



**AKI**  
Angelo King Institute  
for Economic and Business Studies

**Book Launch: *Social Welfare Functions and Development: Measurement and Policy Applications*  
by Prof. Nanak Kakwani and Dr. Hyun Hwa So**

The De La Salle University-Angelo King Institute for Economic and Business Studies (DLSU-AKI) will be hosting a Book Launch entitled "Social Welfare Functions and Development: Measurement and Policy Applications" by Prof. Nanak Kakwani and Dr. Hyun Hwa So. The launch will be held on **June 21, 2017** (Wednesday), **10:45am at 4th floor, Henry Sy Sr. Hall, De La Salle University.**

The launch will feature highlights from the book—proposed measures of social tensions, relative deprivation between groups, shared prosperity and food insecurity, social opportunity functions, and social rate of return—followed by discussion on techniques appropriate to the analysis of inclusive development.

**About the book:**

Nanak Kakwani and Hyun Hwa Son make use of social welfare functions to derive indicators of development relevant to specific social objectives, such as poverty- and inequality-reduction. Arguing that the measurement of development cannot be value-free, the authors assert that if indicators of development are to have policy relevance, they must be assessed on the basis of the social objectives in question.

This study develops indicators that are sensitive to both the level and the distribution of individuals' capabilities. The idea of the social welfare function, defined in income space, is extended to the concept of the social well-being function, defined in capability space.

Through empirical analysis from selected developing countries, with a particular focus on Brazil, the authors shape techniques appropriate to the analysis of development in different dimensions. The focus of this evidence-based policy analysis is to evaluate alternative policies affecting the capacities of people to enjoy a better life.

**About the authors:**

Nanak Kakwani was Professor of Economics for 30 years at the University of New South Wales in Sydney, Australia, and until 2006 was Principal Researcher and Director at UNDP's International Policy Centre for Inclusive Growth in Brazil. He was an elected fellow of the Australian Research Committee of Social Science, and has been awarded the Mahalanobis gold medal for outstanding contribution in quantitative economics. He has published over 100 articles in international journals, as well as four books.

Hyun Hwa Son is Principal Evaluation Specialist in the Independent Evaluation Department of the Asian Development Bank (ADB), Philippines, having previously worked as a poverty economist at the United Nations Development Programme. She has held an academic position at Macquarie University in Sydney, Australia, and published extensively on poverty, inequality, pro-poor growth, inclusive growth, education and health.

For more details, please click the link below:

<http://www.palgrave.com/br/book/9781137583246>