

**PEGNet Newsletter Volume 16**

Welcome to the fourth newsletter of the year! In this newsletter we will highlight a number of developments that have been taking place at PEGNet in the last months but first of all, we would like to thank you for making the PEGNet 2013 Conference a success. The conference photos, proceedings and presentations have all been uploaded onto our website.

As always, we will update you news and future events of our members. I hope you will enjoy our newsletter. This and past editions are also available online: [PEGNet Newsletter Archive](#).



## Topics in this Volume

### **1. PEGNet Conference 2013 in Copenhagen**

The PEGNet Conference 2013 on “How to Shape Environmentally and Socially Sustainable Economies in the Developing World – Global, Regional, and Local Solutions” was held at the University of Copenhagen, Denmark on 17-18 October 2013. The conference attracted a mix of researchers, policy makers and development practitioners working on environmental sustainability, green growth and poverty reduction. The fifth *Best Practice Award* was given to U-ACT project who are working on improving sanitation conditions in urban slums in Kampala.

[> more](#)

### **2. Announcement of the PEGNet Conference 2014 in Zambia**

The PEGNet 2014 Conference on “Employment strategies in the Developing World - How to create sufficient, productive and decent jobs” will be held in cooperation with the Zambia Institute for Policy Research and Analysis (ZIPAR) on September 17 and 18, 2014.

[> more](#)

### **3. Call for papers: PEGNet Panel at 2014 EADI General Conference**

PEGNet will chair a panel on "Bridging the gap - designing effective cooperation between academia and practitioners" at the 2014 EADI General Conference to be held on June 23-26, 2014 in Bonn, Germany.

[> more](#)

### **4. Announcement of the joint PEGNet and DIE workshop**

On March 12-14, 2014, PEGNet will hold a joint workshop on “Green and Social: Managing Synergies and Trade-offs” with DIE/GDI in Bonn.

[> more](#)

### **5. Call for papers: IfW Centenary Conference on Fair and Sustainable Prosperity in the Global Economy**

The Kiel Institute for the World Economy invites researchers to submit papers for their centenary conference on “Fair and Sustainable Prosperity in the Global Economy” to be held on June 13 – 14, 2014 in Kiel, Germany.

[> more](#)

## **6. Call for papers: EUDN Conference on Finance and Development**

The European Development Network invites participants to register for its conference on “Development and the financial sector” to be held on December 11<sup>th</sup> in Berlin.

[> more](#)

## **7. Call for papers: DIE Working Group “Social Protection” at 2014 EADI General Conference**

The newly founded EADI Working Group on “Social Protection” invites interested researchers to submit abstracts under the session of this Working Group.

[> more](#)

## **8. News from ODI**

On 28th October DEGRP and ODI hosted a public debate on structural transformation, development and growth in low income countries.

[> more](#)

## **9. News from GIZ**

The first Monitoring and Evaluation Report of GIZ entitled “Measuring – Assessing – Making Improvements” is available online.

[> more](#)

## **10. News from 3ie**

3ie seeks application for a policy window preparation grant to conduct an impact evaluation of the contribution of the removal of user fees on universal health coverage in eastern, central and southern Africa.

[> more](#)

## **11. News from PEP**

The 2013 (2nd) PEP-PAGE call for proposals is now open!

[> more](#)

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## 1. PEGNet Conference 2013 in Copenhagen

### PEGNet Conference 2013

The PEGNet Conference 2013 was held on October 17 and 18 in Copenhagen, Denmark at Bispetorvet, University of Copenhagen. The conference attracted a mix of researchers, policy makers and development practitioners working on environmental sustainability, green growth and poverty reduction.

The fifth Best Practice Award was awarded to the U-ACT project which is collaboration between ETH Zurich (Switzerland), the Federal Institute of Aquatic Science (EAWAG), (Switzerland), Makerere University (Uganda) and NGO SSWARS (Uganda).



PEGNet Best Practice Award Recipients.



Conference participants voting on whether green growth is good for the poor.

For the first time, a commitment fee was charged to participants attending the conference dinner to minimize food wastage. Altogether, 1060 Euros were raised from this fee. This money will be donated to the Butterfly Tree Project, a charity that is supporting orphans and providing medical supplies to poor households in Zambia, the next PEGNet conference venue. More information on the Butterfly Tree Project is available [here](#).

An article summarizing the conference proceedings has been published in the D+C magazine and is available [here](#). The pictures, papers and conference presentations can be accessed [here](#).

## 2. Announcement of the PEGNet Conference 2014 in Zambia

In her Outlook presentation to the PEGNet 2014 Conference, Pamela Nakamba Kabaso, Executive Director of the Zambia Institute for Policy Analysis and Research (ZIPAR), described Lusaka as a home to over 2 million hospitable people. We would like to invite you to participate in the next PEGNet Conference on “Employment strategies in the Developing World - How to create sufficient, productive and decent jobs” which will be held on September 18 and 19 in Lusaka, Zambia.



