

PEGNet NEWSLETTER VOLUME 25

We would like to welcome you to the first newsletter of the year. Last year was a very successful year for our network! We celebrated our tenth anniversary at the PEGNet Conference 2015 in Berlin and we launched a new series of PEGNet policy briefs. In this newsletter, we are pleased to announce the Call for Papers for the PEGNet Conference 2016 that will take place in Kigali, Rwanda.

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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TOPICS OF THIS VOLUME

PEGNet News

- **PEGNet Conference 2016**

NEWS FROM OUR PARTNER INSTITUTES

- News from the Kiel Institute for the World Economy
- News from German Economic Association Research Group on Development Economics
- News from the Volkswagen Foundation
- News from the German Institute of Global and Area Studies
- News from the German Development Institute
- News from GIZ
- News from the Council for the Development of Social Science Research in Africa
- News from the China Africa Research Initiative
- News from the Center for Development Research
- News from DFID-ESRC Growth Research Program



1. Announcement: PEGNet Conference 2016 in Kigali

We are pleased to announce the PEGNet Conference 2016 that will address "*Regional Integration for Economic Transformation in Africa - Challenges and Opportunities*". This year's conference will be held on the **15th and 16th**



of September 2016 in Kigali, Rwanda at the College of Business and Economics, University of Rwanda. It will be organised in partnership with the Institute of Policy Analysis and Research IPAR-Rwanda.

Regional integration is seen as a rational response to the difficulties faced by the continent with many small, sparsely populated, fragmented, and often isolated economies. In the last years, African governments have tried to overcome these structural weaknesses by negotiating regional arrangements. Until now, these arrangements have had a dismally poor implementation record.

As a landlocked state, Rwanda is the perfect place to bring together researchers and practitioners to discuss the key challenges and opportunities that accompany regional integration.



We have opened the **Call for Papers** for the PEGNet Conference 2016 and would like to invite you to submit your abstracts and Best Practice Award project contributions by email to pegnet@ifw-kiel.de in a PDF or Word file with "**PEGNet Conference 2016**" as the subject heading. Abstracts should have **more than 400 words but should not exceed three pages**. The submission deadline of abstracts and Best Practice Award projects is the **29th of April 2016**. Priority will be given to projects with clear implications for policy design and implementation. The deadline for full papers and additional material for the Best Practice Awards is the **1st of August 2016**. Upon request, lump sum travel grants of 500 US Dollars will be provided to participants based in developing countries. We look forward to seeing you in Kigali.

>>More information

2. News from the Kiel Institute for the World Economy

The Kiel Institute for the World Economy has issued a call for applications for a post-doctoral researcher in the economics of migration. This position will be supported by

the **Mercator Foundation**. This three-year project will be conducted together with the **Migration Policy Centre at the European University Institute** and the **Centre for European Policy Studies**.



Kiel Institute

The main goal of the project is to provide policy advice and to generate key findings on the European immigration and asylum system. The flagship output will be a comprehensive annual Assessment Report, with additional, smaller publication formats targeted to specific audiences. Candidates should hold (or be close to completing) a Ph.D. with a focus on migration in economics or in a closely related field (e.g. quantitative social sciences or econometrics). They should be highly familiar with relevant empirical methods, possess an excellent academic record, and have demonstrated a strong potential to publish in high-quality, refereed journals. It is a full-time-position which will start on the 1st of June 2016. Excellent English skills are required. The deadline for applications is the **12th of February 2016**. The online application should include a letter of interest, CV with list of publications, one academic writing sample (if possible on a migration-related topic), and two letters of recommendation, using your family name as the file name.

>> More information

3. German Economic Association Research Group on Development Economics



The German Economic Association Research Group on Development Economics has issued a Call for Papers for its annual international conference which will be hosted by the University of Heidelberg on the **3rd and 4th of June 2016**.

The keynote speeches will be delivered by Jean-Phillippe Platteau from the University of Namur and the Centre for Research in Economic Development (CRED) as well as by Philip Keefer from the Inter-American Development Bank. Interested contributors are invited to fill a **submission form** and upload their anonymized papers. The deadline for paper submissions is the **15th of February 2016**.

>> More information

4. News from the Volkswagen Foundation

The Volkswagen Foundation has issued a Call for Pre-proposals for Postdoctoral Fellowships on Livelihood Management, Reforms and Processes of Structural Change. It is based on the funding initiative "*Knowledge*



for Tomorrow - Cooperative Research Projects in Sub-Saharan Africa". The main goal of this initiative is to provide sustainable support for research and capacity development in Sub-Saharan Africa. Moreover, it is a good opportunity to extend collaboration between African and German scholars. It offers opportunities for postdoctoral researchers at both junior and senior levels



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to develop and conduct their own research projects of a duration of three years.

