



PEGNet Newsletter 43

Dear PEGNet Friends and Colleagues,

welcome to first PEGNet newsletter of 2021! We hope you have had a good start into the new year and are doing good and staying healthy.

With this newsletter, we would like to invite you to the **PEGNet Online Conference** on "**Climate risks and policies: Towards resilient low-carbon economies**" taking place on **22 & 23 March 2021**. The call for papers for the **PhD Workshop**, that will be a part of the conference, is now open. On the 25 February 2021, PEGNet will host the last **3D-seminar** of this semester on "**Gender Implications of African Migration**" with **Linguere Mbaye** (AfDB) and **Inkeri von Hase** (UN Women). Moreover, you can now watch the recording of the **online event** on "**The role of social protection in cushioning the effects of pandemics**" that was jointly organised with the German Development Institute / Deutsches Institut für Entwicklungspolitik (DIE).

If you have any comments, please do not hesitate to get in contact with us via pegnet@ifw-kiel.de.

Enjoy the read!

Best wishes,

the PEGNet Team

Past editions of our newsletter are available in the [PEGNet Newsletter Archive](#).

PEGNet Online Conference on "Climate risks and policies: Towards resilient low-carbon economies" 22 & 23 March 2021



The Covid-19 pandemic creates an acute crisis. It also highlights the need for international development cooperation to anticipate the coming systemic challenge of climate change. Like the current pandemic, climate change is a risk multiplier: increasing existing risks, fragility, inequalities and the vulnerability of economies in particular in developing countries. Responding to the challenges of climate change requires thus a comprehensive approach to transition towards resilient low-carbon economies.

Achieving this transition requires an understanding how climate change will impact economies in developing countries and what enables and constrains the transition. Development practitioners need also to understand how the transition interacts with other socio-economic systemic failures including fragility and marginalization of vulnerable parts of the population. Equally challenging is to how to ensure a „just transition“ where decarbonization considers the social and economic consequences and is implemented pro-actively with a focus on disadvantaged people and those negatively affected. The online event, jointly organised by the [German Institute for Global and Area Studies \(GIGA\)](#), the [Deutsche Gesellschaft für International Zusammenarbeit \(GIZ\) GmbH](#), the [Mercator Research Institute on Global Commons and Climate Change \(MCC\)](#) and [PEGNet](#) will deal with the discussion on carbon pricing in developing countries, the possibilities of a just transition and the impacts of climate change on economic development and pro-poor growth, on health and on migratory issues in the global south. We are looking forward to the presentation of the excellent keynote speakers:

- [Vikram Widge](#) (Climate Policy Initiative)
- [Ottmar Edenhofer](#) (PIK)
- [Meera Mahadevan](#) (University of California)

The conference will take place on **22 & 23 March, 2021**. Please note that it will be possible to either join the whole event or to only attend individual sessions. The conference programme can be found on our website:

[More information](#)

PhD-Workshop at the PEGNet Online Conference

In addition to high-level dialogue and exchange of ideas, the two conference days will feature a workshop for PhD

researchers from developing countries. The objective of the workshop is to facilitate exchange between PhD-candidates or junior researchers from developing countries and senior researchers in the absence of the more fluid, in-person conference format.

Participants will be matched with senior researchers from the [Kiel Institute \(IfW\)](#), the [German Institute for Global and Area Studies \(GIGA\)](#) and the [Mercator Research Institute on Global Commons and Climate Change \(MCC\)](#) in small groups to discuss their research. Senior researchers will serve as discussants and provide feedback on the papers submitted. We invite submissions of **three-page abstracts or full paper versions** that focus on policy-relevant topics in the field of **development economics**. We recommend the submission of a full paper version as this will allow more detailed feedback.

Please email your submission to pegnet@ifw-kiel.de in a pdf or Word file and indicate “**PEGNet Conference 2021**” in the subject heading. The submission deadline is **3rd March 2021**. Notification of acceptance will be sent out by 10th March 2021.

