Innovation and Development

IVWL – Master level – 6 ECTS

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Overview

This course aims to describe, discuss and conceptualize key issues related to innovation (understood in a broad sense and embracing capability building) as important ingredient for development. After a thorough introduction to concepts and theories of innovation, the challenge of measuring innovation (and the policy relevance of measurements) will be discussed. Special emphasis is given - throughout several modules – to a variety of aspects related to innovation for and by low- and middle income groups and directed towards inclusive development. The outlined lectures will combine overviews of the respective topics with detailed discussions of methods and findings of exemplary, empirical material from recent studies. For some lectures students are expected to apply the analytical tools introduced to them at the beginning of the course to analyze cases of their own choice.

Structure of the Lecture

Outline: Innovation and Development

1. Introduction: Innovation systems and economic development

- Setting the scene: background, definitions and key concepts (modes of innovation)
- Approaches to innovation (innovation systems in regional, national and global context)
- Characteristics of innovation systems in low-income countries

Literature:


2. Measuring innovation

- The challenge of measuring innovation in developing countries
- The development of indicators in catching-up countries
- The need for indicators to guide and assist in development processes (the role of innovation policy)

**Literature:**


3. Innovation for inclusive development

- What is inclusive development?
- Characteristics of business conditions and economic life at the bottom-of-the pyramid
- Case evidence from the UNIID – Africa project

**Literature:**


4. Frugal innovation and consumer innovation at the bottom-of-the-pyramid – guest lecture by Dr. Rajnish Tiwari, Center for Frugal Innovation, Technical University Hamburg-Harburg, Germany

- Conceptual foundations of user innovations
- User Innovation in a resource-scarce setting
- Opportunities for frugal innovations and implications for development

5. Foresighting inclusive development

- Foresight and innovation systems
- The multiple functions of foresight


6. Public Procurement and the development agenda - guest lecture by Associate Professor Max Rolfstam, Aalborg University, Denmark.

- Public procurement as a means to stimulate innovation
- The role of institutions in shaping innovation
- Development Aspects of public procurement

Literature: to be announced at the beginning of the course.