The research projects should deal with the question of how individual or collective social actors can manage and protect resources efficiently and develop sustainable livelihood strategies under present social and environmental conditions and in view of locally and globally changing circumstances.

The application and selection process is organized in three stages. First, there is the pre-proposal submission state. The proposal, which must be written in English, can be uploaded in the **Foundation's electronic application system**. The deadline is the **6th of April 2016**.

In a second stage, successful applicants will be invited to prepare and submit full proposals. In the third stage, applicants will have the opportunity to present their projects.

>>More information

5. News from the German Institute of Global and Area Studies (GIGA)

The GIGA German Institute of Global and Area Studies has issued a call for papers for a workshop on *"Inequality and Middle Class Development in Africa"* that will be held on the 5th and 6th of May 2016 in Cape Town.



The workshop will be held in cooperation with the Institute for Justice and Reconciliation (IJR) and the Southern Africa Labour and Development Research Unit (SALDRU) at the University of Cape-Town.

The workshop invites practitioners and scholars to discuss the potential of the middle class in foster inclusive growth and their role in the socio-political context of their country. The keynote lectures will be delivered by Prof. Mthuli Ncube from the Blavatnik School of Government at the University of Oxford and Prof. Stephan Klasen, the Head of Chair of Development Economics, and Head of Ibero-America Institute for Economic Research at the University of Göttingen. The papers should address the measurement of social class and economic inequality, economic development, labor market and political attitudes and behavior. Interested

contributors are invited to submit their papers together with the **"application form"** to **inequality-middle-class-workshop@giga-hamburg.de** as a pdf or word file. Please indicate **"Workshop 2016"** in the subject heading. Abstracts should have **more than 400 words** but should **not exceed three pages**. The submission deadline is the **21st of February 2016**.

>>More information

6. News from DIE

The German Development Institute (DIE) is running a research project with funding provided by BMZ through the GIZ sector project on *"Employment promotion by development cooperation"*, which examines the experience of low and middle income countries with different employment policy instruments. So far, three DIE discussion papers have been produced by the project:



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The first from Caroline Reeg entitled *"Micro and small enterprises as drivers for job creation and decent work"* analyses under which conditions MSEs drive job creation and improvements in job quality, and presents policy recommendations to assist their growth.

The second from Esther Gehrke entitled *"Can public works infrastructure affect employment outcomes? Evidence from the NREGS in India"* analyses short and long-term employment effects of the Indian National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (NREGS).

The third discussion paper from Esther Gehrke and Renate Hartwig entitled *"How can public works programmes create sustainable employment?"* reviews the experience of 16 public works programmes throughout the developing world and makes recommendations for the successful design of these programmes.

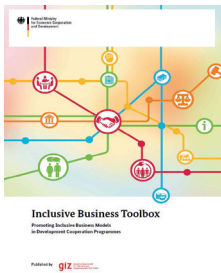


7. News from GIZ



The GIZ Sector Project *"Innovative Approaches for Private Sector Development"* and *"Private Sector Cooperation/ Responsible Business for Development"* have recently published the *"Inclusive Business Toolbox – Promoting Inclusive Business Models in Development"*





Cooperation Programmes". Inclusive business models integrate people with low incomes into business processes as producers, customers or distributors. For people at the grass roots level this creates opportunities for a better life, while for companies it is a chance to tap into new markets. The toolbox offers a wide range of tried and tested approaches, for instance in the field of capacity development, policy advice and market research and gives practical advice on how to replicate these. The link to the report can be found [here](#).

New Trends in Agricultural Finance

- This synthesis report presents a summary of research studies on five key areas of agricultural finance innovation and presents as well as the discussions of these study findings during the "G20 Roundtable on Innovations in Agricultural Finance" convened on 9th September 2015 in Antalya, Turkey, by the Global Partnership for Financial Inclusion (GPFI). This report was produced jointly by GIZ, the World Bank Group, and the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) on behalf of the SME Finance Sub-Group of the G20 GPFI. The link to the report can be found [here](#).



Employment Promotion in Contexts of Conflict, Fragility and Violence
Opportunities and Challenges for Peacebuilding

is available [here](#).

