

PEGNet Newsletter

This is the second PEGNet Newsletter. I would like to highlight our Conference in South Africa in September. The Call for Papers will be published by the end of this month. Furthermore PEGNet is organising a workshop on HIV/Aids in Zambia on February 4, we have a new member, and a new DFG project on remittances at the Kiel Institute.

If you want to be taken off the Newsletter mailing list, please send us an Email to pegnet@ifw-kiel.de.

I hope you will enjoy our newsletter.



Linda Kleemann

Topics in this Volume

1. PEGNet Conference 2010 in South Africa

PEGNet 2010 conference will be held in early September 2010 at the Development Bank of Southern Africa (DBSA) in Midrand, South Africa, under the topic: "**Policies to foster and sustain socioeconomic stability in times of crises**". The Call for papers will be announced by the end of this month on our Website and through our mailing list. Submission deadline is March 31, 2010.

The Conference will provide a platform for high-level dialogue between development researchers, practitioners and policy-makers. The two conference days will feature parallel-sessions based on invited and contributed papers and project presentations. These will be complemented by a debate, a round-table discussion, and keynote speeches by renowned speakers from academia, economic policy and development practice. A total of about 30 contributed

papers and projects based on author's original work, are expected to be presented in the conference.

In addition, the PEGNet Best-Practice Price will be awarded for the second time to best-practices in cooperation between researchers and practitioners.

2. DFG Project at the Kiel Institute: How do remittances affect inequality and development over time? The case of rural Mexico

[> more](#)

3. PEGNet Workshop on HIV/AIDS and Development in Zambia: Taking Stock and Rethinking Policies

With financial support from PEGNet, a workshop on HIV/AIDS and development will take place on February 4, 2010 in Lusaka, Zambia. [> more](#)

4. Global Economic Symposium in Istanbul, September 28 and 29, 2010

The Global Economic Symposium takes place once a year. It aims to provide a new collaborative setting to analyze the world's most important economic problems, create shared visions of the future and formulate innovative strategies to achieve these visions. [> more](#)

5. Food Security Center offers up to 25 research scholarships in 2010

The Food Security Center (FSC) is a newly established university center of excellence in development collaboration at the University of Hohenheim, Stuttgart, Germany.

FSC offers three categories of scholarships:

1. Sandwich scholarships for PhD students (6 months)
2. Research scholarships for visiting postdoctoral researchers (4 months)
3. Excellence scholarships for FSC-supported PhD program "Young Excellence School" (36 months)

[> more](#)

6. ODI is new PEGNet member

Find more information at: <http://www.pegnet.ifw-kiel.de/members/institutions> or <http://www.odi.org.uk/>.

7. News from 3ie

- New 3ie working paper: Impact evaluation on the Post-disaster setting by Alison Buttenheim
- A new report from 3ie highlights some of the challenges faced when conducting impact evaluations of climate change interventions and discuss how these can be tackled.
- 3ie has launched an online roster of leading professionals from around the world with experience in impact evaluation and a database of over 150 impact studies conducted in low- and middle- income countries.

[> more](#)

2. DFG Project: How do remittances affect inequality and development over time? The case of rural Mexico

Project Summary

Migration prevalence and the share of remittances in income are increasing in developing countries as they integrate more with the rest of the world. Remittances have the potential to contribute to rural development by relaxing capital constraints that prevent profitable investments. However, this potential may be dampened by inequality, if remittances are disproportionately received by those who are already at the higher parts of the income distribution, for whom the capital constraints are less binding to begin with. There is a substantial theoretical literature on the linkages between migration, remittances, rural development and inequality in sending communities. Most of this literature suggests that, although remittances tend to increase inequality in earlier stages of migration, they decrease inequality in communities with long migration histories. Empirical applications have produced conflicting findings, probably due to data limitations, as most existing studies had to rely on cross-sectional data. The proposed project will test the predictions of the theoretical literature using novel panel data from rural Mexico. Mexico is among the top receivers of remittances and a country with persistently high inequality, which makes it an important case to study the dynamics of migration, remittances and inequality. The Mexican National Rural Household Survey (ENHRUM) covers a nationally representative sample of rural households in 2003 and 2008. The survey includes detailed migration histories of all household members, as well as income, expenditure and consumption data, allowing us to test the dynamic effects of migration and remittances on inequality. This project will also identify the channels through which migration and remittances affect rural economies, which will have implications for rural development policy.

For more information please contact [Aslihan Arslan, PhD](#)

3. PEGNet Workshop in Zambia

This focused workshop on the role of AIDS in African development, particularly in Zambia, will bring together a small group of academics, representatives from the donor community and local policymakers. The workshop has two main objectives. It aims (i) to offer an opportunity for (Zambian) policymakers and development practitioners to take stock of the latest empirical research on the socio-economic consequences of HIV/AIDS and (ii) to provide a platform for lively exchange between policymakers and researchers to foster the effectiveness of AIDS-related policies for Zambia's overall development.

The program of the workshop can be downloaded [here](#).

For more information, please contact [Dr. Rainer Thiele](#) or [Toman Omar Mahmoud](#).

