

## Abstracts

### Jayati Ghosh, “Financial crises and the economic conditions of women”\*

This paper examines issues of women’s employment and decent work in the context of the ongoing global financial and economic crisis. Recognizing that financial and economic crises affect men and women workers differently for various reasons, it considers the implications of the crisis for women workers in formal, informal and unpaid activities. Analysis of some specific regional crises shows how crisis response strategies can have different impacts depending on how gender sensitive they are, and how in turn policy responses that take into account the differentiated impact on women workers are more likely to result in sustained and equitable recovery. Thus, the macro and sectoral policy responses to the East Asian crisis of 1997-98 as well as the ongoing crisis in the eurozone have adverse effects for women workers and consequent implications for the macroeconomics of adjustment and recovery. But the examples of Sweden in the 1990s and Argentina in the 2000s show that strategies that try to protect or enhance working conditions for women can be developed as part of a broader macroeconomic policy framework that is consistent with fairly rapid economic recovery and impressive subsequent growth performance.



The analysis in the paper therefore shows that better conditions for women as paid and unpaid workers—or even simply preventing worsening conditions for them in the aftermath of crisis—requires more than specific targeted and directed programmes. Micro-interventions need to be situated in broader macroeconomic and sectoral policies that emphasize employment creation, universal access to good quality essential social services such as health and education and various forms of social protection. Obviously, for such policies to be viable, significant re-regulation of finance may be required to prevent destabilising and volatile movements of capital that undermine the effectiveness of stable decent employment creation.

\*Ghosh’s paper is already published “Financial crises and their gendered employment impact: Emerging trends and past experiences” in ed. Rania Antonopoulos, *Gender Perspectives and Gender Impacts of the Global Economic Crisis*, Routledge, 2013.

#### Books:

*Asia rebounds but sustained recovery needs a new growth trajectory: A synthesis study of the effects of the global financial crisis on the Asia-Pacific Region*, UNDP Regional Centre in Asia and the Pacific, Colombo, November 2009 (with Ajay Chhibber and T. Palanivel) [http://www2.undprcc.lk/resource\\_centre/pub\\_pdfs/P1116.pdf](http://www2.undprcc.lk/resource_centre/pub_pdfs/P1116.pdf)

*Industrialization of China and India: The impacts on the world economy*, Routledge (Taylor and Francis) 2013 (volume co-edited with Nobuharu Yokokawa and Robert E. Rowthorn)

*India and the international economy*, edited volume, Oxford University Press New Delhi in collaboration with ICSSR, forthcoming 2015.