From 14th-15th of December 2015, the OECD held its annual Green Growth and Sustainable Development Forum in Paris, France. This year's forum examined how to foster the „next industrial revolution“ by harnessing the potential of systems innovation policies that support green growth. It brought together a wide range of experts from across OECD countries, including representatives from governments, the development community, the private sector and from academia, and was partially funded by GIZ on behalf of German Development Cooperation.

>> [More information](#)

8. News from the Council for the Development of Social Science Research in Africa (CODESRIA)

The Sector Project "Sustainable Economic Development" jointly with the Programme "Open Regional Fund for Sustainable Economic Development and (Youth) Employment" based in Costa Rica have published a new study on "Bridging Costa Rica's green growth gap", aiming at supporting Costa Rica's Government, and particularly the Ministry of Economy, Industry and Trade, in taking action to further strengthen green growth and to ensure future green economic development. The present study analyses Costa Rica's economic and environmental strengths and weaknesses to identify long- and short-term policy recommendations aimed at improving economy and environment together to close the country's green growth gaps.



GIZ's Sector Project "Employment Promotion in Development Cooperation" and Sector Programme "Peace and Security" have published "Employment Promotion in Contexts of Conflict, Fragility and Violence – Opportunities and Challenges for Peacebuilding". The study reveals the peacebuilding-potential of employment

The Council for the Development of Social Science Research in Africa (CODESRIA) has issued a Call for Applications for Laureates of the Comparative Research Networks 2016 Competition. Proposals on the following themes: Humanities, Environment, Health, Gender, Child and Youth, Governance and Economics are invited. Applicants should be based in African universities and centers of research for the constitution of Comparative Research Networks (CRNs). Interested researchers should submit application packages containing a proposal, a cover letter, a CV and a completed version of the identification sheet as word documents except the **identification sheet**. It should be sent by email to Comparative Research Networks, CODESRIA at crn@codesria.sn. Please indicate in the subject heading "CRN 2016". The deadline for submission of applications is the **15th of April 2016**.

>> [More information](#)

Moreover, CODESRIA has issued a Call for Applications for Evaluators. Therefore, it invites highly qualified African and Diaspora researchers with significant experience in the conduct of comparative research and/or teaching



of comparative research methodology to apply for the position of evaluator for the 2016 CRN grant competition. Applicants should send a one-page cover letter, a CV and a **identification sheet** to crn@codesria.sn. Please indicate in the subject heading "**CRN 2016 evaluator**". The deadline for submission of applications is the **29th of February 2016**.
>>More information

9. News from the China Africa Research Initiative

The China Africa Research Initiative has launched a Policy Brief in cooperation with the John Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS-CARI) on *„Looking Back and Moving Forward: An Analysis of China-Africa Economic Trends and the Outcomes of the 2015 Forum on China Africa Cooperation“*. The policy brief analyzes the China-Africa Trade, China-Africa Loan Finance, Chinese FDI in Africa and the Highlights of the 2015 Forum on China-Africa Cooperation (FOCAC) summit. The policy brief can be downloaded **here**.

10. News from the Center for Development Research (ZEF)

The Center for Development Research (ZEF) has advertised a postdoctoral researcher position in development economics for two years in Bonn. The researcher will participate in projects related to quantitative development economics at national and local levels in research areas such as of poverty, inequality, labor, migration, institutional change, technological

change and innovation. Applicants should have a PhD in Economics, Development Economics, Agricultural Economics or other related areas studies. Moreover, applicants should have very good analytical and methodological skills, a promising academic publications record, excellent oral and written English skills, and some experiences with the ZEF doctoral studies programme. Interested applicants are invited to submit their application, which should include a letter of interest, a CV, references and a link to recent publications, to kgallant@uni-bonn.de. The deadline for applications is the **29th of February 2016**.

>> More information

11. News from the DFID-ESRC Growth Research Program (DEGRP)

The DFID-ESRC Growth Research Program (DEGRP) recently published a **stakeholder engagement report** written by researchers working on **risk-taking and risk-aversion among Ugandan smallholder farmers**. The report features a step-by-step description of how the team arrived at final policy recommendations from initial research findings, explaining how various phases of local and national stakeholder consultation informed their thinking throughout the project. The final **policy brief**, a "**Research in Context**" web article about Ugandan agriculture and an **ESRC blog post** by Louise Shaxson on the benefits of planning ahead for policy impact are available on the homepage.
>> More information



Center for Development Research
Zentrum für Entwicklungsforschung
University of Bonn

Growth
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