

Wintersemester 2011/12

Gebäude NW I
Hörsaal H12

BayCEER Kolloquium

Vortragsreihe Ökologie und Umweltforschung

Donnerstag 08.12.2011, 17:00 Uhr, H12

Anschließend Postkolloquium mit Bier und Brezeln im H12

Prof. Dr. Hermann Held

Research Unit Sustainability & Global Change, Departments of
Geosciences and Macroeconomics, University of Hamburg /
KlimaCampus Hamburg

Optimal Climate Investments under System Uncertainty

The '2° target' – to limit the anthropogenically driven increase of global mean temperature to 2°C compared to preindustrial values – has been embraced under the UNFCCC framework at the Conference of the Parties 2010 in Cancún. In recent years, energy economics have derived welfare-optimal investment streams into low-emission energy mixes and associated costs. According to such analyses, auxiliary targets that are in line with the 2° target could be achieved at relatively low costs if energy investments were triggered rather swiftly.

While such analyses assume 'perfect foresight' of a benevolent 'social planner', an accompanying suite of experiments explicitly acknowledges the rather uncertain nature of key responses to human decisions within the climate as well as the technology system. We indicate an intrinsic need for generalisation within target approaches under uncertainty and highlight a thereby enforced convergence in approaches within climate economics. The role of uncertainty in decision-making is finally illustrated for the case of tipping point-like climate damages.

Die Vortragsreihe
ist eine
interdisziplinäre
Plattform zur
Information und
Diskussion für
Studierende,
Forschende und
Lehrende

Gäste
sind herzlich
willkommen