

Prof. Dr. Kilian Bizer, Dr. Kaja Fredriksen, Thore Sören Bischoff

**Summer semester 2019: Master seminar (MA) on**

**„Policy experiments for sustainability“**

**Organizational information:**

**Preliminary discussion:** 26<sup>th</sup> of April, 9 am to 11 am

**Deadline for handing in the written assignment:** 14<sup>th</sup> of June

**Sessions:** 25<sup>th</sup> & 27<sup>th</sup> of June (½ day & ½ day), 28<sup>th</sup> of June (1 day)

**Number of participants:** 16

**Place:** ifh Göttingen, Volkswirtschaftliches Institut für Mittelstand und Handwerk an der Universität Göttingen, Heinrich-Düker-Weg 6

**Language:** English

**Credits:** 6

**Registration:** Email to [kaja.fredriksen@wiwi.uni-goettingen.de](mailto:kaja.fredriksen@wiwi.uni-goettingen.de) with 3 topics that will be distributed according to a „first come, first served“-basis

**Content:**

Proper governance must be able to handle many complex problems that change rapidly over time in a world where the outcome of policy is highly uncertain. Consistent use of policy experiments (in the same vein as ‘living labs’) to foster regulatory learning processes can help address this challenge. Such experimentation has lately gained traction, both in scientific community and among policymakers.

Achieving sustainability is a good example of a complex problem, as it requires transforming simultaneously a number of economic systems. This seminar looks into how economic structures-limited in time and space- can be created in order to assess the interaction between regulation and innovations to foster sustainability.

**Student performance will be assessed based on:**

- Written assignment on one topic of choice
- Presentation of the assignment during the sessions (12-15 minutes)
- Written comments to the assignment of a follow student (1-2 pages) + Oral feedback during the sessions (5 minutes)
- Participation in the discussions during the sessions

### Literature to get started:

- Voß, J-P., Kemp, R. and Bauknecht, D. (2006): "Reflexive governance : a view on an emerging path", In: Voß, Jan-Peter ; Bauknecht, Dierk and Kemp, René: Reflexive governance for sustainable development. - Cheltenham : Edward Elgar, 2006. - ISBN: 978-1-84542-582-1.
- Huitema, D., Jordan, A., Munaretto, S. and Hilden, M. (2018): "Policy experiments: core concepts, political dynamics and impacts", in: Policy Sciences, 51 (2), 143-159.

### Topics:

#### **Part 1: Innovations for sustainable development**

##### **1. What is "sustainable development"?**

- Bundesregierung (2017): „Deutsche Nachhaltigkeitsstrategie, Neuauflage 2016 (Kabinettsbeschluss 11.1.2017)“, Berlin, online:  
[https://www.bundesregierung.de/Content/Infomaterial/BPA/Bestellservice/Deutsche\\_Nachhaltigkeitsstrategie\\_Neuauflage\\_2016.pdf?\\_\\_blob=publicationFile&v=7](https://www.bundesregierung.de/Content/Infomaterial/BPA/Bestellservice/Deutsche_Nachhaltigkeitsstrategie_Neuauflage_2016.pdf?__blob=publicationFile&v=7).
- Waas, T., Hüge, J., Verbruggen, A. and Wright, T. (2011): "Sustainable Development: A Bird's Eye View", in: Sustainability, 3(10), 1637-1661.

##### **2. Should the regulator promote radical and sustainable systemic changes of the economy?**

- Pigou, A.C. (1920): The Economics of Welfare", London, Macmillan.
- McLaughlin, P. A. (2013): "On the Human Costs of the US Regulatory System: Should Congress Pressure Agencies to Make Rules Faster?", testimony to the Senate Judiciary Committee, Subcommittee on Oversight, Federal Rights and Agency Action.
- Jänicke, M. (2012): "Megatrend Umweltinnovation zur ökologischen Modernisierung von Wirtschaft und Staat". München: Oekom.

##### **3. The emergence of innovations and their contributions to sustainable development**

- European Commission (2011): "EU Eco-Innovation-Action-Plan", online  
<https://ec.europa.eu/environment/ecoap/about-action-plan/objectives-methodology>
- Fichter, K. (2014): "Interaktive Innovationstheorien als alternative "Schule" der Innovationsforschung", in: W. Burr (Hrsg.) „Innovation- Theorien, Konzepte und Methoden der Innovationsforschung“, 1. Auflage, Stuttgart.

##### **4. Innovation communities for sustainable development**

- Fichter, K. (2009): "Innovation communities: the role of networks of promoters in Open Innovation", in: R&D Management, 39(4), 357-371.
- Fichter, K., Beucker, S. (2012): "Innovation communities : Teamworking of key persons - a success factor in radical innovation", Berlin: Springer-Verlag.

##### **5. The diffusion of sustainable innovations**

- Geels, F.W. (2014): "Regime Resistance against Low-Carbon Transitions: Introducing Politics and Power into the Multi-Level-Perspective", in: Theory, Culture and Society, 31(5), 21-40.
- Geels, F.W. (2015): The Arduous Transition to Low-Carbon Energy"; in J. Fagerberg, S. Laestadius & B.R. Marti (Hrsg.), The Triple Challenge for Europe (S. 90-118). Oxford University Press.

