CEBRAP-IHD Project Workshop, 8-11 October 2013, São Paulo, Brazil

A Report on the proceedings

The Brazil and India teams of the CEBRAP-IHD-IDRC project on Labour Market Inequality met for a workshop from 8-11 October 2013 at CEBRAP, São Paulo, Brazil.

The aim of the meeting was to intensively discuss work in progress, and to plan collaborative papers to be written in the October 2013 to February 2014 period.

The members present from the Brazilian team were: Alexandre de Freitas Barbosa, Eduardo Luiz Cury, Fábio Tatei, Ian Prates, Maria Cristina Cacciamali and Tânia de Toledo Lima. Members of the Indian team included: Gerry Rodgers, Janine Rodgers, Nandini Nayak and Vidhya Sounderarajan.

The workshop gave team members the opportunity to discuss concepts and research methods for historical and econometric comparative analysis of labour markets across the two countries.

- Discussions were held on alternative definitions of key concepts used across the two countries with the intent of arriving at a strategy for comparative analysis (the concepts discussed included 'informality and labour status', 'rural and urban sectors of the economy' and 'social protection').
- In depth discussions were also held on national level survey data available in the two countries, with a view to sharpen comparative analysis.
- Over the next four months, the Brazilian and Indian research teams will collaborate on writing two papers.
 - The first will present a historical analysis of labour market institutions and welfare regimes in the two countries and discuss their implications for contemporary labour market inequality.
 - The second paper will draw on econometric analysis to present comparative trends in inequality in the two countries, particularly since the 1980s. This paper will include sections inter alia, on labour status (ex: casual/regular, registered/unregistered) and labour market segmentation, social and occupational mobility, gender, race, caste, and regional disparity as factors that impact inequality within Brazil and India.

The four day workshop concluded with critical comments on project draft papers by Adalberto Cardoso.