## PEGNet Conference 2014

### Employment strategies in the Developing World - How to create sufficient, productive and decent jobs

Zambia Institute for Policy Research and Analysis (ZIPAR), Lusaka, Zambia

September 18-19, 2014

According to ILO estimates, 900 million people are poor despite being employed, 200 million people are unemployed and 75 million of them are young people in the age between 15-24 years. Global youth unemployment has grown at an alarming rate affecting not only the developing world but the developed world as well. In Sub-Saharan Africa, the incidence of youth unemployment is estimated at over 20 percent. With the population becoming more youthful and with increasing unemployment rates; the most critical question that emerges for developing countries is how to create jobs in order to avert a looming crisis that is feared to have a potential of sparking protests. High youth unemployment rates are only part of the picture. In many developing countries, a large share of the working age population is in informal entrepreneurship and small scale agriculture with no social securities. These people are at higher risk in case of illness, job insecurity and weather and climate related events.

We consider employment to be a highly relevant issue for research as well as practice. There is a large demand among policymakers for strategies and methods that analyze the employment needs of different countries; particularly since these countries are confronted with various problems which do not allow for one-size fits-all strategies. The employment creation policy goals significantly differ across countries. For example, while countries in the MENA region require policies that address the high rates of youth unemployment, countries like China need policies that to manage the vast number of migrant workers in their countries. Thus strategies employed need to be context specific; since a strategy that focuses on the expansion of low skilled labour demand may be useful for countries in Sub

Saharan Africa with high levels of unskilled labour, but will not be helpful for countries in the MENA region that have an excessive supply of well-educated young university graduates.

In particular, but not exclusively, we invite contributions (papers and presentations of projects) that provide solutions to the following challenges and questions:

- Most people in developing countries are dependent on the agricultural and informal sectors. We question whether employment creation should concentrate on these sectors or focus on dynamic sectors with innovative potential and possible productivity gains such as tourism, manufacturing and technology?
- Thinking about future employment means thinking about education today. We examine how education at schools, universities and in vocational training can be improved to provide better skills for future labour market demand?
- In many developing countries the education and training of young people is not oriented towards the needs of the labour market. We question how - general as well as vocational and technical - education and training systems can be reformed in a way that best serves the employability of young people and their integration into the labour market?
- Which options exist to improve the labour market information and job matching systems?
- Are subsidies for an apprenticeship system and the recruitment of young people a viable option to promote youth employment in a sustainable way?
- What are the experiences in the field of youth employment creation in developed countries? To which extent might they be relevant for developing countries and emerging economies?
- How can the impacts of selected employment creation policies and instruments on youth employment be measured?
- Are social safety nets a viable means of cushioning the effects of unemployment in developing countries?
- How can we enhance the growth of viable and sustainable enterprises in rural and urban areas?
- What are some of the country specific policy responses and job creation strategies that could be useful in addressing unemployment?
- Should informal enterprises in developing countries be (quickly) formalized and if yes how?

### 3. Call for papers: PEGNet Panel at 2014 EADI General Conference

The 14<sup>th</sup> EADI General Conference on “Responsible Development in a Polycentric World - Inequality, Citizenship and the Middle Classes” will be held on 23 - 26 June 2014 in Bonn. PEGNet will chair a panel on "Bridging the gap - designing effective cooperation between academia and practitioners" at the 2014 EADI General Conference. We invite contributions that include examples of cooperation between research and practice. We would also welcome contributions on the design of cooperation between the two partners. We therefore encourage both researchers and practitioners to send us their proposals.

Please send us an abstract or summary of about 2 pages or a full paper until December 1st, 2013 to [pegnet@ifw-kiel.de](mailto:pegnet@ifw-kiel.de). PEGNet will cover the travel costs for those who will be selected for the panel. Selections will be done by early January.

#### Panel Proposal

Compared with other countries, in particular the US and UK there is limited active cooperation between researchers and development practitioners in most European countries. Development agencies and NGOs are separated from academia both personally and in the details of the topics they are interested in. The current evaluation boom would however provide exceptional opportunities for greater integration of research and practice in program design, implementation and evaluation. While there are many reasons for this separation, this session will concentrate on learning from successful examples.

This session will convene cases of outstanding cooperation between development economists and development practitioners. The case studies come from different fields (potentially cash transfers, insurance, health, and water) and will be presented on the basis of one of the academic papers that resulted from the project. This is followed by an open discussion and a moderated discussion that will focus on the lessons learnt from the projects presented. PEGNet will present the results from studies conducted in Germany on the research demand by development practitioners and the importance of policy relevance by researchers.

