magnus Moglia (CSIRO & Swinburne University of Technology), Dr Silva Larson (JCU & University of the Sunshine Coast), Dr Anne Giger-Dray (ETH Zürich) and Dr Tom Jovanovic (independent consultant).

A Participatory Action Research approach was employed to facilitate inclusive community-based, trans-disciplinary research working in villages and involving Lao institutions and local organisations. Mixed methods (survey, key informant interviews, focus groups and Q-methodology) were used to collect data from a large sample of villages in Savannakhet and Champasak provinces in southern Laos. Data from research activities were synthesised into a Research Discussion Tool summarising adoption drivers, enablers, motivators, opportunities and barriers that influence technology uptake. Project Charters with partner institutions in Laos (Department of Technical Extension and Agro-processing, National University of Laos and the National Agriculture & Forestry Research Institute) enabled the co-design of project activities to improve overall adoption of new technologies that were subsequently implemented by Lao colleagues.

The project has seen significant improvements in leadership, motivation, discretionary behaviour and management by those involved in the planning and implementation of the Lao Charters. The research resulted in a number of published outputs (see below) and it is anticipated that the interventions will yield a range of longer-term socio-economic impacts. A policy document intended for submission to the Lao PDR Ministry of Agriculture & Forestry is in preparation and a full report on the project will be published shortly on the ACIAR website.

### Recent Publications

Moglia M, Alexander KS, Larson S, (Giger)-Dray A, Greenhalgh G and Case P (2020). Gendered roles in agrarian transition: a study of lowland rice farming in Lao PDR. *Sustainability* 12(13), 5403.

Larson S, Dray A, Cornioley T, Thephavanh M, Thammavong P, Vorlasan S, Connell JG, Moglia M, Case P, Alexander KS and Perez P (2020). A game-based approach to exploring gender differences in smallholder decisions to change farming practices: white rice production in Laos. *Sustainability* 12(16), 6594.

Alexander K, Case P, Greenhalgh G, Larson S, Moglia M (2020) Smallholder farmer decision-making and technology adoption in southern Lao PDR: Opportunities and constraints. ASEM/2014/052. Canberra: ACIAR.



# Townsville

Jamie Fellows

## Law at a critical juncture: the US Army's command responsibility trials at Manila 1945–1947

The US Army's war crimes trials of the hundreds of Japanese military personnel tried at Manila from 1945 to 1947 represent an opportunity to gain valuable insights into Allied 'justice' at a time when many aspects of war crimes jurisprudence were at a formative stage. Specifically, the Manila trials offer a unique portal into the jurisprudence of the doctrine of command responsibility. The Trial of Lieutenant-General Takeshi Kono in April 1946 was typical of the way that US military commissions in Manila approached criminal responsibility of senior Japanese officers. Kono was charged—and later sentenced to death—for crimes committed by his troops against Filipino civilians during the Japanese occupation of the Philippine Islands. Many of the atrocities for which Kono was charged occurred on the island of Panay as part of the fierce fighting between the Imperial Japanese Army and local guerrilla groups. One of the controversial elements of this case was the US military Commission found Kono criminally liable for atrocities committed by soldiers under his command even though there was no evidence proving that Kono intended, ordered, or knew that atrocities were committed. Evidence submitted by the defence shows that Kono was not present at the time of the killings and, even if he had been, may not have been in a position to exercise 'effective control' over his troops in the field. Kono was convicted, it seems, primarily due to the rank he occupied. Convictions based on rank or position a person occupies are problematic. The prosecution must maintain a high evidentiary burden to prove the elements of the offence and war crimes trials are no exception to this requirement.

### Recent Publication

Fellows, Jamie (2020) Law at a critical juncture: the US Army's command responsibility trials at Manila 1945–1947. *American Journal of Legal History*, 60 (2). pp. 192-222.

Dr. Li Xian Liu

## Antecedents of Equity Fund Performance: A Contingency Perspective

A rich body of literature on equity fund performance has discovered several key antecedents to performance, including, most notably, fund size, fund family size, net cash flow, various fees and expenses. However, prior empirical studies have revealed mixed results, and the reasons for the inconclusive results have not been adequately addressed in the literature. This study tires to clarify controversial findings reported prior empirical studies by adopting the contingency theory approach.

