



# Osnabrücker Geographisches Kolloquium

Wintersemester 2015/16

jeweils Mi., 18 Uhr c.t., Raum 02/E04, Hörsaal

Das Institut für Geographie lädt ein zur Kolloquiumsreihe:

**„Inklusion und Exklusion in globalen Produktionsnetzwerken“**

**Mittwoch, 27. Januar 2016**

PROF. DR. JAMES T. MURPHY (WORCESTER, USA)

*Practiced exclusion in African GPNs: Downgrading and (neo)intermediation in Tanzanian industry*



As Africa's economies become more liberalized and connected to GPNs, important questions remain unanswered as to whether global integration is translating into progressive development in the region. Drawing off of empirical evidence from the wood products and tourism industries in Tanzania, this presentation examines qualitatively the practices through which firms and industries are building transnational ties to GPN actors, and their implications with respect to questions of value enhancement (upgrading) and value capture (urban-regional development). The field research reveals, among other things, two key trends – downgrading and (neo)intermediation – that mark the sometimes exclusionary and uneven nature of GPN integration, and assesses their implications for industrial and urban development in the region. These recent trends raise concerns about whether Africa's growth success stories are or can be(ing) realized in the forms of improved capabilities and assets that can upgrade industries, enhance value creation, and sustain 'globalized' regional development. Immanent (structural) conditions remain a crucial concern, one that demands industrial policies and other initiatives to enable, in particular, small and medium-scale enterprises to better compete with imports and FDI in domestic markets, and to establish ties to GPNs that offer upgrading opportunities in the medium term. Beyond these empirical contributions, the presentation advances a practice oriented perspective in GPN analysis as one that can better account for the agencies, discontinuities, and governance processes that constitute them spatially and embed them territorially.

**Koordination:** Prof. Dr. Martin Franz

Institut für Geographie, Seminarstraße 19ab, 49074 Osnabrück,  
0541/969-4267