

# Summer School in Sustainability Economics: Experiments on Intergenerational Justice under Uncertainty

October 11–14, 2015 | Camp Reinsehlen, Germany

*Chair of Environmental Economics and Resource Management, University of Freiburg, Germany*

*Sustainability Economics Group, Leuphana University of Lüneburg, Germany*

*Environmental, Resource and Ecological Economics Group, University of Kiel, Germany*

## Background and Aims of the Summer School

The vision of sustainability requires that development paths be equitable across and within generations, while human-made and natural resources be allocated such that none are wasted in the pursuit of increasing human well-being. Sustainability is thus essentially a normative concept. It requires taking into consideration the claims of future, not yet existing persons – also addressing trade-offs between inter- and intragenerational justice goals. Investigating the long-term future necessarily implies dealing with fundamental uncertainty, because uncertainty and uncertainty-attitudes affect how societies distribute resources to insure against such uncertainties.

Behavioral economics and experimental methods (in the lab and in the field) have substantially altered the way economists perceive the world and how they derive policy recommendations. For the emerging field of *sustainability economics* the question thus arises in what way one can and should employ experimental approaches to generate insights into a just and efficient intergenerational distribution of resources under conditions of uncertainty.

Against this background, the summer school aims at developing a better understanding of how and to what extent experiments can contribute to advancing the economics and policy of sustainability.

The summer school will discuss in particular:

- How to set up experiments that generate insights into intergenerational relations and very long time horizons?
- How to set up experiments studying fundamental uncertainty?
- To what extent and how can one employ experimental observations on individual or collective behavior to improve theories of sustainability, especially with respect to the normative content of sustainability conceptions?
- What is the contribution of experimental methods for sustainability economic research, compared to modelling, non-experimental empirics, and philosophical-conceptual reflection?

- On what theoretical basis and assumptions do experiments have to rest if their results should be instructive for sustainability policy?

## Format

The summer school targets junior researchers (doctoral or post-doctoral level) with a research focus on the summer school's theme, who want to engage with experts in the field in a highly interactive manner.

It brings together a small group of approximately 25 participants, including about ten eminent speakers and ten to fifteen junior researchers. The format will be that of a research-oriented workshop. While invited speakers provide keynote lectures on the topic with ample room for discussion, junior researchers present their research in shorter sessions.

## Invited Speakers

<b>Astrid Dannenberg</b>	University of Kassel
<b>Anke Gerber</b>	University of Hamburg
<b>Andreas Lange</b>	University of Hamburg
<b>Arno Riedl</b>	Maastricht University
<b>Daan van Soest</b>	Tilburg University
<b>Sabrina Teyssier</b>	INRA Versailles
<b>Alexander Vostroknutov</b>	Maastricht University
<b>Kimberly Wade-Benzoni</b>	Duke University

## Venue



The summer school will take place at the conference guest house Camp Reinsehen in the heart of the Lüneburg Heath, a short hour from Hamburg.

<http://www.campreinsehen.de>

## Costs

There is no participation fee, but participants have to bear the costs for their travel as well as for board and lodging at the conference venue. We can offer the latter at a reduced price of 250 Euros for accommodation in a shared double room and full board, to be paid on site before departure. There are no individual reductions or opt-outs available.



## Program

Sunday, October 11, 2015

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

Monday, October 12, 2015

full day	scientific program
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Tuesday, October 13, 2015

full day	scientific program, hike in the Lüneburg Heath
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Wednesday, October 14, 2015

after breakfast	check-out
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## Hosts and Contact

The summer school is organized by the *Chair of Environmental Economics and Resource Management* at *University of Freiburg* (Prof. Dr. Stefan Baumgärtner, Stephan Wolf), the *Sustainability Economics Group* at *Leuphana University of Lüneburg*, and the *Environmental, Resource and Ecological Economics Group* at *University of Kiel* (Prof. Dr. Martin F. Quaas, Moritz A. Drupp):

<http://www.ere.uni-freiburg.de>

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## Travel Information

The closest international airport is Hamburg (HAM).  
The closest railway station is Schneverdingen.

Detailed travel information will be provided later.

## Application and Important Dates

Junior researchers should send their application – including CV, an abstract of their research to be presented in the workshop, and the name and contact details of at least one academic reference – to Stephan Wolf ([stephan.wolf@unr.uni-freiburg.de](mailto:stephan.wolf@unr.uni-freiburg.de)).

The deadline for applications is July 1. Accepted applicants will be notified by July 15, and have to register before August 1.

## Acknowledgement

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