Contingency theory is widely used in organizational studies. This theory advocates that there is no single best way of organizing as organizations are open systems that need careful management to satisfy and balance internal needs and to adapt to environmental circumstances, achieving alignment and good fit between the two. Instead, particular aspects of each individual organizational system and its effectiveness will depend on specific contextual factors of the organization. Therefore, the contingency theory suggests that there are specific situational or contextual factors that can affect the direct relationships between independent and dependent variables in the study of organizational performance.

In this study, we borrow this underlying principle of contingency theory of performance management to investigate how the context of equity fund management might help explain the contradictory findings of prior studies on fund performance noted. More specifically, we developed a conceptual model that examines how the expense ratio and management compensation as contextual factors interact with the fund size, fund family size, and net cash flow to affect equity fund performance. The empirical analyses were based on panel data including 690 equity funds in China over a 7-year period from 2009–2015. The results show that the expense ratio and management compensation moderate the effects of the fund family size and net cash flow on fund performance, and management compensation also moderates the relationship between the fund size and fund performance.

### Recent Publication

Liu, Li Xian, F Jiang, J Li, and OA Farooque, 2020. Antecedents of Equity Fund Performance: A Contingency Perspective. Accepted for publication in *Review of Pacific Basin Financial Markets and Policies*.

# Townsville and Cairns

Associate Professor Sizhong Sun

## The Effect of Microcredit on Rural Households' Social Network in Vietnam

Social network plays an important role in helping the poor escape poverty trap in low-income countries, for example through providing peer supports in time of need. Given its vital role, it is important to have a more comprehensive understanding on the impact of anti-poverty programs, including microcredit, on social network. Although microcredit targets both financial and, more importantly, social returns, it is unclear in the existing literature whether participating in microcredit programs fosters social network.

Filling this gap, this study aims to quantitatively test whether microcredit improves the social network of rural households in Vietnam. Specifically, using microcredit borrowing to fund its family business, a representative household is engaged in a two-stage decision-making process, namely to first choose a social network and then consumption to maximize its life-time utility. Utility maximization yields an optimal social network as a function of microcredit borrowing, which is estimated using the VARHS dataset from 2008 to 2016 in Vietnam. We find that being a client of microcredit lenders, the borrower can improve the quality and size of its social network via regular group meetings and non-financial supports from the lenders. Through such activities, the rural household can strengthen its reputation and make more close friends.

Given the positive role of microcredit, microcredit providers need to overcome the lack of "physical collateral", a problem that the rural poor generally has. Microcredit providers can adopt long-term lending strategies that are based upon the social network of their clients, namely to accept the "social collateral", in addition to any "physical collateral". In such a way, the poor households will have better chance to access finance. Successful use of microcredit loans helps them further improve the size and quality of their social network. Eventually, it is likely for those poor rural households to break the poverty trap.

### Recent Publication

Phan, Chung Thanh, Sizhong Sun, Zhang-Yue Zhou & Rabiul Beg (2020) Does Microcredit Improve Rural Households' Social Network? Evidence from Vietnam, *The Journal of Development Studies*, 56:10, 1947-1963, DOI: 10.1080/00220388.2020.1725485.

Dr. Janice Scarinci, Dr. Thirumaran, and Associate Professor Josephine Pryce

## A New World after COVID-19: Employable Skills in Tourism, Hospitality and Events

According to Australia's Higher Education Standards Framework 2015 (TEQSA, 2015) the learning outcomes for a course (degree) must include generic skills which are deemed necessary to employment. The generic skills that are important to employment in the Tourism, Hospitality and Events Industry have been identified in numerous studies in the literature. Some studies have examined the most common attributes that were identified by employers prior to the Pandemic as being communication, leadership and teamwork skills (Oliver, 2011; Oliver & Jorre de St Jorre 2018).

COVID-19 has changed the landscape of the Tourism, Hospitality and Events Industry Worldwide. This study seeks to determine if the employable skills needed in the Tourism, Hospitality and Events Industry in Australia and Singapore have changed since the Pre-COVID Era. The implications of this research impacts tertiary educational institutions who now need to address changes to employability skills in the curriculum so as to equip graduates for the new Post-COVID era.

