

# International Sociological Association Research Committee on Environment and Society

## **President's Column**

#### Koichi Hasegawa

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Colleagues,

Although I am humbled by the task before us, it is an enormous honor to be elected President of RC24. Congratulations to all those elected for the new board. I am looking forward to working with you.

ISA has a total of 63 research committees, including working groups and thematic groups. This past July, in Yokohama, some research committees had additional side events, such as the one day pre-conference on social movements jointly offered by RC47 and 48. But to the best of my knowledge, only RC24 had a two-day pre-conference, following on Gothenburg, 2010. It is the greatest evidence of our enormously active involvement.

As incoming President I need to thank outgoing President Stewart Lockie and all members of the previous Board for their tremendous work and contributions over the past four years. Especially Stewart, who has successfully led the initiative to launch our new journal, *Environmental Sociology*, with Routledge. Vice-President Dana Fisher chaired the selection committee for the 2014 Buttel Award for Distinguished Scholarship in Environmental Sociology, and maintained the RC24 website. Co-Secretaries Magnus Boström and Mikael Klintman both really devoted their sincere efforts and enthusiasm for these four years, especially as editors of the RC24 newsletter. Treasurer Peter Oosterveer took on the valuable task of managing our finances.

Past Presidents of RC24, Riley Dunlap, Arthur Mol, Raymond Murphy and Stewart, all of them have been showing us the models of excellent leadership and scholarship. I would like to follow their efforts.

Especially after the 3.11 Tsunami disaster here in Japan, I am realizing we are facing a crossroad, where we are going, not only for Japan, but also any other countries and any other societies, continuing to seek economic development with exploiting nature and resources or making efforts to transform to the real sustainable future. We are still in crisis, but a crisis means a chance to change.

I am Japanese, and a citizen of Asia and the world. So let us raise our strong voices for studying environmental issues from Asia, Pacific Area, Latin America and Africa. These areas have been facing a lot of challenges of environmental pollution and destruction.

It is deeply sad to inform you that Prof. Harutoshi Funabashi, the leader of the Institute for Sustainability Research at Hosei University, passed away at just 66 years of age, due to a sudden attack of subarachnoid hemorrhage on 15 August of this year, just one month after our two day pre-Congress in Yokohama. We owe the success of this conference to his and his staff's energetic, tremendous work including significant financial support. I really appreciate his excellent leadership in the publication of *A General World Environmental Chronology* and *A General Chronology of Nuclear Power*. Especially after the 3.11 Tsunami disaster and the Fukushima nuclear accident, not only academically but also as a practitioner he devoted a lot of his energy and time to saving victims of the Fukushima disaster and leading civil society organizational efforts to transform Japan's nuclear energy policy. He was a real selfless leader. All of his Japanese colleagues and friends worldwide, and I myself, are overwhelmed by a tremendous sense of loss.

However, beyond his tragedy and in keeping with his unyielding will, I am expecting the torch of RC24, Environment and Society, and the field of Environmental Sociology, originated by Riley, its father, and here in Japan, originated by late professor Nobuko Iijima, its mother (the first president of the Japanese Association for Environmental Sociology), this torch will be passed to more younger generations all over the world, to build a more sustainable, safe and peaceful future.

I would like to close by drawing your attention to the announcement of the Fifth International Symposium on Environmental Sociology in East Asia, by Saburo Horikawa (Page 14). It will be held in Sendai, Japan, at my university, Tohoku University, October 30<sup>th</sup>-November 1<sup>st</sup>, 2015. It is my great pleasure to organize this symposium and inform you that all RC24 members are encouraged to attend this Symposium. The autumn color of leaves will be looking forward to welcoming all of you in Sendai.

### A Note from the Secretary

#### **Debra Davidson**

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#### Hello everyone!

I will be brief, because there is a ton of information below that I would like you each to delve into. First of all, I am honoured to be elected to serve as your Secretary over the next four years, and I thank previous secretaries Mikael and Magnus, and Dana before that, for setting such a tremendous precedent, and for all of their support during our transition.

And we have had quite a transition too! We are starting off with a new email distribution system that is not powered by a university host, but rather is powered by Mail Chimp, a free online service, that will be easy to pass on to incoming Secretaries without the need for constructing a new distribution list service from scratch each time we elect new officers. Even more exciting, we also now have a shiny new Web page, for which we all have Magnus Boström to thank for developing! I think it looks tremendous, and it will no doubt become a valuable portal for information and exchange. This too will be easily transferable to new Committee officers in the future.

One new feature of our Web page that I am especially excited about is our very first RC24 Blog! I am hoping our new Blog can become a nice vehicle for us to share with the broader internet community what environmental sociologists have to offer to contemporary social-environmental debates. While RC24 has a number of effective ways to support communication within the Committee, one of my goals as Secretary is to prioritize communications beyond our own community. As with all fields of science, but perhaps particularly for the environmental social sciences, ensuring a substantial contribution not only to scholarship, but to society as well, demands that we take a more pro-active approach to our communication efforts.

