

INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH CONFERENCE

“Africa’s regional and global integration – Lessons from the past and implications for the future”

17 – 18 November 2022, Bonn

While remaining the most isolated region from the global economy, Africa has realised continuous progress towards a closer and more active integration, both from within and beyond the continent’s borders. Today, almost all African economies are members of the World Trade Organisation (WTO) and gridlocked regional economic integration has recently been given new momentum by the establishment of the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA). At the same time, Africa’s ties with other world regions have intensified, including through the quasi-reciprocal Economic Partnership Agreements with the European Union and China’s increased local engagement in the fields of trade, investment, and economic cooperation.

These developments, however, not only stand against the sobering reality on the ground in many places across African countries, but also lack a profound understanding of their (medium to long-run) implications on trade and welfare. This conference therefore invites researchers working on deepened (formal) economic relationships, both within Africa and with external partners, to present their original research.

In terms of regional integration, the launch of the AfCFTA marks Africa’s most recent attempt to pro-actively unleash the continent’s latent market potential. A great number of questions and uncertainties nevertheless remain. Above all, with previous regional integration efforts largely falling short of expectations, both in terms of their actual implementation and their hoped-for impact, what are the lessons learned for a successful integration under the AfCFTA umbrella? What are the factors leaving intra-regional trade and the establishment of regional value chains in Africa remarkably low compared to any other (developing) world region? What are the necessary conditions to enable structural transformation and diversification of economic activities across heterogeneous African economies, and thereby a better integration into world markets?

Besides regional integration, global integration steps, too, offer new avenues for economic prosperity in Africa. However, will closer relationships with third countries help overcome or foster Africa’s dependence on primary exports? How could deepened integration in the global economy prevent Africa’s feared set-back of economic development due to the Covid-19 pandemic? What are the implications of the recent drift towards de-globalization and re-shoring of value chains for Africa? And lastly, do external relationships impede or promote economic integration efforts and development in Africa?

Programme (tentative)

Thursday, 17 November 2022

09:00 – 10:00	Arrival and registration
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Room Time	Auditorium (“Central Asia”)
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10:00 – 10:15	Welcome note (plenary) Clara Brandi (IDOS)
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10:15 – 11:00	Key note 1 (plenary) Bernard Hoekman (European U Institute)
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Room Time	Auditorium (“Central Asia”)	Seminar room (“West Asia”)
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	Session 1: Structural change <i>Chair: Kasper Vrolijk</i>	Session 2: FDI I <i>Chair: Zoryana Olekseyuk</i>
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11:15 – 12:35	Structural and policy determinants of export diversification in Africa: A bilateral panel approach using Bayesian Model Averaging. Tim Vogel (IDOS) <i>[Discussant: Anja Slany]</i>	Greenfield FDI and job creation in Africa Jann Lay (GIGA) <i>[Discussant: Giovanni Prarolo]</i>
	Realizing product diversification for structural change in African countries Anja Slany (UNCTAD) <i>[Discussant: Tim Vogel]</i>	Curse or Blessing? Multinational Corporations and Labor Supply in Africa Giovanni Prarolo (U Bologna) <i>[Discussant: Jann Lay]</i>

12:35 – 14:00	Lunch break: Buffett in the foyer
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	Session 3: GVCs I <i>Chair: Clara Brandi</i>	Session 4: Digitalisation <i>Chair: Jakob Schwab</i>
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14:00 – 15:20	Patterns of Regional and Global Value Chain Participation in the EAC Sebastian Krantz (IfW Kiel) <i>[Discussant: Tobias Wuttke]</i>	Determinants of digital technologies’ adoption in South African manufacturing: Evidence from a firm level survey Elvis Avenyo (U Johannesburg) <i>[Discussant: André Castro]</i>
	The South African Auto Industry in a World of GVCs: Lead Firm Sourcing Strategies and Local Supplier Development Tobias Wuttke (Roskilde U) <i>[Discussant: Sebastian Krantz]</i>	The effect of trade and customs digitalization on agrifood trade: A gravity approach André Castro (ZEF Bonn) <i>[Discussant: Elvis Avenyo]</i>

