

## ODI International Economic Development Group News Release

# ODI to double its capacity for research on the international economy

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For immediate release

The Overseas Development Institute is doubling its capacity for research and policy work on the international economy. Speaking in London, ODI's Director, **Simon Maxwell**, said:

'The prospects for reducing poverty around the world are being shaped by changes in the international economy - not just by the global impact of growth in China and India, but also by new flows of private capital and by changes to rules and institutions governing trade and finance. As the UK's leading independent think tank on international development, ODI has always seen these topics as being central to our work. Now, we are doubling the size of our team to make sure we can continue to support and shape the agenda.'

ODI's Director of Programmes for international economic development, **Chris Stevens**, said:

'ODI will have the largest group of specialists in the international economy of any comparable institution in Europe. Our work will cover trade, finance, investment and growth, private sector partnerships, and will relate to the WTO, the EU and its member states, the Bretton Woods Institutions and the UN. We will continue to be known for the high quality of our technical research, for the relevance and practical value of our policy advice, and for our active public affairs programme.'

The new researchers, who will be joining over the next few months, are:



**Karen Ellis**, an economist who has focused on trade, investment, and financial sector policy issues throughout her career, most recently in the UK's Department for International Development (DFID) where she has worked for the last 4 years, and previously at HM Treasury and in economic consultancy. Karen has a Masters Degree in International Economics.



**Jane Kennan**, who rejoins ODI after 14 years at IDS. She is a specialist in identifying and analysing data on trade and trade policy, and is in regular contact with the main global data providers.



**Dr Mareike Meyn**, a Development Economist. She worked as a Researcher and General Manager at the Institute for World Economics and International Management (IWIM) at the University of Bremen (2002-2006) from where she also obtained her PhD. Her areas of work include international trade policy, EU-Southern African trade relations, Economic Partnership Agreements, and regional integration. She has written various publications, conducted research and spent significant periods of time in southern Africa (SACU region) since first visiting Namibia in 1998.



**Mahvash Saeed Qureshi** whose research interests include international trade, macroeconomics, development economics and industrial economics. Mahvash obtained an MPhil and a PhD in Economics from Trinity College, University of Cambridge, UK. Previously she has worked as a Research Associate at the Sustainable Development Policy Institute, Pakistan, and has undertaken research assignments at the University of Cambridge, UK; the United Nations University-World Institute for Development Economics Research, Finland; the Asian Development Bank, Philippines; and the International Monetary Fund, Washington DC. Her current research relates to investment and growth, globalisation and institutions, the economic growth and trade expansion of China and India, international trade standards, and trade and the environment.



**Liz Turner**, a Development Economist, specialising in trade and private sector development, institutional development and aid management. In her recent role as Trade Policy Economist in the Ministry of Industry and Trade (Tanzania), she assisted in the implementation of the first National Trade Policy and played a key role in donor-funded projects and programmes, especially the Integrated Framework for Trade Development. Further experience has included working on investment policy with UNCTAD, improving the linkages between economic research and policy with ODI and DFID and three years as a research economist at the University of Strathclyde. Her work has required strong analytical and research skills in international economics and an in-depth understanding of policy and institutional reform.

The latest Briefing Papers from the Group 'Policy space: Are WTO rules preventing development?' and 'Creating development friendly rules of origin in the EU' can be downloaded from: [www.odi.org.uk/iedg/publications](http://www.odi.org.uk/iedg/publications).

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### Notes for Editors

1. All IEDG researchers are available for interviews/background briefings (please visit [www.odi.org.uk/iedg](http://www.odi.org.uk/iedg) for a full list of researchers and their specialist areas). To arrange an interview, please contact the ODI Media and Events Officer, Anna Tublin, on tel: +44 (0)20 7922 0419 or email: [a.tublin@odi.org.uk](mailto:a.tublin@odi.org.uk).
2. IEDG's research extends beyond economic analysis to include policy advice to developing countries and to the UK Department for International Development, the European Commission and Parliament, the World Bank and the World Trade Organization. The team works with other economists in Europe and in developing countries. Projects range from multi-year multi-country comparative analyses to studies to answer immediate policy questions. Further details can be found on the IEDG website: [www.odi.org.uk/iedg](http://www.odi.org.uk/iedg).
3. ODI is Britain's leading independent think tank on international development and humanitarian issues. Its mission is to inspire and inform policy and practice which lead to the reduction of poverty, the alleviation of suffering and the achievement of sustainable livelihoods in developing countries. Locking together high-quality applied research, practical policy advice and policy-focused dissemination and debate, ODI works with partners in the public and private sectors, in both developing and developed countries. Further details can be found on the ODI website: [www.odi.org.uk](http://www.odi.org.uk)

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