

Suggested Themes for Master Theses

Industrial development

- Industrial development and structural change in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) or other developing countries in other regions. (Quantitative analysis using enterprise surveys and published macro level statistics, or qualitative analysis at sectoral level (for instance automotives, aeronautics, IT or textiles) based on semi-structured interviews.)
- The development of renewable energy sectors the MENA region: case studies on Tunisia, Egypt, Jordan or the Gulf states (a study of industrial and energy policy)
- The political economy of industrial policy: focus on the MENA or sub-Saharan Africa
- Global-value chains and foreign direct investment: issues around localisation of value chains, technology transfer and upgrading

Sustainability transitions, environmental policy and energy

- Sustainability transitions in developing countries (theoretical analyses and/or country/sectoral case studies)
- The political economy of reforming fossil-fuel subsidies in developing countries
- Renewable energy and energy efficiency policies and impacts on economic development
- Empirical assessment of inter-linkages between energy demand, economic growth, and the environment
- Water-energy-food nexus in the MENA context (empirical studies or extensive literature review)
- Environmental degradation, economic growth, and policy alternatives in developing countries (empirical studies on specific environmental issues at country or cross-country level)
- Power systems in the MENA region (Market structure and development, renewable support schemes etc.; country or regional studies)

- Perspectives of EU-MENA (renewable) energy cooperation
- Decarbonisation: Strategies and impacts on the MENA region (global or country or regional studies)
- Economic development, energy demand and renewables (with a focus on the MENA)
- Economics of power system integration

Technology transfer, innovation and entrepreneurship

- Technology adoption and diffusion in developing countries
- Innovation and entrepreneurship in developing countries – sectoral or country case studies
- University-industry relationships and the promotion of learning, innovation and competence building systems
- Innovation, growth and catching-up in developing countries – sectoral and country case studies
- Sectoral innovation systems, industrial policy and development
- Innovation, sustainable development and energy in the developing countries
- Inclusive innovation and development: A comprehensive review of literature or case studies on particular sectors and countries

International trade and foreign aid

- Macroeconomic impacts of international trade
- International trade and income inequality
- Aid-for-trade and development impacts