A range of positions were chosen for investigation – from frontline to back-of-house and from junior to executive levels. Fifteen positions were chosen and for each position 20 job descriptions were collected from Australia, and 20 job descriptions from Singapore, resulting in 40 job descriptions for each position for a total of 600 job description being analysed. This will allow for a comparative study to be conducted across a range of jobs in the Tourism, Hospitality and Events Industry and across the two countries. This will enable the researchers to compare and contrast the skills and qualifications being sought for each job position in Australia with Singapore, respectively, and pre- and post-COVID.

The researchers are using a qualitative approach and with NVivo software are analysing the skills that are being sought for each of the job titles in Australia and Singapore. The intent has been to determine the similarities and differences between employability skills needed in each country and to ascertain the appropriateness of the current curriculum. By developing a map of the skills that emerge from the job descriptions for Australia and Singapore and by comparing these findings with the literature, information about the future trajectory of the curriculum is becoming evident. An employable skills framework is being utilized to compare our results to the previous literature.

With the onset of COVID-19, the researchers are in position to collect data for pre- and post-COVID and capture changes in the employability skills because of COVID. Of interest will be any skills that have emerged because of the COVID situation.

# Cairns and Singapore

Dr. Diane Jarvis

## Funding: Developing water resources within Northern Australia

Dr. Diane Jarvis been awarded to new sub-contracts to work with CSIRO on multi-disciplinary projects related to developing water resources within Northern Australia, building on previous work I have done with CSIRO on the river catchments for the Fitzroy in WA, Mitchell in QLD and 3 rivers around Darwin in NT. This funding is \$15k for work in 2020 in QLD and then \$40k for work in 2021 on the Roper River catchment in the NT. Her contribution to this work is to provide economic analysis of the potential socio-economic benefits from better using the water resources for irrigated agriculture.

This latest successful funding is in addition to the \$30k she received a little earlier this year for a project being led by QUT working with the OGBR of the Queensland Government, which is funding through to Sept 2021.

### Recent Publication

Pert P, Hill R, Robinson C, Jarvis D and Davies J (2020) Is investment in Indigenous land and sea management going to the right places to provide multiple co-benefits? *Australasian Journal of Environmental Management*, DOI:10.1080/14486563.2020.1786861.

Kubiszewski I, Zakariyya N, Costanza R and Jarvis D (2020) Resilience of self-reported life satisfaction: a case study of who conforms to set-point theory in Australia. *PLoS ONE*, 15 (8), Article: e0237161,

## Associate Professor Pengji Wang and Dr. Breda McCarthy

### What do people “like” on Facebook? Content marketing strategies used by retail bank brands in Australia and Singapore

Previous research has yet to examine the effectiveness of social media content strategies in the financial services sector. This study advances knowledge of content strategies used by retail bank brands by examining how the type of message, the post format and the source of the content influence customer engagement independently

and interactively. A total of 541 posts from the Facebook pages of ten banks in Australia and Singapore are analysed using multiple regressions. Results suggest that in the Singaporean sample, persuasive-only content and mixed content lead to more likes and emoji responses, whereas informative-only content is effective in generating comments and questions. Furthermore, videos and third-party sources strengthen the relationship between informative-only content and customer engagement. In the Australian sample, informative-only content and mixed content are more effective than persuasive content in engaging customers. The findings support an integrated view of content design and highlight the importance of adjusting the content strategy to suit the utilitarian nature of banking services and engage high-involvement customers.

### Recent Publication

Wang, Pengji, and McCarthy, Breda (2020) What do people “like” on Facebook? Content marketing strategies used by retail bank brands in Australia and Singapore. *Australasian Marketing Journal*. (In Press)

## Associate Professor Jacob Wood and Dr. Simona Azzali (LB5235 Student Project)

### Plastic Marine Waste and its Potential for Indonesian Indigenous Communities

The management of marine waste is an increasingly complex issue facing the world today. Our study provides an interesting take on the issue of marine waste by examining how Indonesian indigenous communities can deal with plastic marine pollution. While there is an obvious need for mitigating plastic use, for effective legislative policies regulating plastic waste management, and to do more to develop sustainable waste management practices; there are also opportunities for indigenous communities to take an innovative approach by using plastic waste in a manner that drives economic development from both non-market and neoliberal theoretical ideologies. As part of this assessment, alongside Indonesian examples we include examples of plastic re-use by indigenous communities in the Philippines and Australia. Moreover, our study highlights some of the areas in which this is being done in the fields of art and infrastructure development.

