



International Wuppertal Colloquium on

„Sustainable Growth, Resource Productivity and Sustainable Industrial Policy – Recent Findings, new Approaches for Strategies and Policies”

September 17 – 19, 2008 at the University of Wuppertal

Conference Venue: Uni Gästehaus / Guest house – Rainer-Gruenter-Str. 3, 42119 Wuppertal

Map link: <http://www.uni-wuppertal.de/forschung/wissenschaftstransfer/gaestehaus.html/anfahrt.html>

The preliminary papers and presentations are online available (password: wuppertal):
<http://eiiw.wiwi.uni-wuppertal.de/Internatio.3176.0.html>

The international colloquium shall bring together top experts on sustainable growth and sustainable resource management. It aims to analyse the contribution of increasing resource productivity to sustainability. Having a focus on economics, the international colloquium shall also cover the technological, the environmental and the international dimensions. The number of participants and presentations is strictly limited in order to facilitate discussion.

The international colloquium shall take place in 2008, 2009, and 2010. It accompanies a large research project on “Material Efficiency & Conservation of Resources” which is coordinated by the Wuppertal Institute with some 30 partners on behalf of the German Federal Ministry for the Environment. While the first international colloquium intends to assemble the state of the art, the subsequent colloquia in 2009 and 2010 shall also discuss technological potentials and business opportunities as well as options for a sustainable industrial policy. A publication is intended.

First Day, September 17 (Wednesday)

Morning: Arrival, Coffee/Tea

12:00 Welcome, and Opening

Paul J. J. Welfens, Wuppertal University / EIIW

Raimund Bleischwitz, Wuppertal Institute, Chair of the international colloquium

Opening Speech:

Peter Henricke, Wuppertal Institute (President until January 2008)

“Decoupling quality of life and use of nature - a global challenge. Learning from selected Germany experiences and international perspectives”

12:30 - 13:30 Lunch

13:30 - 15:30 Session I: Global Trends: Economic Growth and Implications for Resource Use

How will global economic growth develop and what impact does it have on resource demand, use, and efficiency? Is scarcity an issue for economic growth and sustainability? What can existing models tell us with regard to resource productivity?

Speakers:

Magnus Ericsson, Raw Material Group Stockholm

“Will the mining industry meet global need for metals?”

Christian Lutz, GWS Osnabrück:

“Global resource use in a business as usual world until 2030. Updated results from the GINFORS model.”

15:30 – 16:00 Coffee Break

16:00 – 18:00 Session II: Emerging Economies: China and India at the Forefront

What future growth paths are on the horizon for the so-called BRIC-countries? How strong will be the impact on resource markets? Is there a new geography of trade? Is there potential for conflicts for resources and what could be possible measures to prevent them? What can be concluded for resource productivity efforts in different regions?

Speakers:

Jennifer Li, Foundation for Environmental Security and Sustainability (FESS):

“China and India's resource needs and related impacts on Africa.”

ZhongXiang Zhang, East-West Centre, Honolulu:

“Asian energy and environmental policy: Promoting growth while preserving the environment”

Nadine Pratt, UNEP/Wuppertal Institute Collaborating Centre on Sustainable Consumption and Production (CSCP)

“Sustainable consumption and production along the global value chain”

Transfer from the conference venue to the restaurant will be provided.

19:00 Dinner at La Terracotta Trattoria (Italian Specialities)

Döppersberg 19, 42103 Wuppertal (*next to the Intercity Hotel*)

Second Day, September 18 (Thursday)

Transfer from the Hotel to the conference venue will be provided.

09:00 – 11:00 Session III: Strategic Minerals

Will there be a serious constraint on the access for certain strategic minerals? What strategic minerals might pose industries at risk? What possible substitutes exist? Is there evidence for technological dependencies in key industries? Can a specific development and growth of mineral-rich countries be observed? What are the implications for the sustainability management of metals?

Speakers:

Thomas Graedel, Yale University:

“Defining critical materials”

David Menzie, USGS, Mineral Information Team

“The national mineral stockpiles - Goals, issues, challenges, and opportunities”

Thorvaldur Gylfason, University of Iceland:

“Development and growth in mineral-rich countries”

11:00 – 11:30 Coffee Break

11:30 – 12:30 Session IV: Young Researchers 1

Eleni Papathanasopoulou, Environmental, Social and Economic Research Group / Greece:

„Greece’s fossil fuel use in 2005: a production, consumption and supply-chain analysis“

Monika Dittrich, Cologne University / Germany:

“The physical dimension of international trade 1962 – 2005: empirical findings and tentative conclusions”

12:30 – 14:00 Lunch

14:00 – 16:00 Session V: Energy, Resources and Value Creation: towards decoupling?

What is the evidence for decoupling at the level of economies and business? What are the driving forces and barriers? What tendencies can be distinguished regarding the decoupling of growth from resource use? What is the evidence for a 'Kuznets-Curve' and how is it related to global environmental change, burden shifting, and a 'rebound effect'? What is the potential for specific industries?

Speakers:

Mario Schmidt, Pforzheim Applied University:

"Why do companies ignore economic efficiency potentials? The need of a public efficiency awareness"

Jens Clausen / Klaus Fichter, Borderstep and Oldenburg University:

"Developing lead markets for resource efficient IT solutions – A co-operative roadmapping approach with the German IT-industry"

Raimund Bleischwitz / Sören Steger, Wuppertal Institute:

"Evidence for decoupling GDP from resource use in Europe: trends and drivers"

16:00 – 16:30 Coffee Break

16:30 – 17:30 Session VI: Young Researchers 2

Natalia Merkina, University of Oslo / Norway:

"Technological catch-up or resource Rents?: A production frontier approach to growth accounting"

Jan Kunnas, European University Institute Florence / Italy:

"Anxiety and technological change – Explaining the decline of sulphur dioxide emissions in Finland since 1950"

Transfer from the conference venue to the restaurant and afterwards back to the hotel will be provided.

18:30 Dinner at the Wuppertaler Brauhaus (German Specialities)

Kleine Flurstr. 5, 42275 Wuppertal

Third Day, September 19 (Friday)

Transfer from the Hotel to the conference venue will be provided.

Coffee/Tea

09:00 – 10:30 Session VII: Towards new productivity dynamics

What strategies can industries pursue to increase their resource productivity or to impact on others? How might industries simultaneously increase their competitiveness? What are the constraints on industries and economies? What are the implications for productivity dynamics and market economies in Europe?

Speakers:

Arnold Tukker, TNO Built Environment and Geosciences, Innovation and Environment:

“Resource productivity: Priorities and practical constraints”

Erich Hoedl, European Academy of Science and Arts, Vienna:

„Socio-ecological market economy in Europe: Labour productivity versus capital productivity“

10:30 - 11:00 Coffee Break

11:00 – 12:30 Session VIII: Options for Sustainable Growth: The need to act and the economics of action

Which technological, environmental and economic policy instruments and strategies – both national and international – could trigger an industrial revolution of resource and energy efficiency? How strong should they be implemented and how do they interact? Do some of these measures contradict one another?

Speakers:

Paul Ekins, Kings College London:

“The economics of sustainable growth: Getting beyond ‘Win-Win’ rhetoric”

Klaus Jacob, Environmental Policy Research Center (FFU), FU Berlin / Raimund

Bleischwitz, Wuppertal Institute:

“Re-inventing government: The role of regulation”

12:30 – 13:00 Resume / Conclusions

13:00 Lunch

Farewell

Excursion organised on demand (Düsseldorf or Cologne)

Conference Chair: Raimund Bleischwitz, contact: piet.hausberg@wupperinst.org