

The Role of Trade Policy in the Post-Paris Climate World

DIE-GDI and Climate Strategies

8 November 2017 • 14:00 – 16:00
COP23 Interconnection Zone Side-Event at DIE-GDI

This side-event focusses on the relationship between international trade and climate change policy. Trade measures to address climate change are contemplated directly or indirectly in various Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) under the Paris Agreement. Trade can enable fast dissemination of new technologies. But also calls for further trade measures and protectionist rhetoric have intensified following the US announcement to withdraw from the agreement. Increasingly, climate-related trade disputes are emerging in the context of the World Trade Organization, and a rising number of bilateral and regional trade agreements already incorporate climate-related provisions.

Trade rules and environmental protection, in particular with a view to climate change and sustainable development, should be made mutually supportive. In light of recent developments both in the trade and in the climate regimes, there is a need to explore new potentials and pitfalls of the trade and climate policy nexus.

Against this background, this side-event seeks to contribute to improving the understanding of the interface between trade and climate change policy.

The speakers will address the following issues:

- **Aik Hoe Lim (WTO):** International trade and climate change: What are the opportunities and challenges from the WTO perspective?
- **Axel Berger (DIE-GDI):** How are climate-related issues incorporated into trade agreements?
- **Susanne Dröge* (SWP):** How can the interplay between the trade and the climate regime be made more mutually supportive?
- **Aaron Cosbey (IISD):** Trade as a driver of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda?
- **Michael Mehling* (MIT):** A “view from the other side”: Unilateralism, border adjustments, and threats to multilateral trade and climate cooperation

*Presenting results from the Climate Strategies project “[Making the International Trading System Work for Climate Change](#)”, funded by the KR Foundation.