



Contribution ID: 0

Type: **Speaker**

# Data - The invisible hand: Technological impacts on society

*Tuesday, 3 September 2019 13:30 (10 minutes)*

From a technological perspective, each of the previous industrial revolutions could be characterised according to some unique features. While the Fourth Industrial Revolution is characterised by a confluence of technologies, data is seemingly a distinct feature of 4IR's DNA. Data is considered by many to be the new gold and true invisible hand behind 4IR. With natural, human and capital resources' scarcity and constraints being felt now more than ever, data is potentially a critical feedstock for economic development and driver for knowledge generation. This talk focuses on how data, together with technological development, have and will continue to bring about deep sociological and economic impacts. These impacts are analysed through a technological lens aimed at stimulating discourse around the role of data in society.

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**Session Classification:** Session III

**Track Classification:** Plenary