

Workshop in Sustainability Economics: Intergenerational Equity and Efficiency under Uncertainty

August 4–7, 2014 | Camp Reinsehlen, Germany

Sustainability Economics Group, Leuphana University of Lüneburg, Germany
Environmental, Resource and Ecological Economics Group, University of Kiel, Germany
Chair of Public Economics, esp. Environmental Economics, University of Regensburg, Germany

Background

Policies addressing climate change should be both equitable and efficient, taking into account the substantial uncertainties in the natural and economic dynamics. The vision of sustainability requires that development paths must be equitable across and within generations, while man-made and natural resources should be allocated such that none are wasted in the pursuit of increasing well-being.

Although issues of inter- and intragenerational equity and allocative efficiency are analytically independent and have hitherto predominantly been addressed as such, how one goal is addressed has repercussions on how to deal with the other one in the design of concrete policies. On a more fundamental level, how equity and efficiency under conditions of uncertainty can be conceptualized remains an unsettled question. An answer to this question, however, is a necessary requirement for evaluating public policies on problems of intergenerational importance, such as climate change mitigation, that are entrenched with deep uncertainties.

Against this backdrop, this workshop explores how issues of intergenerational efficiency and equity can be studied in an integrated manner in view of an inherently uncertain future. In particular, it aims at developing a better understanding of the influence of different normatively founded specifications of societal objectives with regard to the intra- and intergenerational distribution of wealth and uncertainty on the estimated cost of climate change and the benefits of mitigating climate change.

The workshop will discuss in particular:

- Conceptualization of intergenerational efficiency as well as equity under uncertainty,
- Trade-offs between the different normative objectives of intra- and intergenerational equity and efficiency,
- Policy evaluation and decision-making with respect to intergenerational equity and efficiency under uncertainty

Aims and Scope

The aims of the workshop are two-fold:

- (1) Taking stock of the scholarly discussion on intergenerational equity and efficiency under uncertainty;
- (2) Developing new approaches and concepts for future research on intergenerational equity and efficiency under uncertainty.

The workshop brings together a small and focused group of approximately 25 participants, including a number of eminent invited speakers, in a stimulating environment for an intensive and fruitful discussion.

Invited Speakers (*tbc)

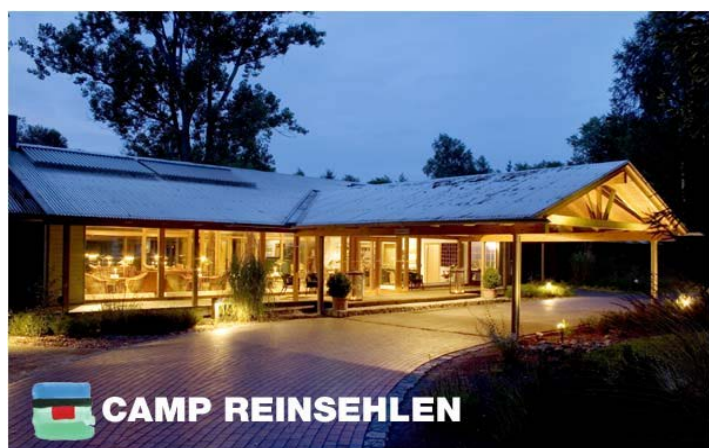
Geir Asheim	University of Oslo, Norway
Richard B. Howarth*	Dartmouth College, USA
Andreas Lange*	University of Hamburg, Germany
Vincent Martinet	French National Institute for Agricultural Research, France
Antony Millner	Grantham Research Institute on Climate Change and the Environment (LSE), UK
Christian Traeger*	University of California at Berkeley, USA
Ralph Winkler	University of Bern, Switzerland
Stéphane Zuber	Paris School of Economics; CNRS, France

Venue



The workshop will take place at the conference guest house Camp Reinsehlen in the heart of the Lüneburg Heath, a short hour from Hamburg. The quietness and colorful vastness of its traditionally conserved landscape provides a peaceful atmosphere and recreational environment which should build the basis to stimulate fruitful discussions and productive research. The guest house's philosophy to live in harmony with nature and among each other, which serves the topic of the event, is furthered by the cheerful atmosphere and the celebration of the deliberate and exquisite slow food concept. Last not least, the heathlands are a nice example for a strongly coupled ecological-economic system.

<http://www.campreinsehlen.de>



Program

Monday, August 4, 2014

before 6:00 pm	arrival and check-in
6:30 pm	welcome reception
7:30 pm	dinner

Tuesday, August 5, 2014

full day	scientific program
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Wednesday, August 6, 2014

full day	scientific program, hike in the Lüneburg Heath
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Thursday, August 7, 2014

after breakfast	check-out
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Hosts

The workshop is organized by the *Sustainability Economics Group* at *Leuphana University of Lüneburg* (Prof. Dr. Stefan Baumgärtner), the *Chair of Public Economics* at *University of Regensburg* (Prof. Dr. Wolfgang Buchholz) and the *Environmental, Resource and Ecological Economics Group* at *University of Kiel* (Prof. Dr. Martin F. Quaas):

<http://www.leuphana.de/en/stefan-baumgaertner.html>

[http://www-wiwi.uni-](http://www-wiwi.uni-regensburg.de/Institute/VWL/Buchholz/Home/index.html)

[regensburg.de/Institute/VWL/Buchholz/Home/index.html](http://www-wiwi.uni-regensburg.de/Institute/VWL/Buchholz/Home/index.html)

<http://www.eree.uni-kiel.de>

Contact

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Local organizer:

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Travel Information

By plane:

The closest international airport is Hamburg (HAM). There will be a shuttle transfer from/to the airport for workshop participants.

By train:

The most convenient railway station is Wintermoor.

Detailed travel information will be provided later.

Acknowledgement

The workshop is funded through a grant from the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research as part of its program *Economics of Climate Change*.

