

THE EIGHTH GLOBAL CONFERENCE ON ENVIRONMENTAL TAXATION MUNICH, 18 - 20 OCTOBER 2007



INNOVATION, TECHNOLOGY AND EMPLOYMENT: IMPACTS OF ENVIRONMENTAL FISCAL REFORMS AND OTHER MARKET-BASED INSTRUMENTS

Including Special Workshop on
**ENVIRONMENTAL FISCAL REFORM IN
DEVELOPING, EMERGING AND TRANSITION ECONOMIES**

hosted by Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ)
and German Technical Cooperation (GTZ)

CONFERENCE HISTORY

2000: Cleveland, USA (Department of Accounting, Cleveland State University)

2001: Vancouver, Canada (British Columbia Institute of Technology)

2002: Vermont, USA (Environmental Tax Policy Institute, Vermont Law School)

What have we learned from global experiences with environmental taxes – What works, what does not and why? What are the legal limits to governments' power to use environmental taxation?

2003: Sydney, Australia (Department of Business Law, Macquarie University)

The challenges of environmental taxation in the 21st century, and what experience teaches us about how and when to use environmental taxes.

2004: Pavia, Italy (European School of Advanced Studies in Integrated Environmental Management, University of Pavia)

The use of environmental taxation to tackle traffic generated problems in urban areas and the comparison of environmental taxes with other market-based instruments in addressing environmental problems.

2005: Leuven, Belgium (Institute for Environmental and Energy Law, University of Leuven)

The promotion of renewable energy through tax or other market-based measures, and identifying challenges and obstacles.

2006: Ottawa, Canada (Faculty of Law, University of Ottawa)

Moving from theory to practice: the role of fiscal and other economic instruments in helping society transition towards environmentally sustainable, just and prosperous economies.

PURPOSE AND OBJECTIVES

The **Global Conference on Environmental Taxation (GCET)** provides an interdisciplinary forum for the exchange of ideas, information and research findings about the use of environmental taxes and other economic instruments across international boundaries. At the conference, leading scholars in the fields of law, economics, accounting, fiscal policy, political science and scientific disciplines come together to discuss ongoing developments relating to the potential of using economic instruments to combat the global environmental challenges of the 21st century. Selected papers from each conference are published by Oxford University Press in an annual, peer-reviewed volume.

The 2007 conference will focus on the **proven positive impacts of environmental fiscal reforms (EFR) and other market-based instruments**. The primary focus will be on less well-publicised aspects of EFR, such as the stimulation of innovation, the development of new technologies, and job creation, rather than the political controversies and administrative details of the instrument debate. Understanding these positive effects – and communicating them – has a vital role to play in the implementation of EFR in the future to support a smooth transition to a sustainable economy. A Special Workshop hosted by the BMZ and the GTZ will focus on the progress of and prospects for EFR in developing, emerging and transition economies.

PARTICIPANTS

The target audience for this conference includes delegates from around the world who are interested in the use of fiscal and other economic instruments for integrating environmental and economic objectives. This includes:

- **Academic scholars** from universities worldwide in the fields of law, economics, taxation, accounting, political sciences, environmental studies, etc.
- **Government officials** globally from federal and provincial/state/territorial departments of finance, environment, natural resources and others, as well as representatives of **International and Non-Governmental Organisations**.
- **Tax and accounting professionals** from leading accountancy and law firms and **executives and experts** from the **private sector**.

We are expecting 250 to 300 participants, not including spouses and friends, who are welcome as well.

PROMINENT SPEAKERS

Our Prominent speakers include **Prof. Dr. Klaus Töpfer**, former Executive Director of UNEP, and former German Environment Minister; **Prof. Jacqueline McGlade**, Executive Director EEA; **Prof. Dr. Ernst-Ulrich von Weizsäcker**, founding father of Environmental Fiscal Reform; **Dr. Martin Bursik**, Vice-Premier and Minister of Environment, Czech Republic; **Prof. Dr. Norbert Walter**, Chief Economist Deutsche Bank; **Michael Müller**, Parliamentary State Secretary, Ministry of Environment; **Heidmarie Wieczorek-Zeul**, MdB, Federal Minister for Economic Cooperation and Development, Germany, tbc

INTERNATIONAL ORGANISING COMMITTEE

Prof. Hope Ashiabor

Department of Business Law, Macquarie University, Sydney, Australia

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Prof. Larry Kreiser

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Prof. Janet Milne

Environmental Tax Policy Institute, Vermont Law School

Prof. Dr. Wolfgang Wiegard* and Prof. Dr. Wolfgang Buchholz

Faculty of Business, Economics, and Information Systems, University of Regensburg

Dr. Anselm Görres and Kai Schlegelmilch

President and Vice-President of Green Budget Germany / Förderverein Ökologische Steuerreform

*Prof. Wiegard is also a member of Germany's Council of Economic Advisers (SVR)

ABOUT GREEN BUDGET GERMANY

Green Budget Germany was founded in 1994 as a **single issue movement** to support the development of an **Ecological Tax Reform (ETR) in Germany**. Since the first ecotax reform was implemented in Germany in 1999, we have been working **to improve and expand the reach** of environmental fiscal reform (EFR) in Germany and beyond. Our focus today includes the full array of market-based instruments (MBIs) and environmental fiscal reform (EFR). In debates about emission trading, green or perverse subsidies, and related ecofiscal instruments, we have **become a competent voice** in Germany and abroad. One of our prime concerns is to improve communication and public awareness of EFR. To further the exchange of ideas worldwide, we publish two **newsletters** and maintain two websites in German and English. Since 1998, we have published **four memoranda (Green Books) on ETR** and numerous other publications. GBG members contribute actively to the national and international debate on MBIs and we organize many events, both at home and abroad. Our international scope is reflected in our **advisory board members from the Czech Republic, Greece, the Netherlands, Austria, Sweden, Switzerland, and the USA**.



