

PEGNet NEWSLETTER VOLUME 24

Welcome to the last newsletter of the year, 2015 has been a very successful year for our network! This year, our network turned 10 and celebrated its tenth anniversary at our annual conference in Berlin. We will also launch a new series of PEGNet policy briefs that will be written by policy makers and researchers affiliated to our network.

More information on these and other PEGNet activities are given in this newsletter. As usual, we will also provide you with information about the latest developments at our partner institutes. This and past editions are available online: [PEGNet Newsletter Archive](#).



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1. PEGNet Tenth Anniversary

Our annual conference was held in Berlin on October 8 and 9. It addressed the theme 'Transformation of Developing and Emerging Economies: Challenges and Opportunities for Inclusive and Sustainable Growth'. The conference attracted nearly 130 researchers, policy makers and practitioners working in development economics. Based on the **feedback**, the keynote talks given by Margaret McMillan and Oeindrila Dube were among the highlights of the conference this year. The plenary session that discussed the 'Economic transformation and rising inequality' as well as the roundtable discussion that sought to answer the question 'What happened to pro-poor growth?' were equally popular.

If you are interested in viewing the slides and posters of the conference, please take a look at the **conference program**. A selection of photos from the conference is also available **here**.

Our media partner, D+C has published an article that highlights the keypoints raised in the roundtable discussion on 'Economic transformation and rising inequality'. This article is available **here**. In addition, a blog piece has been written that questions the motivations of young scholars working on development research. The author asks whether theoretical modelling and statistical significance have taken over policy and practical relevance in research. We invite PEGNet members to join this controversial debate by leaving in your comments **here**.



This year, Micheal Grimm from the Universities of Passau and Erasmus Rotterdam and Luciane Lenz from RWI Essen, received the **PEGNet Best Practice Award** on behalf of the Institute of Social Studies, Erasmus University Rotterdam, Rheinisch-Westfälisches Institut für Wirtschaftsforschung, Essen and the Policy and Operations Evaluation Department (IOB) of the Netherlands' Ministry of Foreign Affairs for their project titled 'Impact Evaluations of Access-to-Energy Interventions Supported by the Netherlands'.



The project successfully convinced the jury that they had achieved effective interaction between research and practice by presenting results from several impact evaluations that assessed a series of energy interventions ranging from improved cook stoves and solar home systems in Burkina Faso to grid electrification and the distribution of Pico-PV lamps in Rwanda.

As in previous years, conference participants attending the dinner were encouraged to pay a commitment fee of 20 Euros to prevent food wastage. We would like to thank the conference participants for raising a total of **1140 Euros** from this fee. This money will be donated to the 'Zentralen Bildungs- und Beratungsstelle für Migrantinnen in Schleswig-Holstein, ZBBS e.V. in Kiel'.

The ZBBS is an NGO that safeguards the rights and well-being of immigrants and refugees and assists their integration within their new environments. It specialises in providing free counselling and language courses for immigrants and refugees that have recently migrated to Kiel. More information on the organisation is available **here**.

2. Launch of PEGNet Policy Brief Series

The new PEGNet Policy Brief series will provide information and key policy recommendations on topics that fall within the PEGNet's core research areas i.e. the poverty-equity-growth nexus. The policy briefs will be written by researchers and practitioners affiliated to PEGNet and will be targeted towards policy makers, researchers and all other members of PEGNet.

The first policy brief in this series is modelled after the special anniversary roundtable discussion at the PEGNet conference 2015 and is titled 'Changing views on growth: What became of pro-poor growth?'. The policy brief is available **here**.



PEGNet affiliates and members that are interested in writing a policy brief are invited to send their topic proposals to PEGNet via email (pegnet@ifw-kiel.de).

3. News from DIE

The German Development Institute (DIE) has received a grant from BMZ's initiative to combat hunger (**Sonderinitiative Eine Welt Ohne Hunger, SEWOH**) to conduct research and policy advice on how development cooperation can contribute to increase food security in the rural areas of Sub-Saharan Africa (**SSA**). The DIE project has eight work packages ranging from overarching topics (conceptualizing heterogeneous rural population with differentiated development potentials and support needs; results based aid; food security interventions in fragile countries) to more focused ones looking at innovative issues: agricultural growth corridors, sustainable agricultural technologies, public-private-partnerships in irrigation, social protection. It is explicitly acknowledged that the rural population is not homogeneous and has differentiated development potentials and support needs (rural worlds), and that interventions have to be combined into broader strategies for inclusive rural development.