Finally, since maintaining strong and constructive communication demands continuous effort and creativity, I would encourage any of you who has some ideas or feedback on how we can reach these lofty goals to share them!

### **Environment & Society Reflections by Members**

## Freshwater and a Mining Disaster in Canada

David B. Tindall, Associate Professor, Department of Sociology, University of British Columbia

Our advanced industrial economies are just as dependent upon natural resources as ever, and those places where such materials are extracted have a tendency to pay the price. Despite being one of those advanced industrial countries, Canadians are often depicted as "drawers of water and hewers of wood," an identity that is not inaccurate. This identity underlies the notion that much of Canada's culture and economy is based on the natural resource sector. Historically, industries such as forestry, fishing, agriculture and mining have been very important, and continue to be today. Recently, the oil and gas sector has become a very significant component of the economy, as well as a political force. As well, as Margaret Atwood (Canada's foremost novelist) and others have noted, the Canadian outdoor landscape is an important part of Canadian culture. The natural environment is important to Aboriginal peoples for sustenance, culture, spiritual needs, as well as serving as a source of many other material resources. For example, on the west coast of Canada, salmon have been central to the diet and culture of coastal First Nations for time immemorial. In recent years, eco-tourism, which relies on natural areas, has also become increasingly important.

Politically, as elsewhere, there has been a trend towards neo-liberalism in Canada. At the federal level and in many Provinces, environmental regulations have been relaxed, and the number of civil servants working in areas related to environmental protection has been greatly reduced. Environmental scientists on staff with the federal government have been prevented from talking freely to the media, and in many instances have been prevented from participating in scholarly conferences. While the B.C. Provincial government has perhaps not been as draconian in its restrictions on staff scientists, it has established a pattern of under-staffing in key government agencies, and generally favoring the industrial development of natural resources over environmental concerns, a systemic pattern consistent in many ways with the theoretical predictions of Schnaiberg's Treadmill of Production model. For instance, the Wilderness Committee has asserted: "Environmental laws, both federally and provincially have been severely weakened over the past decade, and government oversight of industry has declined dramatically in a move towards 'results-based' oversight which places heavy emphasis on the

ability of industry to 'self-regulate'" (Wilderness Committee 2014). For example, as noted by Green Party Member of the Legislative Assembly Andrew Weaver in his blog, "... by 2008 the number of mine inspections had fallen to half what they were in 2001 and Ministry of Environment staff shrank by 25 per cent." This absence of regulatory oversight is no small matter: Although some natural resource industries such as fisheries have decreased in importance in Canada in recent decades, others have been sustained or increased. The mining sector in particular has continued to be important. In 2012, it constituted 20.4% of the value of all Canadian exports.

While controversy over pipelines and the development of the Tar Sands in Alberta have garnered significantly more international media attention, on August 4<sup>th</sup>, 2014 a mining disaster, one of the largest environmental disasters in Canada's history, occurred. A tailings pond associated with the Mount Polley Mine, operated by Imperial Metals in the Cariboo region of British Columbia, was partially breached. This is an open-pit copper and gold mine, with a four-kilometre-wide tailings pond built with an earthen dam. The discharge from the compromised dam holding back the tailings pond resulted in over 5 million cubic metres of contaminated water and toxic slurry being sent into Hazeltine Creek, destroying trees, and eventually reaching Quesnel Lake (Vancouver Sun, August 5th). The CBC described it as "... an amount of water equivalent to about 2,000 Olympic-sized swimming pools" (CBC News August 4).

According to a representative from the B.C. Environment Ministry, dangerous levels of selenium, nitrate, cadmium, copper and iron were found in the water. The water system was also potentially contaminated with toxic metals such as arsenic and mercury. Unsurprisingly, local residents voiced great concern over the threats to the water supply, and salmon habitat.

Concerns about contamination led to the declaration of a state of emergency in several nearby communities on August 6<sup>th</sup>, 2014. Consequently, a ban was placed on the use of water in these communities, including a complete ban on drinking, swimming and bathing in the waterways surrounding the mine, including Polley Lake, Quesnel Lake, Cariboo Creek, Hazeltine Creek and the entire Quesnel and Cariboo Rivers systems up to the Fraser River. Not surprisingly, there was a run on bottled water in the local stores, and many local fishing lodges - a significant part of the local economy - had to turn away business and tell their current clients to leave. Of great worry, the water system that was contaminated by the spill feeds into the Fraser River, which is the longest river in British Columbia. It flows 1,375 kilometres (854 mi), from the centre of the province into the Strait of Georgia, adjacent to Vancouver. Amongst other things, the Fraser is extremely important as a habitat for salmon, and sturgeon.

According to several media reports, concerns were raised about the risks at the Mount Polley Mine before the breach. The CBC stated that B.C.'s Environment Ministry issued several warnings to mine owner Imperial Metals about the amount of water in the pond.