CONFERENCE FORMAT AND TIMING

The conference will take place in Munich, from Thursday, October 18, 2007 to Saturday, October 20, 2007 inclusive. The conference will open for registration on Thursday at 11.30am, followed by two and a half days of conference activities on Thursday, Friday and Saturday. There will be a conference dinner on Friday evening. The conference will close at 5.30pm on Saturday. The conference days will include a mix of plenary and parallel sessions, and will feature keynote presentations. The conference will be organised with Prof. Dr. Wolfgang Wiegard and Prof. Dr. Wolfgang Buchholz from the University of Regensburg, in cooperation with the BMZ/GTZ. The patron of the conference will be the Lord Mayor of Munich, Christian Ude.

The Special Workshop on EFR in Developing, Emerging and Transition Economies will take place from Friday, 19, 2007 to Saturday, October 20, 2007. The Workshop will be hosted by the **Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ)** and the **German Technical Cooperation (GTZ)**.

The city of Munich is hosting a cocktail reception for all participants in the medieval Munich City Hall on Thursday evening. The conference will be held in English.

CONFERENCE FEES

Full conference fee (from 1st September): €390

Reduced fee for early bookers: €290 (only limited quantity available!)

NGOs, Green Budget Germany members, students, accompanying persons: €190

Price includes access to all conference sessions, conference pack, lunch on all three conference days, evening cocktail reception and conference dinner.



CONFERENCE VENUE & ACCOMMODATION

The conference will take place in the Kardinal Wendel House in Munich, in the university quarter of Schwabing, adjacent to the famous English Garden. The complex is set in its own grounds, and guests can stay in the Suresnes Palace adjacent to the main building. Workshops will be held in the Viereckhof, the oldest remaining Schwabinger farmhouse, built in the 13th century.

There are some rooms available at the conference location, the Kardinal Wendel House and the adjacent Suresnes Palace. Single 79€, double 99€, both including breakfast. We will also reserve blocks of rooms at discounted rates, covering all price categories, in suitable hotels and hostels close to the conference venue. Please check our website for more details.

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

| Day 1 | Day 2 | Developing, Emerging and Transition Economies: Progress & Prospects | Day 3 | Developing, Emerging & Transition Economies |
|--|--|---|---|---|
| | Plenary: Policy design and Public Choice | | Plenary: Transport | |
| | Coffee Break | | | |
| | Workshops | | Workshops | |
| Bavarian Brunch; Registration | Lunch | | | |
| Welcome and introduction Adam-Smith-Prize Dr. Klaus Töpfer | Plenary: Energy | | Plenary: The political landscape of EFR | |
| Plenary: Innovation, Technology, Employment | | | | |
| Coffee Break | | | | |
| Workshops | Workshops | | Plenary: Reflections and comments | |
| Evening Break | | | Closing remarks | |
| Cocktail reception in Munich City Hall | Conference dinner | | | |

SPECIAL WORKSHOP: ENVIRONMENTAL FISCAL REFORMS IN DEVELOPING, EMERGING AND TRANSITION ECONOMIES: PROGRESS & PROSPECTS

The aim of this special workshop is to exchange experiences and lessons learned of the process of EFR implementation in **developing, emerging and transition economies** and to assess future prospects. The focus lies on the following questions:

- Which progresses and impacts have been achieved in designing and implementing EFR in developing, emerging and transition economies, including the overarching Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) such as halving extreme poverty by the year 2015?
- How do decision-makers and public finance experts tackle the challenges of governance structures concerning the political economy of environmentally related taxes, fees, and subsidies?
- How does EFR link in practice to national planning (and, where relevant, to new aid modalities)?

The workshop will target international policy-makers working in the fields of both public finance and environment: Experts from developing, emerging and transition economies as well as international experts from academia community level, politics, administration, and development agencies.

The workshop will take place in the context of Germany's G8 presidency in 2007 and will build on the results of the OECD Environment-Development Ministerial Meeting in 2006 which aimed to strengthen the cooperation between the sectors. The workshop will be hosted by the **Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ)** and the **German Technical Cooperation (GTZ)** and supported by the **Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD)**.

SPONSORS AND DONATIONS WELCOME

Green Budget Germany is a small organisation, and it is not easy for us to fund a prestigious international conference. If you would like to **sponsor our work** please contact us at foes@foes.de, or alternatively, make a **donation** to: FÖS e.V., GLS Gemeinschaftsbank e.G., Sort Code (BLZ) 430 609 67, Account Number 804 371 30 00, IBAN DE87430609678043713000.

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Al Gore (An Inconvenient Truth):

“But along with the danger we face from global warming, this crisis also brings unprecedented opportunities. ... They include not just new jobs and new profits, though there will be plenty of both.. We can build clean engines, we can harness the sun and the wind; we can stop wasting energy...”

Conference content is the sole responsibility of the organisers

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