[Call for Papers](#)

3D-Seminar on “Gender Implications of African Migration“

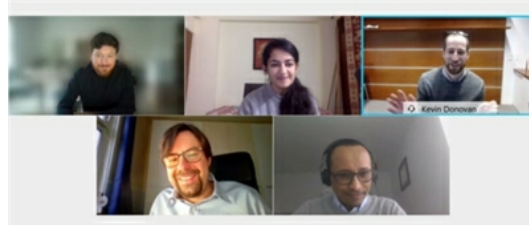
The [Digital Development Dialogue \(3D\)](#) seminar is a monthly 45-minute online forum for policy and research exchange. Two speakers – one researcher and one practitioner – touch upon key topics in development policy with the goal of stimulating a meaningful dialogue across the theory & practice divide. The last 3D-seminar of this semester on “**Gender Implications of African Migration**“ with [Linguere Mbaye](#) (AfDB) and [Inkeri von Hase](#) (UN Women) will be hosted by [PEGNet](#).



It will take place on **25.02.2021 from 03:00pm to 03:45pm (CET)**. Please use the following link to receive the [zoom-link for the seminars](#). You can also follow the seminar series on [twitter](#).

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Online event: The Role of Social Protection in Cushioning the Effects of Pandemics



The COVID-19 pandemic puts enormous pressure on economies and societies world-wide. This is particularly true for low and middle income countries, where many people are engaged in low-wage informal employment. The online event on “**The Role of Social Protection in Cushioning the Effects of Pandemics**” that was jointly organised by the [German Development Institute / Deutsches Institut für Entwicklungspolitik \(DIE\)](#) and [PEGNet](#) took place on January 29, 2021. [Garima Sharma](#) (Massachusetts Institute of Technology), [Christian Oldiges](#) (University of Oxford), [Kevin Donovan](#) (Yale University), and [Kibrom Tafere](#) (World Bank) presented first empirical evidence on this topic and discussed current problems of social protection responses to the pandemic. The online event was moderated by [Christoph Strupat](#) and [Markus Loewe](#) (both German Development Institute/ Deutsches Institut für Entwicklungspolitik (DIE)).

The recording of the event will soon be available on the PEGNet website: <https://www.pegnet.ifw-kiel.de/events/pegnet-workshops/the-role-of-social-protection-in-cushioning-the-effects-of-pandemics/>.

[Watch now](#)

[News from the network](#)

German Development Economics Conference (GDE) 2021

The hybrid [German Development Economics Conference \(GDE\)](#) 2021 that is hosted by German Institute for Global and Area Studies (GIGA) and Helmut-Schmidt-Universität Hamburg will take place on **17-18 June 2021 in Hamburg**

and online. There will be two key note speeches by **Anandi Mani** (Oxford University) and **Leonard Wantchekon** (Princeton University). Plenary sessions with keynote speakers, parallel sessions with contributed papers, and elevator pitches or poster sessions will reflect the current state of research in development economics and provide a forum for exchange for researchers and practitioners.

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IFPRI Resources and Analyses of COVID-19 Impact



Our partner organisation IFPRI is curating a special series of blogposts analysing the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on national and global food and nutrition security, poverty, and development. This page will be updated regularly with links to other publications featuring IFPRI analysis on COVID-19, including on specific regional and country impacts; virtual IFPRI events on COVID-19; and pandemic-related podcast episodes.

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Publication: Community effects of cash-for-work programmes in Jordan

Communities hosting large numbers of refugees are under immense pressure regarding social cohesion and local economic development, often coupled with inequitable gender roles. As this study demonstrates, cash-for-work (CfW) programmes can mitigate this pressure because – beyond direct effects on employment, infrastructure and skills – they also unfold positive community effects, even in contexts of flight and migration. This study, based on 380 interviews gathered during a 3-months field stay and a GIZ survey of over 980 former participants of the Improving Green Infrastructure in Jordan Programme, details how CfW programmes in Jordan implemented by international donors have supported local communities hosting the majority of circa 600,000 Syrian refugees living outside camps. It argues that such programmes, if skilfully designed, reap sizeable benefits not only for their direct participants, even if – under the current set-up – post-CfW employment and investment effects remain limited and changed gender roles may not be sustained. The study by **Markus Loewe, Tina Zintl, Jörn Fritzenkötter, Verena Gantner, Regina Kaltenbach, Lena Pohl** presents recommendations for international and local policymakers on how to factor in community effects when designing policy responses to protracted displacement.



