



*Lunch seminar, 24 November 2015, 12:15-13:30, ISE Boulevard Carl Vogt 66, room B3 annexe a*

## **Trade in green goods: the right tool for combatting climate change?**

### **Joachim Monkelbaan**

Decarbonization of the global economy is for a major part happening through technologies that are traded globally. For example, most solar panels used in Switzerland are made in China. Increased trade in environmental goods has been called “an important part” of President Obama's Climate Change Action Plan and is becoming a main pillar of other countries’ climate mitigation efforts. In fact, several members of the World Trade Organization are currently negotiating an ‘Environmental Goods Agreement’ (EGA) which is explicitly dedicated to liberalizing trade in low-carbon and other environmental technologies.

This seminar will provide a critical look at the linkages between trade, the diffusion of low-carbon technologies, and ‘decarbonisation’. The presentation will be based on the presenter’s research and in particular on the Sustainability Impact Assessment of the EGA ([www.egatradesia.com](http://www.egatradesia.com)) which he is currently finalizing for the European Commission. The presenter will put the EGA in a context of global sustainability governance. The presentation will followed by a Q&A session.

The presenter, Joachim Monkelbaan, is doctoral assistant at ISE. In previous years, he worked at the International Centre for Trade and Sustainable Development (ICTSD) and at the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) on questions regarding trade and climate change.