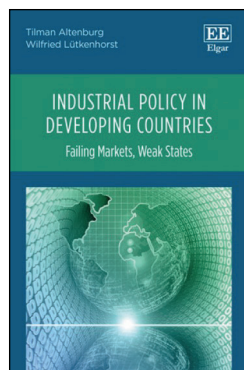


The German Development Institute (DIE) and the UNEP Inquiry into the Design of a Sustainable Financial System are organising a conference on 'The Role of Financial Governance in Greening Financial Systems' in Berlin on **9th November 2015**.

[>> More information](#)

DIE researchers Tilman Altenburg and Wilfried Lütkenhorst have published a primer on Industrial Policy in Developing Countries with E. Elgar, which identifies the political economy conditions under which industrial policy can deliver socially and environmentally desirable results.

[>> More information](#)



4. News from GIZ

On the occasion of the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty on October 17th the Sector Project Eradicating Poverty - Reducing Inequality invited renowned experts to discuss chronic poverty, inequality as well as how to tackle the ultra-poor.

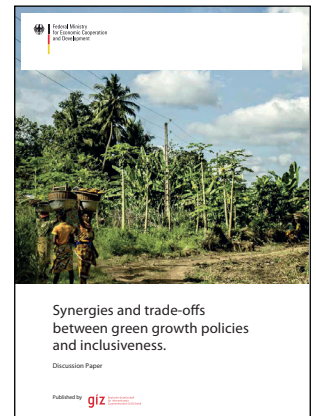
David Hulme, Professor at the Manchester University and Director of the Brooks World Poverty Institute, talked about the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its first goal on ending poverty in all its forms everywhere until 2030.

Prof. em. Richard Wilkinson presented his research on inequality and why lower levels of inequality leads to better outcomes for society, in particular in terms of health. Last but not least, Marion Lieser, Director of Oxfam Germany, discussed with GIZ colleagues, whether new approaches to tackle inequality are necessary.

GIZ's Sector Project Sustainable Economic Development has published a new discussion paper titled 'Synergies and trade-offs between green growth policies and inclusiveness' authored by Anna Pegels from the German Development Institute (DIE).

The discussion paper starts by offering both a theoretical background and definition of inclusive green growth, and then provides guiding questions to identify and investigate social consequences that may arise from green growth policies.

The discussion paper is available [here](#).



5. News from DEGRP

The DFID-ESRC Research Programme (DEGRP) has recently launched a new set of policy essays examining economic transformation in Tanzania. Based on findings from a high-level conference held in Dar es Salaam in February this year, it includes contributions from DEGRP researchers on topics such as agriculture and microfinance, as well as a keynote speech from the Governor of the Bank of Tanzania, Professor Benno Ndulu. The essays are available [here](#).

Growth
Research
Programme

DEGRP implemented a selection of short video interviews with their China-Africa grant holders which are available on the [DEGRP YouTube channel](#). Filmed during July's grant holder meeting, the videos offer researcher insights into the current state of China's engagement in Africa, as well as detail on specific research projects. The latest interviews are available here: [China's engagement in Africa](#) and [DEGRP China-Africa Research](#).

6. News from the German Economic Association, Research Group on Development Economics

The University of Heidelberg has issued a call for papers for the annual international conference of the **German Economics Association Research Group on Development Economics** on the 3-4 June 2016 in Heidelberg. The conference brings together international scholars and researchers of development economics and neighboring fields.



As keynote speaker **Jean-Phillipe Platteau** (University of Namur and Centre for Research in Economic Development (CRED)) and **Philip Keefer** (Principal Economic Advisor, Inter-American Development Bank) are expected to speak at this conference. Interested contributors are invited to fill a submission form and to upload their full anonymized paper. The deadline is **15th February**.
[>>More information](#)

7. D+C Development

D+C Development and Cooperation, a website and print magazine that discusses international-development affairs and explores how they relate to other fields of policy-making, such as security, peace, trade, business and environmental protection now has three distribution channels.

D+C·E+Z

The first one is a website that is updated daily and follows a weekly schedule that is outlined here (<http://www.dandc.eu/en/about-us>).

Another distribution channel will be a monthly E-Paper that focuses on selected topics pertinent to development. Finally, there will be a bimonthly magazine that summarises the most important articles concerning focus-section topics over the months.

Readers interested in registering for the website can do so at the following link (<http://www.dandc.eu/en/user/register>).

Find more news on <http://www.pegnet.ifw-kiel.de/>

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