### Recent Publication

Wood, J., Paturi, S., Puri, P., Jakobsen, E. S., Shankar, S., Zejden, P. & Azzali, S. (2020). Plastic Marine Waste and its Potential for Indonesian Indigenous Communities. *eTropic: electronic journal of studies in the tropics*, 19(1), 167-184.

# ADRE – HDRs

David Underwood

## Plain Packaging and Its Impacts on Smoking Behaviour

Tobacco use is the leading cause of preventable deaths worldwide and costs the global economy up to \$1.8 trillion (purchasing power parity) annually in health and economic loss. Many policies have been employed globally, for example tax, to control tobacco consumption. Perhaps the most controversial and innovative of these in recent years has been the implementation of tobacco 'plain packaging' policy, and Australia is one of the nations that took a lead in this aspect, introducing the 2011 Tobacco Plain Packaging Act (TPP Act).

Implemented in 2012 in unison with a change in the requirements of graphic and text health warnings required to be displayed on tobacco goods, the TPP Act's purpose is to eliminate every form of branding and promotion from all tobacco products legally sold in Australia. The policy also removes any colours, logos, and trademarks, while changing the required packaging to a uniform olive-green colour. Its long-term objective, as set out in the TPP Act, is to lower initiation, increase cessation, and reduce tobacco relapse, thus increasing the general level of public health.

David Underwood, Sizhong Sun, and Riccardo Welters evaluated the effectiveness of plain packaging policy in Australia and discovered a substitution effect, utilizing a difference-in-differences (DiD) research design with country-level annual data and New Zealand as a control group. Specifically, it is found that, responding to the policy, smokers appeared to switch from more expensive to cheaper cigarettes, reducing their overall tobacco expenditure and expenditure intensity. However, as smoking becomes less costly, smokers consumed more cigarettes. Such substitution undermines the effectiveness of the plain packaging policy, and implies that policy setting in the future, either for tobacco control or regulation of other products such as alcohol, needs to be more careful.

The study, based on David Underwood's Honour thesis, has been accepted for publication by Nature Human Behaviour. David Underwood graduated from CBLG, JCU in 2018 with a first-class honour degree, supervised by Associate Professors Sizhong Sun and Riccardo Welters. He currently works in Bloomberg in Sydney.



Photo: David Underwood at Mount Everest base camp.

# Grants and Library Updates

## Grants - Dr. Rachel Hay (\$13,500) Reef & Rainforest Centre

### Influencing agriculture practice behaviour change and trust frameworks.

The ecologically-determined water quality improvement targets for the Great Barrier Reef can only be met with significant improvement in farm management practices. Numerous programs over many years, utilising a variety of approaches, have worked with land managers and representative farmer groups, seeking to achieve high levels of uptake of recommended farming practices. However, these have only met with low-moderate success. There has been significant work encouraging and facilitating behaviour and practice change in recent years, including through, but certainly not limited to, the NESP TWQ Hub. Programs encouraging behaviour and practice change are set to remain a feature of contemporary reef funding programs. Thus it is timely to coordinate a synthesis of learnings in this domain. Increasing understanding of, and improving trust frameworks and behaviour change of land managers will lead to improved water quality to the Great Barrier Reef. Understanding the impetus, benefits and barriers of behaviour change for agricultural practice is a large step in improving water quality to the Great Barrier Reef.

