

### *Call for Papers*

## **Structural change and technological upgrading in times of globalization: strategies and policies for developing countries**

University of Siegen  
**8-10 November 2018**

Input speeches will be delivered by

**Tilman Altenburg (German Development Institute)**  
**Mario Cimoli (The New School for Social Research, New York - tbc)**

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#### *Topics and aims*

The effects of international trade are subject to increasingly controversial debates. Earlier discussions in international and development economics have focused on the alleged benefits of globalization and trade openness, such as the potential to raise global income levels and to reduce poverty levels in poor countries. Yet many of the promises have remained unfulfilled. For many countries, expected increases in incomes and productivity levels have failed to materialize despite strong involvement in global trade. Some resource-rich or agricultural economies even cemented their role as commodity exporters. At the same time, countries have often experienced increasing inequality and political polarization. Therefore, recent discussions seem to emphasize potentially negative effects of globalization and trade openness.

Against this background, the symposium provides a space for international scholars to advance the debate about the relationship of increasing international economic integration on the one hand and sustainable development in developing countries on the other hand. Given that increases in income, wealth, productivity or well-being do not happen automatically through international economic integration, we are interested in strategies and policies for developing countries seeking to achieve sustainable development. We understand sustainable development in a broad sense, including in particular social and ecological goals.

The symposium pursues three goals:

- To discuss the processes and dynamics underlying different experiences of structural change and technological upgrading in different countries, establishing a constructive dialogue among theoretical and applied scholars.
- To debate policy strategies for developing countries with economic, social, and ecological goals and trade-offs in mind.
- To foster exchange among international scholars using different approaches and methodologies in order to facilitate insights from comparative analysis and debate.

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The symposium welcomes contributions from any field of economics and related disciplines that contribute to its topics and aims. We seek to provide a space for in-depth discussions within a small group of researchers from different backgrounds and perspectives. Questions to be discussed include, but are not limited to:

- Under which conditions does international trade benefit technological upgrading and diversification in developing countries?
- How should a world market integration strategy of a developing country look like if sustainable development is to be achieved?
- How does the distribution of economic and political power impact on strategies of structural change?
- What are the social and ecological implications of diversification and technological upgrading?
- Can regional trade be a viable alternative to global trade, e.g. with respect to patterns of specialization of poor countries or environmental concerns?

Please upload your abstract of max. 500 words via easychair until 30 June 2018. Participants will be notified in July. Limited funding is available to make a financial contribution to travel and accommodation expenses for those otherwise unable to obtain funding. Please state funding needs when sending your abstract.

**Easychair link:** <https://easychair.org/conferences/?conf=stug2018>

**Organizers:** Melike Döver (University of Applied Sciences (HTW) Berlin), Svenja Flechtner (University of Siegen), Claudius Gräbner (Johannes Kepler University Linz and ZOE. Institute for future-fit economies) and Jakob Hafele (University of Vienna and ZOE. Institute for future-fit economies)

**Venue:** University of Siegen, Faculty of Economic Disciplines, Campus Unteres Schloss, Siegen/Germany.

In case of questions, please contact [svenja.flechtner@uni-siegen.de](mailto:svenja.flechtner@uni-siegen.de).

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