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## INVITATION

### **Third Annual Financial Economics Workshop Keynote Speaker: Atif Mian (Princeton University) 25 – 26 November 2015 – Pretoria**

Following the first two successful workshops on financial economics, Economic Research Southern Africa is delighted to announce our third annual workshop on financial economics to be hosted at The Farm Inn (<http://farminn.co.za>) in Pretoria on 25 and 26 November 2015. Participants will have the opportunity to attend the South African Reserve Bank's high profile conference on Financial Stability on 25 November 2015 where a number of places have been reserved for ERSA delegates.

The workshop is an occasion for South African researchers to present and discuss their research in the broader area of financial economics. It aims to bring together researchers and policy makers and has a focus on South Africa and Africa as a whole. Researchers are thus encouraged to submit both theoretical and empirical work.

This year's workshop will put special emphasis on **early stage** work, so the submission of research proposals or extended abstracts of work that is currently ongoing is particularly encouraged. Since the early stage of a research project are often the most crucial one, the workshop provides researchers with feedback on their research ideas and research agendas rather than full papers. Places will be quite limited this time and active participation in the workshop – either as presenter or discussant is required.

We are fortunate to have Professor Atif Mian from Princeton University as keynote speaker. He will deliver his keynote in a special ERSA session at the SARB's financial stability conference on 25 November.

### **The deadline for paper submission 01 October 2015.**

ERSA covers economy travel, transfers and accommodation expenses for a limited number of participants from South African institutions. While the workshop is free of charge, including breakfast and lunch, delegates are expected to pay for any other expenses incurred. Places are limited, and funding to attend the workshop is entirely at the discretion of the workshop organizers.

Flights cannot be cancelled, and any changes are at the delegate's own expense and responsibility. Please email [workshops@econrsa.org](mailto:workshops@econrsa.org) if you would like to attend and for paper submission. *For more information on the Financial Economics Workshop, please contact Co-Pierre Georg at [cogeorg+ersa@gmail.com](mailto:cogeorg+ersa@gmail.com)*

## Biographical information on our keynote speaker

**Atif Mian** is Theodore A. Wells '29 Professor of Economics and Public Affairs at Princeton University, and Director of the Julis-Rabinowitz Center for Public Policy and Finance at the Woodrow Wilson School. He holds a bachelors degree in Mathematics with Computer Science and Ph.D. in Economics from MIT. Prior to joining Princeton in 2012 he taught at the University of California, Berkeley and the University of Chicago Booth School of business. Professor Mian's work studies the connections between finance and the macro economy. His latest book, *[House of Debt](#)*, with Amir Sufi builds upon powerful new data to describe how debt precipitated the Great Recession. The book explains why debt continues to threaten the global economy, and what needs to be done to fix the financial system. *House of Debt* is [critically acclaimed](#) by *The New York Times*, *Financial Times*, *The Wall Street Journal*, *The Economist*, and *The Atlantic* among others. Professor Mian's research has appeared in top academic journals, including the *American Economic Review*, *Econometrica*, *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, *Journal of Finance*, *Review of Financial Studies* and *Journal of Financial Economics*.