Chief Investigators: Rachel Hay, Aaron Davis, Allan Dale, Norman Duke, Suzanne Long, Bruce Taylor, Marie Vitelli and Julie Carmody with the help of Damien Burrows, Peter Thorburn and Jim Smart (College of Business, Law & Governance, TropWATER, Cairns Institute, Reef and Rainforest Research Centre, Commonwealth Scientific & Industrial Research Organisation, College of Science & Engineering and Griffith University)

## Grants: ARC EOI process for 2022 Future Fellows, DECRA and Discovery grants

Please note that ARC has moved the closing dates for DECRA and Future Fellowships earlier than previous years to Nov/Dec 2020. Closing dates for 2020/2021 are:

DECRA – 25th November 2020

Future Fellowship – 9th December 2020

Linkage grant round 3 – 17th Dec 2020

Discovery grant – 24th Feb 2021

Discovery Indigenous – 17th March 2021

For Future Fellowships EOIs whereby chief investigators are to:

1. Submit form by no later than 28th September 2020 for an assessment by ADR's and HoAG of the project proposal and research team (FORM\_2022\_EOI Form ARC JCU.docx). Feedback will be promptly provided and a recommendation on whether the aspirate should proceed given, along with suggestions to maximise success.

For DECRA EOIs whereby chief investigators are to:

1. Submit form by no later than 28th September 2020 for an assessment by ADR's and HoAG of the project proposal and research team (FORM\_2022\_EOI Form ARC JCU.docx). Feedback will be promptly provided and a recommendation on whether the aspirate should proceed given, along with suggestions to maximise success.

For Discovery and Linkage grants :

1. Submit form to ADR's for evaluation for Discovery grants by no later than 29th November and for ARC Linkage grants by no later than the 2nd October. Again suggestions for improvement and a recommendation to proceed will be promptly provided.

## CBLG Library Liaison - Alice Luetchford

### Open Access

Open Access Week 2020 will be held from 19-25 October. This year's theme is Open with Purpose: Taking action to build structural equity and inclusion, highlighting the importance of equity and inclusivity in open education.

Open Access to information – the free, immediate, online access to the results of scholarly research, and the right to use and re-use those results as you need – has the power to transform the way research and scientific inquiry are conducted. It has direct and widespread implications for academia, medicine, science, industry, and for society as a whole (Shockey, 2018).

Open Access communication of research outputs maximizes the distribution, potential usage and outcomes of research findings. Open Access can make the difference between being cited and not cited. The easier it is to access a work, the more likely it is to be downloaded, read and cited.

Open Access Week will be celebrated internationally and JCU Library will be showcasing a variety of Open Access projects and Open Access champions.

# Industry Engagement

## Dr Hera Oktadiana and the late Prof Philip Pearce

### International Tourism Webinar Series

Tourism staff of James Cook University Australia, Hera Oktadiana, Ph.D, CHE and the late Professor Philip L. Pearce were keynote speakers at Tourism Webinar Series, organised by School of Hospitality and Tourism, Pelita Harapan University. The topics of the webinars were Sustainable Tourism and Digital Culture and E-Tourism (People and Technology). School of Hospitality and Tourism, Pelita Harapan University, is one of the top education institutions in Indonesia.

Philip Pearce presented his speech titled “Sustainable Tourism: A Focus on Managing Tourist Behaviour” on Monday, 20th July 2020 (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=x0dY2AKfIMs>).

Hera Oktadiana, who delivered her speech on 29th July 2020 presented “Tourism Technology and Tourists’ Experiences” (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=g6-4z7DMTgg>).

The Webinars were attended by almost 1,000 participants from several countries such as Australia, Singapore, Iran, and China. The participants joined the sessions via Zoom and YouTube live.

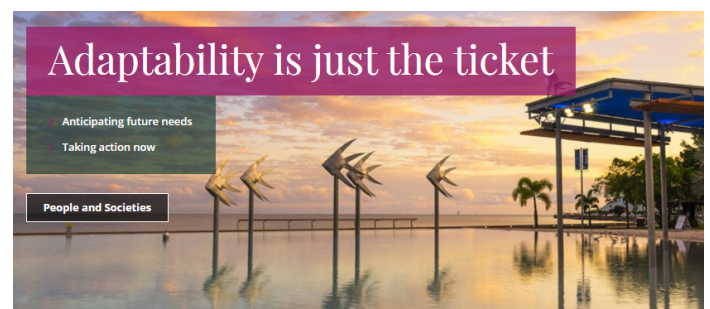
A former Ph.D student of the late Philip Pearce, Dr Jing (Lydia) Li, together with Philip Pearce and Hera Oktadiana published a paper in Annals of Tourism Research. Hera and Philip also contributed a book chapter for Routledge Handbook of Tourism Cities.

