

PRESENTATIONS

CIFREM SECOND YEAR DOCTORAL STUDENTS

Thursday, 07 October 2010
3.00 PM – DISA seminar room
Faculty of Economics
Via Inama, 5
Trento

OPENING THE POMEGRANATE: ANALYSIS OF THE GROWTH PATTERNS OF ITALIAN MUTUAL BANKS FROM 2004 TO 2009

Abstract

Small Italian banks have experienced substantial growth since the mid-1990s. Some authors have argued that small banks benefited, at least during the period 2000 to 2006, from the consolidation process of larger banks; others have stressed the role of their specific lending strategy, which is based on their close relationship with clients and their ability to use soft information both to screen and price. Moreover, small banks have supported local economies during the recent financial crisis. Among small banks, mutual banks (*banche di credito cooperativo*) performed particularly well in terms of expanding the value of their business and increasing the number of both their members and branches. Despite the interest in mutual banks, motivated by their nonprofit and local character, there is little evidence about their heterogeneity, which is important and increasing. In this paper we first analyse the growth of mutual banks in terms of lending, considering them as a homogenous group. Then we cluster mutual banks according to three main components: structure, relationship lending and performance. The next step will be the analysis of the growth patterns of each cluster.

Speaker: Ivana Catturani - CIFREM Ph.D candidate

INCOME DISTRIBUTION DYNAMICS AND POVERTY TRAPS IN VIETNAM

Abstract

The theories of multiple equilibria in income distribution dynamics provide the basis for the poverty trap hypothesis. The lower and upper local stable equilibria results from different levels of economic growth that can be tracked at individual, household, region, nation, and international scales. The low level equilibrium of income dynamic processes occurs in the group at the lowest level of development, and this group is under a threshold that prevents it from escaping from underdevelopment or poverty traps. Based on theories and diversified empirical evidence, this paper examines the existence of multiple equilibria of income distribution movements and poverty in Vietnam. The study uses the three latest Vietnam Household Living Standard Surveys in 2004, 2006, and 2008. During this period, Vietnam economy experienced inconsistent changes in income distribution and poverty reduction across areas, regions, and sectors of the economy. The study demonstrates a nonlinear relationship in income distribution. However, the existence of an upper equilibrium is more significant than a lower one.

Speaker: Vu Minh Hien – CIFREM Ph.D candidate