Globalization in Developing Countries

Credit points: 5 ECTS German Scale
Workload entire module: 150 hours

Language: English

Prerequisites: M.Sc. student in Economics, Env. and Res. Economics, Quantitative Economics, or closely related field (subject to clarification with examination office)

Requirements for performance assessment: Essay and presentation

Educational objectives/competencies:
In this seminar, students will practice applying their analytical toolkit and other relevant skills to gain a deep understanding of important economic development issues. Students will practice creating a complex scientific analysis that is based on recent academic literature and concisely make their main arguments – both in written and in spoken form. While pursuing these tasks, key competencies such as the ability to read and understand economics papers, to write academic papers and policy texts, and to present own findings will be practiced. Also, by participating in group discussions, students will practice their social and communicative competencies.

Outline of the topic:
Globalization and technological progress are making the world a smaller place. Through trade, foreign direct investment, migration, capital flows, and other channels developing and emerging countries are ever more closely connected to each other and to the rich world. This creates opportunities for development as well as challenges. Both should be addressed with sound policy. In this seminar, students will delve deeply into selected topics that lay at the intersection between globalization and development.

Topics for essays:

- Does trade increase or decrease poverty in developing countries?
- Does financial integration in global markets foster sustainable development?
- Can developing countries catch up in terms of productivity?
- Does foreign aid foster growth?
- Does better connectedness improve economic development outcomes?
- Do countries of origin lose out due to the emigration of workers?
- How does emigration affect institutions back home?
- What role do migrants’ remittances play in international development?
- How do migration, trade, and investment interact in developing countries?
- Inequality across countries: Who benefits from globalization?
- How did the slave trade affect economic development?

You are also welcome to propose your own ideas for topics. If you want to propose a topic, please get in touch by email (tobias.heidland@ifw-kiel.de) before November 2.
Venue: The seminar will take place on Zoom. For more information and exchange in the group.

*Please join the OLAT group “Globalization in Developing Countries” for more information, enrolment, Zoom links et cetera.*

**Important Deadlines:**

- Initial meeting (on Zoom) on November 2
- Final topic selection by November 6
- Bilateral meeting (in person or on Zoom) to discuss outline by December 4
- Final essay due on January 23
- Block meeting with presentations of essay in early February (on Zoom, exact dates tbd subject to availability and participants’ exam schedules)