Journal Article: Li, J., Pearce, P. L., & Oktadiana, H. (2020). Can digital-free tourism build character strengths?. Annals of Tourism Research, 85, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.annals.2020.103037>

Book Chapter: Oktadiana, H., & Pearce, P. L. (2020). Tourism in ASEAN Cities. In A. M. Morisson & J. A. Coca-Stefaniak (Eds.). Routledge handbook of tourism cities (pp. 462-476). Routledge. <https://doi.org/10.4324/9780429244605-32>



## Dr Janice Scarinci and Dr Denis Tolkach



### Adaptability Is Just The Ticket

The cancellation of travel plans and the introduction of restrictions due to COVID-19 has left the tourism and hospitality industry grappling with rapidly changing circumstances. For World Tourism Day, JCU's Dr Janice Scarinci and Dr Denis Tolkach, and JCU tourism student and owner/operator of Bad Fishy Jet Boating and Cairns Boat Hire Nikki Guimelli, share their thoughts on how COVID-19 will alter the needs of the tourism industry. For more information on their fantastic interview, please refer to the following link: <https://www.jcu.edu.au/this-is-uni/people-and-societies/articles/adaptability-is-just-the-ticket>



## CITBA's International Conference on Business, Economics, Management, and Sustainability (BEMAS) - July 2-3, 2021

### Community Empowerment, Sustainable Cities, and Transformative Economies

#### Key Dates

When: 02-03 July, 2021

Where: Virtual platform

Abstract due: 01 December 2020

Notification on abstracts due: 05 January 2021

Full paper due: 20 February 2021

Notification of acceptance: 20 March 2021

Cancellation deadline: 31 March 2021

Final version due: 15 April 2021

Following the successful international Urban Thinkers Campus (UTC) event in 2019 organised by the Centre for International Trade and Business in Asia (CITBA) at James Cook University-Australia, the Centre is pleased to announce the International Conference on Business, Economics, Management, and Sustainability (BEMAS) on the 02-03 July, 2021. The Centre for International Trade and Business in Asia (CITBA) aims to create a platform for the academics, researchers, practitioners and students to disseminate their research findings with other global experts.

The orthodox methods of addressing external risks, climate change adaptation plans, and sustainable economic growth in cities are no longer adequate. These methods, so far, have not only ignored the ongoing structural changes associated with economic development but also failed to account for evolving industries' composition and the emergence of new comparative advantages and skills. Particularly, vulnerable communities and exposed areas, particularly in urban areas, that tend to experience higher susceptibility to external risks (such as climate change, natural disasters, and public health emergencies) have been largely ignored in incremental adaptation plans. Vulnerable communities and areas not only require different adaptive responses to climate risk but also possess unlocked adaptive capacity that can motivate different patterns of sustainable development to achieve the goals of the 2030 Agenda. It is essential, therefore, to view transformative growth and fundamental reorientation of economic resources as integral parts of the solution.

Social disorganisation and vulnerability are other undesired outcomes of the unpredictable and widespread external economic shocks. This is due to a sudden and tough competition between members of

society to acquire precious resources, most of which may be depleted during unprecedented events such as natural disasters or pandemics resulting in an even more chaotic and disorganised conditions.

The conference tracks are:

1. Urban Planning, Public Spaces, Sustainable Economic Growth
2. Understanding Principles of Resilient Economies
3. Society and Community Based Initiatives in the Time of Crisis
4. Business, Management and Sustainable Path to 2030 Agenda
5. Sustainable Marketing, Community, and the Planet

### Author's Guideline

#### Review Process

CITBA requires that all submitted conference papers go through a blind peer-review process and evaluation based on originality, research depth and quality, and relevance to the theme of the conference (Community Empowerment, Sustainable Cities, and Transformative Economies) and/or the other research streams/tracks listed in this call.

We invite full research papers, practitioner papers, research notes, scoping/systematic literature review papers, and case studies. Papers that are accepted following the review process, and are presented in the conference will appear in the conference proceeding. Please check the Author guidelines for more details.