- Schot, J., Geels, F.W. (2008): Strategic niche management and sustainable innovation journeys: theory, findings, research agenda, and policy. *Technology Analysis & Strategic Management* 20(5), S. 537-554

#### **6. Knowledge bases for sustainable innovation**

- Grillitsch, M., Martin, R. and Srholec (2017): "Knowledge Base Combinations and Innovation Performance in Swedish Regions", in: *Economic Geography*, 93(5), 458-479.
- Isaksen, A. and Trippel, M. (2017): "Exogenously Led and Policy-Supported New Path Development in Peripheral Regions: Analytical and Synthetic Routes", in: *Economic Geography*, 93(5), 436-457.

### **Part 2: Experimenting with regulation**

#### **7. Reflexive governance for systemic transformations**

- Bauknecht, D., Heinemann, C., Stronzik, M., Schmitt, S. (2015): Austesten von regulatorischen Innovationen - das Instrument der Regulatorischen Innovationszone, in: *Energiewirtschaftliche Tagesfragen* 65(7), S. 61-64.
- Schot, J. and Geels, F. (2008): "Strategic niche management and sustainable innovation journeys: Theory, findings, research agenda and policy", in: *Journal of Technology Analysis and Strategic Management*, 20(5), 537-554.

#### **8. Participation of societal actors in the regulatory process**

- Geels, F.W. (2002): "Technological transformations as evolutionary reconfiguration processes: A multi-level perspective and a case-study", in: *Research Policy*, 31(2002), 1257-1274.
- Grillitsch, M. and Nilsson, M. (2015); "Innovations in peripheral regions: Do collaborations compensate for the lack of knowledge spill-overs?", in: *Annals of Regional Science* 54, 299-321.
- Young, I.M. (2001): "Activist challenges to deliberative democracy", in: *Political Theory* 29(5), 670-690.

#### **9. The costs and benefits of regulation and regulatory experimentation**

- Greenstone, M. (2009): *Toward a Culture of Persistent Regulatory Experimentation and Evaluation*. In: Moss, David and John Cisternino, eds. *New Perspectives on Regulation*. Cambridge, MA; The Tobin Project.
- Howe, K. (2004): "A critic of experimentalism", in: *Qualitative Inquiry*, 42-61.

#### **10. Experiments as a research method and an approach to governing**

- McDermott, R. (2002): "Experimental methods in political science", in: *Annual Review of Political Science*, 5, 31-61.
- Ansell, C.K. and Bartenberger, M. (2016): „Varieties of experimentalism“, in: *Ecological Economics*, 130, 64-73.

#### **11. Policy experiments and regulatory learning**

- McFadgen, B. & Huitema, D. (2018). Experimentation at the interface of science and policy: a multi-case analysis of how policy experiments influence political decision-makers. *Policy Sciences*, 51 (2), 161-187.
- Rocle, N. and Salles, D. (2017): "Pioneers but not guinea pigs: Experimenting with climate change adaptation in the French coastal areas", in: *Policy Sciences*, 51(2), 231-247.

## **12. The role of societal stakeholders in policy experiments**

- Castan Broto, V. and Bulkeley, H. (2013): "A survey of urban climate change experiments in 100 cities", in: *Global Environmental Change*, 23, 92-102.

## **13. Challenges for the regulator when experimenting with economic policy**

- Siegrist, M., Connor, M. and Keller (2012): "Trust, Confidence, Procedural Fairness, Outcome Fairness, Moral Hazard, and the Acceptance of GM Field Experiments", in: *Risk Analysis*, 32(8), 1394-1403.
- Heldeweg, M.A. (2017): "Normative Alignment, Institutional Resilience and Shifts in Legal Governance of the Energy Transition", in: *Sustainability*, 9(7), 1273.

### **Part 3: Field experiments and case studies**

## **14. Field experiments in the domain of sustainability ("green" experiments)**

- B. Sturm and J. Weimann (2006); „Experiments in environmental economics and some close relatives“, in: *Journal of Economic Surveys*, 20(3), 439-457.
- S. D. Levitt and J. A. List (2009); "Field experiments in economics: The past, the present, and the future", in: *European Economic Review*, 53(1), 1-18.
- J. Diederich and T. Goeschl (2014); "Willingness to pay for voluntary climate action and its determinants: Field-Experimental evidence", in: *Environmental and Resource Economics*, 57(3), 405-429.

## **15. The Finnish Basic Income Experiment**

- Kangas, O., Simanainen, M., & Honkanen, P. (2017): "Basic income in the Finnish context", in: *Intereconomics*, 52(2), 87-91.
- Kangas, O., Jauhiainen, S., Simanainen, M., & Ylikännö, M. (2019): "The basic income experiment 2017–2018 in Finland. Preliminary results", Reports and Memorandums of the Ministry of Social Affairs and Health 2019:9.

## **16. The REACH-Directive as a regulatory experiment**

- Führ, M. (2014): REACH als lernendes System - Wissensgenerierung und Perspektivenpluralismus durch Stakeholder Involvement, in: Bora, Henkel, A., Reinhardt (Hrsg.): *Wissensregulierung und Regulierungswissen*. Detmold, S. 109-134.