

Spring Campus, April 9-13, 2018

Call for Contributions

PhD Workshop: “Sustainability and Inequalities”, April 12-13, 2018

Organized by Dr. Paul Talcott, Program Officer, trAndeS Program on Inequality and Social Inequalities in the Andean Region, Latin America Institute, Freie Universität Berlin

Abstract

Global consensus about improving sustainability, as reflected in the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of the UN, has important implications for policy and research in areas ranging from energy to poverty. These goals are also interconnected in complex ways. In particular, SDG 10, reducing inequalities within and among countries, affects the ability to achieve progress in all of the other goals. These inequalities include income, “age, sex, disability, race, ethnicity, origin, religion or economic or other status within countries” and also “...inequalities among countries, including those related to representation, migration and development assistance” ([UN Sustainable Development Knowledge Platform](#)).

The Ph.D. Workshop provides a hands-on experience for participants to reflect together on the implications of the many forms of inequalities **on their existing research projects**.

Participants are encouraged to consider the following questions and submit abstracts in the context of their own research: How do research-driven solutions to energy and other environmental problems intersect with such inequalities? For example, how could certain social and political inequalities pose challenges for implementing the results of (technical) research programs? In turn, how can solutions to the challenges you address in your PhD thesis also mitigate inequalities? At the policy-making level, how can the concerns of policymakers, affected communities, the general public and the global community be engaged to understand the social implications of research projects? These are some examples, but responses to any related question the authors would deem important for the subject are most welcome.

These themes do not need to be already embedded in the research project, nor does participation require a commitment to build this theme into ongoing work. Instead, this Workshop allows Ph.D. researchers the opportunity to engage with how inequality interacts with sustainability. Discussions within the Workshop will also contribute to discerning how to overcome inequalities in the paths toward a sustainable future. Through the Workshop, they can develop a shared understanding of how this theme is understood from a wide variety of perspectives in both the natural sciences and social sciences.

Inputs from other scholars participating in the Spring Campus will further enrich the exchange at the Workshop.

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Program Design

The participants of the Ph.D. Workshop will take part in the general Spring Campus introduction day on Monday, April 9, followed by research workshops of their choice on Tuesday and Wednesday, April 10-11. On Thursday and Friday, April 12-13, we will convene the Ph.D. Workshop, for which each of the participants should prepare a twenty-minute presentation in advance (discussion papers should also be submitted in advance to discussants).

In addition to the conference-style presentation sessions, there will also be a training module on what makes a good paper – useful for conferences as well as publications – from the perspective of reviewers as well as of the audience. It will provide some guidelines for how to edit your own paper.

Guidelines and Deadlines

Call for abstracts: Abstracts (max. 300 words) outlining the aims and methods of individual papers should be sent to katrin.risch@fu.berlin.de. Please state your name, research topic, affiliation and full contact details. **Deadline for abstracts: February 20, 2018.**

Contact: Katrin Risch, katrin.risch@fu-berlin.de

Resources:

Goals: United Nations Sustainable Development Knowledge Platform:

<https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/sdg10>

Indicators: <https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/indicators/indicators-list/>

SDG Knowledge Hub – events around SDG10: reducing inequalities:

<http://sdg.iisd.org/events/?selected=510>

trAndeS Program: <http://www.programa-trandes.net/en/studies-program/index.html>