#### Presentation format

All presentations are virtual for this conference. Presentations are either live stream or pre-recorded video presentations. Please note that pre-recorded presentations are to be created by the authors. Further information on creating the video will be sent following registration. The length of live stream or pre-recorded presentations should not be longer than 25 minutes.

#### Paper format

Accepted full research papers, practitioner papers, scoping/systematic literature review papers, and case studies should not be longer than 12 pages in length. Accepted research notes should not be longer than 9 pages. Page limits do not include references, tables/figures, or cover page.

General in-text styles: Times New Roman 12 point, regular, Line spacing 1.5, One line space for new paragraph (do not indent first line of paragraph), Footnotes: Times New Roman 10 point, regular

### Conference Proceeding

**Conference proceeding will be published with Springer.**

## Book Series: Advances in Research on the Tropics

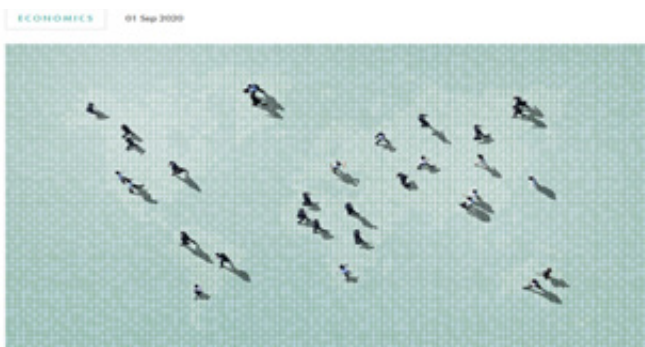
### Taylor & Francis: Routledge

To be edited by A/P Jacob Wood, Dr. K. Thirumaran, and A/P Taha Chaiechi, the "Advances in Research on the Tropics" book series provides a detailed appraisal of the Tropics. With a focus on business, economic development, governance, tourism, and international trade this book series captures the complexities and heterogeneous nature of one of the fastest growing regions in the world. Situated between the Tropics of Cancer and Capricorn the countries that make up the Tropics are largely developing in nature. The "Advances in Research on the Tropics" book series uncovers the economies, political institutions, and socio-economic conditions of the region and the growing pains that many countries face. With 1 in every 2 people expected to live in the Tropics by 2050, the region is set to play an increasingly important global role. The "Advances in Research on the Tropics" book series provides both critical theoretical and practical policy-based content for academics, business leaders, and institutional bodies alike.

The first book in the series will be "Business, Industry and Trade in the Tropics" with a call for papers coming out in the next few weeks. At this early stage we are hoping for a publication date of mid- to late-2021. This is the first book in a new 5-book series, although preliminary conversations with the publisher suggest that there may well be an opportunity to extend this book series well beyond the initial 5 books. Further information will be made available soon.

## External Engagement: Associate Professor Taha Chaiechi

### Media Release: The Missing 10 Percent



A/Prof Taha Chaiechi is one of the invited experts who has been

interviewed for the above article published in INTHEBLACK magazine published by CPA Australia's flagship publication. It is Australia's most-widely circulating monthly business magazine (150,000+ circulations), and it features interviews with strategic business leaders from Australia and around the world.

You can read the full article here. <https://www.intheblack.com/articles/2020/09/01/incomplete-economy-missing-10-per-cent>

### Media Release: Covid-19's Continuing Economic Impact



A/Prof Taha Chaiechi gives another interview 6 months after her first interview about COVID-Economy. With key statistics of June Quarter released on 1 Sep by the RBA, Taha shares insights about the continues effect of pandemic on Australian Economy, and it is not all bad news.

You can read the full article here. <https://www.jcu.edu.au/this-is-uni/people-and-societies/articles/covid-19s-continuing-impact-on-our-economy>

### Invited Keynote Speaker: Covid-Economy

A/Prof Taha Chaiechi was invited by the MIT-World Peace University to give a presentation about COVID-Economy. As one of the Chief Speakers of this webinar series, Taha's presentation focused on "COVID- Economy: Hibernation, Reset, and Recovery". The presentation was held on 25 September via Zoom channel.

## Contact us

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