Social capital and its impacts on economic growth

Research Topics for Master Thesis (in English)

Although there is a conceptual debate on what social capital is, there has been a growing considerable attention of using this concept in economics. According to the World Bank, social capital is broadly used to define a set of micro and macro concepts (such as trust, norm, values and institutions) which enables collective actions in economies. The following research topics are therefore related to an emerging literature that combines social capital and economic growth:

**Topic 1:** Does social capital matter for economic prosperity? (A theoretical or an empirical analyses on the causal link between social capital and economic growth)

**Topic 2:** How does social capital accumulate? (With a special focus on the impact of technological change on social capital accumulation)

**Topic 3:** Does the economic impact of social capital differ for developing and developed countries? (With a special focus on demography)

The aim of these proposed research theses is to get a better explanation of the role of social capital and its transmission channels in theoretical and/or empirical models of endogenous economic growth. Students who are interested in quantitative analyses and multi-sector growth models are highly encouraged to apply.

The following articles are recommended for having a general idea about social capital in growth literature:


For more information visit the web page and contact: levent.eraydin@kit.edu

---

1Please see the following source: Understanding and Measuring Social Capital.