The aim of the session is to use successful examples in order to better understand how to improve cooperation between academia and development practitioners in program design, implementation and evaluation.

[> more information](#)



14th EADI General Conference  
23-26 June 2014, Bonn · [www.gc2014.org](http://www.gc2014.org)

Responsible Development  
in a Polycentric World

Inequality, Citizenship and the Middle Classes

**4. Announcement of the joint PEGNet and DIE workshop**

On 12-14 March 2014, PEGNet will hold a joint workshop on “Green and Social: Managing Synergies and Trade-offs” with DIE/GDI in Bonn. With this workshop DIE and PEGNet aim to address the gap between environmental and social perspectives on development by bringing together research and practice, but also the environmental and the social inclusion communities.



[> more information](#)

**5. Call for papers: IfW Centenary Conference on Fair and Sustainable Prosperity in the Global Economy**

The Kiel Institute for the World Economy invites researchers to submit papers on the topics “Growth & Prosperity”, “Environmental Sustainability” and “Social inclusiveness & Inequality” for their centenary conference on “Fair and Sustainable Prosperity in the Global Economy” to be held on June 13 – 14, 2014 in Kiel, Germany.



[> more information](#)

**6. Call for papers: EUDN Conference on Finance and Development**

The European Development Network invites participants to register for its conference on Finance and Development. The conference will be held at the Humboldtcarre Conference Centre in Berlin on December 11, 2013. [\[Invitation\]](#) and [\[Program\]](#)



[> more information](#)

**7. Call for papers: DIE Working Group “Social Protection” at 2014 EADI General Conference**

The newly founded EADI Working Group on Social Protection will focus on two central themes at the EADI’s 14th General Conference in June 2014: (1) Assessing the contributions of social protection to social, economic and political development (*consequences of change*) and (2) analyzing the political economy of social protection reforms (*causes of change*). If you are interested in submitting an abstract to the Session of this Working Group, please apply at: <https://www.conftool.com/gc2014/>.

[> more information](#)





## 8. News from ODI

On October 28, 2013, the DFID-ESRC Growth Research Programme (DEGRP) and the Overseas Development Institute (ODI) hosted a [public debate](#) on structural transformation, development and growth in low income countries. Key speakers included Nick Lea, Senior Economic Advisor to the Chief Economist at DFID, and three DEGRP grant holders: Margaret McMillan of IFPRI, Andries du Toit of PLAAS and Francis Mulangu of ACET. A full report on [Storify](#) can be found on the event webpage. ODI also produced a podcast on structural transformation to accompany the event with Francis Mulangu and ODI's Yurendra Bassnett.



[> more information](#)

## 9. News from GIZ

The first Monitoring and Evaluation Report of the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) entitled 'Measuring – Assessing – Making improvements' is available. The Monitoring and Evaluation Report provides clear, comprehensive information on the results of GIZ's work around the world based on examples as well as facts, figures and data.



[> to the report](#)

## 10. News from 3ie

The International Initiative for Impact Evaluation (3ie) recently released a new report and policy brief. The new report reviewing evidence of what works in education in developing countries shows that education interventions are not only getting more children into school and keeping them there but are also helping children to learn more. [\[Link to the report\]](#) The policy brief produced in collaboration with the IDS Knowledge Services, draws out policy recommendations from the report and provides direction for programme design and implementation. [\[Link to the policy brief\]](#)

Moreover, 3ie is requesting qualifications for an impact evaluation of the contribution of the removal of user fees on universal health coverage in eastern, central and southern Africa region implemented by the East, Central and Southern Africa Health Community (ECSA-HC). The evaluation will examine the extent to which the ECSA-HC policy on the removal of user fees has contributed to universal health coverage in two to three countries in that region. Applications are being accepted until 14 November 2013.

[> more information](#)

Furthermore, 3ie has recently launched RIDIE, a prospective registry of impact evaluations related to development in low- and middle-income countries.

The purpose of the registry is to enhance the transparency and quality of evaluation research as well as to provide a repository of impact evaluation studies for researchers, funders, and others.



**International Initiative  
for Impact Evaluation**

[> more information](#)

### 11. News from PEP

The Partnership for economic policy (PEP) now leads a new research initiative entitled “Policy Analysis on Growth and Employment” (PAGE) in developing countries. The 2nd call for proposals for this PAGE initiative is now open. The deadline for submissions is December 10, 2013. In accordance with PEP’s core mission, PAGE includes an important capacity building component, and targets teams of researchers based in developing countries.



[> more information](#)

Find more news on [www.pegnet.ifw-kiel.de/](http://www.pegnet.ifw-kiel.de/)

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

Poverty Reduction, Equity and Growth Network

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