4. Global Economic Symposium 2010 in Istanbul, 28.-29.September 2010

The Global Economic Symposium (GES) takes place once a year. It aims to provide a new collaborative setting to analyze the world's most important economic problems, create shared visions of the future and formulate innovative strategies to achieve these visions. The GES thereby seeks to be a catalyst for future change. The GES 2010 takes place at the Central Bank of Istanbul, September 28 and 29, 2010.

Find more information about the Global Economic Symposium at:
<http://www.global-economic-symposium.org/>.

5. Food Security Center offers up to 25 research scholarships in 2010

The Food Security Center (FSC) is a newly established university center of excellence in development collaboration at the University of Hohenheim, Stuttgart, Germany. FSC is one of five excellence centers of the program "exceed – Higher Education Excellence in Development Cooperation", which is supported by the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) with funds of the Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) of Germany. FSC's mission is to make effective and innovative scientific contributions in research, teaching, and policy advice to eradicate hunger and achieve food security in collaboration with partner Higher Education Institutions in Africa, Asia, and Latin America and national and international development and research organizations. Thematically, the FSC activities deal with issues of sustainable food availability, food access, food use, and food utilization. More information is available from www.foodsecurity.de.

FSC awards up to 25 scholarships for PhD students and postdoctoral researchers for a period of 4 to 36 months, starting April 15, 2010. The Center wishes to attract outstanding PhD students and postdoctoral fellows pursuing a career in academia or development collaboration. The scholarships aim at increasing their previously gained scientific knowledge and skills relevant to food security related issues. Furthermore, FSC aims at establishing an active, long-lasting collaboration with the supported researchers and their home institutions.

FSC offers three categories of scholarships:

1. Sandwich scholarships for PhD students (6 months)
2. Research scholarships for visiting postdoctoral researchers (4 months)
3. Excellence scholarships for FSC-supported PhD program "Young Excellence School" (36 months)

In **category 1 and 2**, FSC scholarships will support researchers from developing countries to conduct their research either at the University of Hohenheim (South – North) or at a national or international research institute in a developing country, for instance one of the centers of the CGIAR (South – South). There are few scholarships for students and postdoctoral researchers of the University of Hohenheim to visit a research institute in a developing country (North – South).

The application deadline for all scholarships in category 1 and 2 is January 30, 2010. Selection is carried out on a competitive basis and the decisions will be communicated up to March 15, 2010.

Regarding the details of the different scholarships, the application process and the requirements, please consult FSC's webpage (www.foodsecurity.de – go to "Scholarships"). The information will be uploaded during the week of December 14, 2009. Please read the information carefully before you apply. Only complete applications will be considered.

In **category 3**, FSC is supporting excellent PhD students to participate in the FSC-supported PhD program at the University of Hohenheim, mainly students from developing countries, but few scholarships are as well provided to students from Germany. The detailed application information for the scholarships of this category will be posted on FSC's webpage end of January 2010; the PhD program will start in August 2010.

6. PHD position at the Kiel Institute, Research Area "Poverty Reduction, Equity, and Development"

of up to 3 referees.

7. News from 3ie

NEW 3ie WORKING PAPER: Impact evaluation on the Post-disaster setting by Alison Buttenheim. Click [here](#) to download.

CLIMATE CHANGE INTERVENTIONS: LEARNING HOW TO BE MORE EFFECTIVE

While experts call for increased financing of climate change mitigation and adaptation by hundreds of billions of dollars a year, evidence of the effectiveness of current spending has become more and more essential. Donors will likely remain hesitant to provide additional funding unless it is clear that interventions are reaching their environmental and developmental objectives.

A [new report](#) from 3ie highlights some of the challenges faced when conducting impact evaluations of climate change interventions and discuss how these can be tackled. It argues that despite the limited experience so far there are ample opportunities to conduct impact evaluation of climate change interventions. Increased financing of climate change interventions is urgently needed to mitigate global warming and enable countries and communities to adapt to its impact.

Read more and download [3ie Enduring Question brief No. 3, December 2009](#)

FIRST EXPERT ROSTER ON IMPACT EVALUATION AND STUDY DATABASE NOW AVAILABLE ONLINE: 3ie has launched an online [roster](#) of leading professionals from around the world with experience in impact evaluation and a [database of over 150 impact studies](#) conducted in low- and middle- income countries. **Additional studies and feedback should be sent to: [roster\(at\)3ieimpact.org](mailto:roster(at)3ieimpact.org).**

Find more news on www.pegnet.ifw-kiel.de/

The PEGNet Newsletter is not sent out on a regular basis, but depending on new developments or events within PEGNet and from our partners and members.

We are happy to include news from your side, if they are related to poverty reduction, equity and growth and in particular to the interaction between policy, practice and research in development. Please send the news you want to be distributed to pegnet@ifw-kiel.de. This could include calls for papers, reports of conferences or workshops, published papers or books, grants, new projects, programmes, or related initiatives.

If you do not want to receive this newsletter in the future please write a short notice to pegnet@ifw-kiel.de.

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