	Session 5: External partners, local impacts <i>Chair: Florian Gitt</i>	Session 6: Non-tariff measures <i>Chair: Magdalene Silberberger</i>
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15:30 – 16:50	African Commodity Exports and its Local Socio-Economic Impacts Lennart Kaplan (U Göttingen)	“When you need it quick, let us ship it right”: On the importance of port efficiency and service quality to comply with food
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	<p><i>[Discussant: Alida Sangrigoli]</i></p> <p>Foreign Direct Investment, structural transformation and employment: Evidence from Ghana Alida Sangrigoli (Politecnico Torino) <i>[Discussant: Lennart Kaplan]</i></p>	<p>trade standards - Evidence from exporter survey data in Ghana Daniel Sakyi (Kwame Nkrumah U) <i>[Discussant: Ninon Moreau-Kastler]</i></p> <p>Disclosure Trade Barriers and Legal Opacity: "3T" Mineral Exports in Africa's Great Lake Region Ninon Moreau-Kastler (ENS Paris-Saclay) <i>[Discussant: Daniel Sakyi]</i></p>
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Coffee break in the foyer	
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	Session 7: GVCs II	Session 8: FDI II
	<p><i>Chair: Yabibal Walle</i></p> <p>International development lending and Global Value Chains in Africa Vito Amendolagine (U Foggia) <i>[Discussant: Martin Paul Tabe-Ojong]</i></p> <p>Global Value Chains, Economic Growth, and Income Inequality: Evidence from Africa Martin Paul Tabe-Ojong (IFPRI) <i>[Discussant: Vito Amendolagine]</i></p>	<p><i>Chair: Sabine Laudage</i></p> <p>The impact of unilateral tax treaty termination on FDI Dmitry Erokhin (WU Vienna) <i>[Discussant: Dominik Naeher]</i></p> <p>Attracting Private Capital for Development: Are Poorer Countries Less Efficient? Dominik Naeher (U Göttingen) <i>[Discussant: Dmitry Erokhin]</i></p>
17:20 – 18:40		

19:30	<p>Conference Dinner @ Gasthaus im Stiefel (Bonngasse 30, 53111 Bonn)</p>
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Friday, 18 November 2022

Room Time	Auditorium (“Central Asia”)
09:00 – 09:15	Wrap-up / outlook (plenary) Rainer Thiele (IfW Kiel)
09:15 – 10:00	Key note 2 (plenary) Stephen Karingi (UNECA) [online]

Coffee break in the foyer	
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Room Time	Auditorium (“Central Asia”)	Seminar room (“West Asia”)
	Session 9: African trade (integration)	Session 10: Migration
	<i>Chair: Nora Aboushady</i>	<i>Chair: Amirah El-Haddad</i>
	Regional Integration Arrangements and Structure of Intra- African Trade Patrick Ejumedia (U Lagos) [online] <i>[Discussant: Jakob Schwab]</i>	Labor Mobility and Innovation in Africa Assi Okara (U Sorbonne Paris Nord) <i>[Discussant: Sarah Frohnweiler]</i>
10:30 – 12:30	Trade and Institutions in Africa Jakob Schwab (IfW Kiel) <i>[Discussant: Patrick Ejumedia]</i>	Information frictions, belief updating and internal migration: Evidence from Ghana and Uganda Sarah Frohnweiler (RWI) <i>[Discussant: Nyemwereai Matshaka]</i>
	Assessing African Regional Integration Potential: A Data Envelopment Analysis Sekou Metiki (IfW Kiel)	Effect of immigration on Intra African Trade Nyemwereai Matshaka (U Pretoria) <i>[Discussant: Assi Okara]</i>

