

# The economics of change



## Statistics for decision making in a data-rich and fast-moving world

**Thursday, 13 June 2013 7:15am – 8.45am, Hotel InterContinental Wellington**

The world of data and statistics is ever changing. Stay ahead of the game – hear from an expert panel about their views on future trends and discover opportunities data and statistics offer your business.

As a business leader, you have an important role in New Zealand's economy. Be part of the discussion that will help shape and inform the future of economic statistics.

Join Statistics NZ host Dallas Welch (Acting Government Statistician) and hear from panellists – Dr Oliver Hartwich (NZI), Shamubeel Equb (NZIER), Paul O'Connor (Datamine), and Lillian Grace (Wiki New Zealand).

Opening address will be delivered by Minister of Statistics Hon Maurice Williamson and the panel discussion led by media commentator and data champion Kim Hill.

### Panel

#### Dr Oliver Hartwich – NZI



Oliver Hartwich is the Executive Director of The New Zealand Initiative, a think tank supported by chief executives of major New Zealand businesses. Before joining the Initiative, he was a Research Fellow at the Centre for Independent Studies (Sydney), the Chief Economist at Policy Exchange (London), and an advisor in the UK House of Lords.

#### Lillian Grace – Wiki New Zealand



Lillian Grace is the Founder and Chief of Wiki New Zealand, a collaborative website making data about New Zealand accessible for everyone. Through Wiki New Zealand, Lillian aims to make it normal to know your country. Wiki New Zealand will enable informed decision-making in all areas and at all levels and it will redefine the audience for domain experts, researchers, and organisations with data about New Zealand through its online framework for sharing data and reaching the general public.

#### Paul O'Connor – Datamine



Way before there was big data, mobile wallet, or 'the cloud', there was Paul O'Connor wearing a Hawaiian shirt busting out code on his computer in a student flat in Wellington. Paul loves data and 18 years ago managed to turn that love into a career by starting Datamine. Datamine works with businesses to implement smart data driven business strategies. Basically they're the guys you go to if you want your data to be moulded into something useful.

#### Shamubeel Equb – NZIER



Shamubeel Equb is the principal economist at NZIER. He has worked as an economist in Wellington, Melbourne, and Auckland. He is a widely respected and often controversial commentator on a wide range of economic issues. Shamubeel grew up in Canterbury and holds a BCOM with Honours in Economics from Lincoln University.