Creating more, and more productive, jobs is essential for economic development, equitable growth, and social stability in emerging market and developing countries. The shift out of agriculture into non-agricultural activities that is at the heart of long-term economic development can boost both employment and productivity. However, if the right circumstances are not in place, this shift is obstructed and cannot fulfill its role in lifting incomes for all. Policies that can accelerate both job creation and productivity growth include measures that encourage competition in global markets and foster firm growth, innovation, skills development, and labor market flexibility. The impact of these policies may differ across groups of workers, particularly among women, youth, and the poor.

South Asian Network on Economic Modeling (SANEM), a leading think-tank of South Asia, announces the competitive call for papers and participation for the “Fifth SANEM-World Bank North America Discussion Forum 2024“ to be jointly organized by SANEM and the World Bank Group on May 31, 2024, at the World Bank premises in Washington, D.C., USA. The core objective of this event is to promote high-quality economic research on the topic of jobs and productivity in developing countries and encourage exchanges among academics, policy advocates, researchers, and young aspiring economists living in the North American region as well as in other parts of the globe. Professor Richard Rogerson of Princeton University will be among the distinguished speakers at the event.

Background:

**Theme:**
Papers should be relevant to the theme “Job Creation and Productivity Growth in Developing Countries”.

**Important Dates:**
- Last date of abstract submission: March 15, 2024
- Selection of abstracts: April 01, 2024
- Last date of paper submission: May 10, 2024
- Conference date: May 31, 2024

**Format of the Abstract:**
We invite submissions of substantive abstracts of 2-3 pages (that will include the objectives, the research questions, a brief description of the methodology and an outline of the paper) or completed papers.

**Submission of the Abstract:**
Interested individuals are requested to submit the abstract of the paper and CV through the following google form.
https://forms.gle/hR2BviWNWWgrCK3G9

**Registration for Participation:**
Interested participants, for in-person participation, are requested to apply for registration through this google form. The last date to register is May 1, 2024.
https://forms.gle/VGXkGQuVaCfPMYFL9

**Funding:**
There is limited scope for small partial funding ONLY for selected paper presenters to participate in the conference in Washington, D.C., USA. Other confirmed participants should manage their funding for participation.