Understanding the resource curse (or blessing) within countries: Theory, empirical challenges and an application

Presenter: Dr David Fleming
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This seminar will present the theory and methods that can be used to understand the impact of mining development on the economic growth of regions. It will propose that we separate the impacts of mining from the macroeconomic effects on regions surrounding mining operations.

This discussion will be based on the ‘resource curse’ hypotheses and its implications for regional development. A comparison of the usefulness of ex-ante methods such as I-O models, and ex-post specifications, such as econometric growth models, will be discussed. The seminar will conclude with implications and insights for future research.

Dr David Fleming is a research economist at the CSIRO, where he collaborates with the ‘Resources in Society’ research group. He obtained his PhD in Applied Economics from the Pennsylvania State University and has lived in Australia since 2012. Dr Fleming has studied a variety of issues relating to economic development, and his research has been published in multiple journals such as the Australian Journal of Agricultural and Resource Economics, Nature and Resources Policy. As part of his research in mining, he has studied the local economic effects of unconventional gas development, the job spill-over of mining expansions and the resource curse.