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Global Project on Reducing Inequalities



Last year, the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) has commissioned Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) to implement the [Global Project on Reducing Inequalities \(GPRI\)](#). The project aims to support the development of cross-sectoral approaches to reduce inequalities at national and international level. Inequalities are rising or stagnating at high levels in many partner countries of German Development Cooperation. According to the [World Social Report 2020](#), 71% of the world's population live in countries where inequalities have increased. At the same time, research about causes and drivers of inequalities has grown significantly. Yet, governments, donors and other development actors still face the challenge of identifying a country-specific mix of measures that effectively reduces inequalities. Therefore, the GPRI implements relevant measures which are structured along three main pillars. First, cross-sectoral strategies and approaches to reducing inequalities are developed in cooperation with Namibia, South Africa and Viet Nam. Second, peer-to-peer learning formats aim to offer a space for mutual exchange of policy makers, representatives from civil society and scientists from Sub-Saharan Africa, Latin America and Asia. Third, the GPRI seeks dialogue with multilateral organisations about their role in reducing inequalities.

Conduct your own open innovation process with the lab of tomorrow

Are you looking to solve a development challenge? Do you wish to enable the creation of innovative and business driven solutions? The lab of tomorrow (lot) approach is a novel and



effective way for development cooperation to engage the private sector in delivering lasting solutions to the SDGs. In lot processes, profitable and sustainable products and services are created which contribute to solving concrete challenges in developing and emerging countries. They are jointly developed and brought to market by local and European entrepreneurs supported by development cooperation, public sector, civil society and academia.

Conduct your own lab of tomorrow innovation process with the lot manual! It is a step-by-step guide on how development partners can enable entrepreneurial actors to jointly develop SDG-oriented business models using the lab of tomorrow approach. Find the newest version and the supporting toolkit with templates and examples on the [lot website](#). Interested in conducting your own lot process? Contact lab-of-tomorrow@giz.de! Apply for running lot processes via our website.

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330 companies supported to cope with the impacts of COVID-19



The COVID-19 crisis particularly affects young companies in emerging and developing countries. The **"Empowering Entrepreneurship Initiative"** therefore supports 330 young, innovative companies primarily from the tourism and technology sectors in surviving the crisis and even embracing it as an opportunity to further develop their business models.

The selected partners in Ghana, Kenya, Egypt, Jordan, Indonesia and Mexico receive financial and professional support, for example through mentoring and further training in crisis management, business development, leadership roles and company growth. They also gain access to a network of experts, investors, mentors and other startups. The Empowering Entrepreneurship Initiative was created as a part of the Strategic Partnership Technology in Africa (SPTA), which was commissioned by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) to promote the potential of transformative technologies in Africa in collaboration with companies of the private sector. The non-profit enpact e.V. is the implementing organization, supported by the TUI Care Foundation.

Making tourism an economic factor independent of crises

The promotion of sustainable development through tourism is the subject of another project initiated by the **German Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ)** and implemented under the leadership of the **Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ)** and its Programmes of Private Sector Engagement. Here, the focus is strongly on paving a way through the COVID-19 crisis toward a fundamentally more crisis-resistant and more sustainable tourism offer. Tourism regions in the global south lost between 44 percent - Latin America - and 63 percent - Middle East - in the number of jobs as well as in the share of gross domestic product (source: World Travel & Tourism Council - WCCT, 2020). The project is designed for 16 countries. Supported by partner organizations, targeted demand-oriented measures will be implemented over a period of two years: development of crisis-resistant products, establishment and strengthening of a quality infrastructure, entrepreneurship and sustainability in supply, and vocational training. The aim is to build on previous successes in development cooperation and extend strengthening and prevention to the regions and the employees in the tourism sector particularly affected by the Corona crisis.