12:30 – 13:30	Lunch break: Buffett in the foyer
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	Session 11: Policy & development	Session 12: AfCFTA
	<i>Chair: Frederik Stender</i>	<i>Chair: Rainer Thiele</i>
	Africa's Development in a Post-COVID- 19 World: Roles of AfCFTA and FDI Evans Osabuohien (Covenant U) <i>[Discussant: Zoryana Olekseyuk]</i>	The African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA): Should all signatories ratify? Eli Sawadogo (Laval U) <i>[Discussant: Omid Zamani]</i>
13:30 – 14:50	Implementation of a future WTO Invest- ment Facilitation for Development Agreement: Reform needs and develop- ment policy measures in African coun- tries Zoryana Olekseyuk (IDOS) <i>[Discussant: Evans Osabuohien]</i>	Selecting Sensitive Products Groups at the Tariff Line: Implications for the African Continental Free Trade Area Omid Zamani (Thünen Institute) <i>[Discussant: Eli Sawadogo]</i>

Room Time	Auditorium (“Central Asia”)
15:00 – 15:30	Concluding remarks (plenary) Clara Brandi (IDOS) & Rainer Thiele (IfW Kiel)

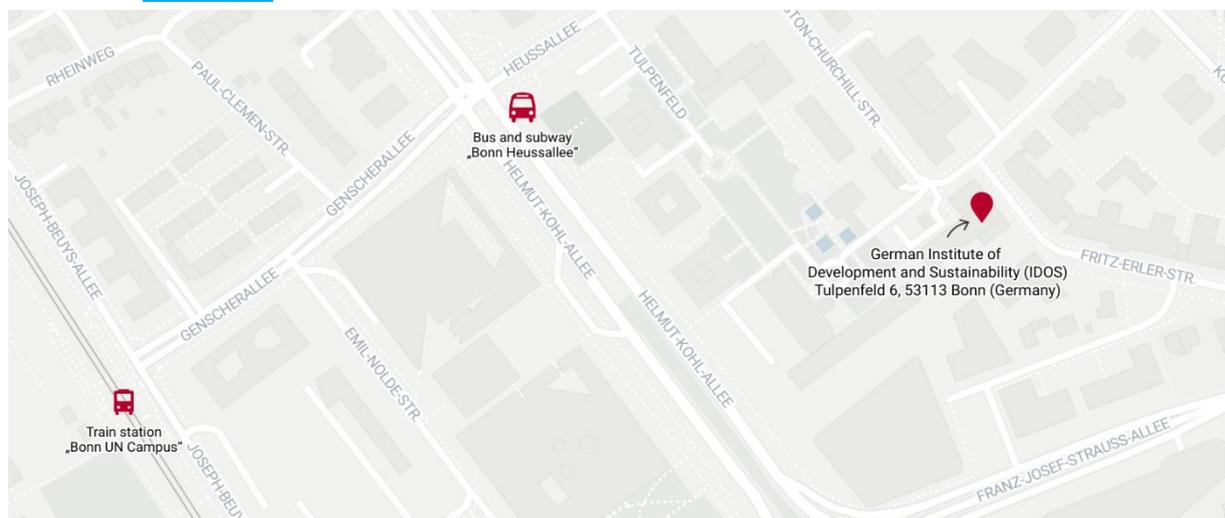
Conference venue

German Institute of Development and Sustainability (IDOS)
Tulpenfeld 6
53113 Bonn

From Bonn Central Station (Hauptbahnhof):

Take the U-Bahn (Subway) U 16 / U 63 or U 66 towards “Bad Honnef / Bad Godesberg” and get off at the station “Heussallee / Museumsmeile”. You may buy your ticket at vending machines either at the Station or on board (choose ticket type 1b; 2.50 Euro, coins only). At Heussallee Station, follow the signs towards the Heussallee exit. After coming up the escalator, walk straight ahead for about 50 m and turn right onto the footpath towards the “Tulpenfeld” office complex. Follow the signs across Tulpenfeld to the building of the German Institute of Development and Sustainability (IDOS), at Tulpenfeld 6.

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Contact (for questions regarding conference):

Frederik Stender
Email: Frederik.Stender@idos-research.de

Contact (for questions regarding logistics):

Florian Gitt
Email: Florian.Gitt@idos-research.de