The future of work in the context of digitalization

Digitalization and automation have fundamentally changed the world of work. As platform economies and digital labour markets are steadily growing, new business models and jobs are on the rise. These developments create both opportunities and challenges and raise crucial questions: How can the transformation of the economy induced by technological change be actively shaped towards more and better jobs? What is needed to ensure social protection of workers in digital labour markets and how can they acquire the skills necessary to take on the new tasks? In September 2020, the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) commissioned GIZ to carry out the project **'future of work'**. Focusing on India and Rwanda, it promotes international exchange and research concerning the future of work identifying best-practice examples to anchor cross-sectoral approaches in national and international policy dialogues. We are eager to learn about related research projects in PEGNet member institutions, if interested please contact future-of-work@giz.de.

Launch of the Smart Africa Digital Academy



On December 7, 2020, the Smart Africa Alliance and Federal Minister for Economic Cooperation and Development Dr Gerd Müller launched the **"Smart Africa Digital Academy"** (SADA) to promote secure internet access in Africa through better regulations. The four components "Capacity Building for Decision Makers", "Digital Inclusion", "Skills Market Place", and "Talent Bridge" are designed to help national internet regulatory authorities to develop standards for a fair digital society. The

academy, however, will not only train regulators, but also citizens in order to enable a fair digital transformation that benefits the people. "That is why we are working with Smart Africa for fair framework conditions that put people first", Federal Minister Dr Müller said at the launch event. He was the only non-African government representative to take part in the virtual board meeting of the 30 heads of state and government of the Smart Africa Alliance. To deliver digital learning content, SADA uses the BMZ's e-learning platform [atingi](https://www.atingi.de/), which has already reached more than 600,000 people. With atingi, the BMZ has created the e-learning standard for German development cooperation, which is being extensively expanded against the backdrop of the Corona pandemic. In addition to the digital platform, SADA will also use the BMZ's network of Digital Transformation Centers in Africa to complement the online learning offer with face-to-face training.

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"The effects of the digital transformation on technical and vocational education and training and the labour market - A comparison of six international studies "

The Sector Project TVET has launched last year a new series of publications: "Background information on TVET in development cooperation". After the first issue on "[The digital transformation in the informal economy](#)" the second volume describes the effects of the digital transformation on TVET and the labour market. Many publications deal with the question of what impacts technological change – especially robotics and automation, artificial intelligence, big data, social media and digital communication – and globalisation will have on the world of work. These changes will affect the organisation of employment relationships, job profiles and the requisite skills. The publication analyses six studies that have addressed these issues, while focusing on aspects with a bearing on TVET. The aim of comparing these studies is to assemble common key statements and to make recommendations for TVET in German development cooperation.

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Factsheet - Learning and working in the informal economy

In many emerging economies and developing countries, most people are employed informally. Most of those working in the informal economy possess valuable knowledge and skills which they develop in the course of their employment or through taking part in an informal apprenticeship. However, these skills are in general not officially recognised. The factsheet provides a short overview of challenges and approaches of TVET in the context of informal economy.

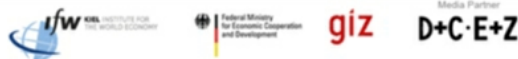
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Innovating technical and vocational education and training - A framework for institutions

The development of the UNEVOC Innovation Framework reflects an increased need for guidance and tools that can be used by institutions. By applying this Framework, TVET institutions can assess their preparedness to innovate, take actions to innovate learning processes and products and services, and develop concrete outputs for improvement. The UNEVOC Innovation Framework is expected to contribute to efforts made by TVET institutions to mainstream innovation in their strategic planning.

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