Civil society organizations have been active in responding to this disaster. The Sierra Club of B.C. called for a formal investigation of the Mount Polley Mine Disaster. Several weeks later, the province announced that there would be an independent investigation into the spill, as well as outside inspections at every other B.C. tailings pond. The David Suzuki Foundation called for Canada's mining industry to work more closely with First Nations, and have noted that some First Nations have been challenging industrial activity in their territories. For example, the Tahltan First Nation blockaded Imperial Metals' nearly completed mine in an area that has been referred to as the Sacred Headwaters. Relatedly, the Neskonlith Indian Band issued an eviction notice to an Imperial subsidiary, which proposed an underground lead-and-zinc mine in Secwepemc Territory in the B.C. Interior. As the David Suzuki Foundation has noted, as a result

of recent court decisions, there is likely to be additional court challenges to mining operations and other industrial developments on First Nations Territory in British Columbia. A number of other environmental organizations, such as the Georgia Strait Alliance, and Forest Ethics, have drawn upon the example provided by the Polley Mine disaster to warn about the dangers of under-regulation in the natural resource industries, and to caution again the expansion of the transportation of oil via pipelines through British Columbia, and increased oil tanker traffic along the coast.

### Sanitation and Toilets in India: A Sensitive Issue

Meenakshi Sinha Swami, Assistant Professor of Economics, Department of Economics, MS College for Women, University of Delhi, New Delhi

India is a nation emboldened with high growth rates of the 11<sup>th</sup> Plan Period (2006-2012) and has high expectations of GDP (Gross Domestic Product) for the Twelfth Plan Period (2012-2017). Despite growth and development achievements, it is also a nation with the largest number of people living in absolute poverty, though presently declining. When it comes to talk of toilet facilities for urban and rural areas, the government has often taken a back stage. Surprisingly, this past August the Prime Minister of India took up the issue in the special Independence Day speech addressed to the Nation, with a boldness that presents a challenge for policy makers.

#### PRESENT SCENARIO

India has been a case study for sanitation challenges and open defecation. According to Dean Spears (2014)<sup>1</sup> of the Research Institute for Compassionate Economics, 'Open defecation, without using a toilet or latrine, is an important challenge for early-life health and human capital accumulation in developing countries. This is especially true in India, where most people defecate in the open, where most of the people worldwide who defecate in the open live and where population density is high.' The Indian Government's 2001 and 2011 Census reports show that the fraction of households defecating in the open in India declined slowly over this decade, from about 63% to about 5%. The Unicef-WHO Joint Monitoring Programme estimates that the number of people defecating in the open in India peaked at 664 million in 1996 and has since declined to 605 million in 2001. If the count of persons in India defecating in the open continues to decline at this linearized rate, India would eventually eliminate open defecation in about 150 years.

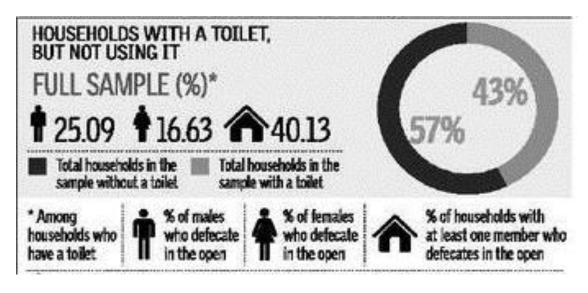
Indian children are particularly exposed to the kinds of chronic intestinal diseases that prevent bodies from making good use of nutrients in food, and cause lasting stunting. This is because children in India face a double threat of uncommonly poor sanitation and high population density. In India, many children are frequently exposed to germs from their neighbours' faeces. Over a billion people worldwide defecate in the open without using a toilet or latrine. More than half of these live in India. Just as India is a global outlier with exceptional

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Spears, Dean (2014) Increasing average exposure to open defectaion in India, 2001-2011, Research Papers, June 15, 2014, Research Institute for Compassionate Economics, Rice, new York, p1, <a href="http://riceinstitute.org/wordpress/research/?did=13">http://riceinstitute.org/wordpress/research/?did=13</a>

child stunting, it is equally an outlier for pervasive open defecation (Spears, 2013)<sup>2</sup>. The ramifications of open defecation are too grim to be ignored. Many of the water-borne diseases — cholera, diarrhoea, dysentery, Hepatitis A, typhoid and polio — are linked to open defecation. Hence, it is no coincidence that nearly 14% (over 300,000) of deaths among children in India under five years of age are caused by diarrhoea-related diseases; diarrhoea is the second biggest killer in this age group. The absence of toilets in schools is one of the reasons why girls drop out of the system at an early age. There is a huge economic cost, too. According to the World Bank's Water and Sanitation Programme, the economic impact of poor sanitation is about Rs.2.4 trillion (which represented 6.4% of India's GDP in 2006). It is important to remember that building toilets without building awareness and changing mindsets would still yield poor results (The Hindu Editor, 2014)<sup>3</sup>.

A study by Diane Coffey, Aashish Gupta et al (Coffey et al, 2014)<sup>4</sup> displays a "revealed preference" for open defecation. Economists identify a decision-maker's revealed preference from what he or she chooses out of a set of alternatives. Even though 18% of households currently have toilets, at least one member per household expressed preference for open defecation. The findings of this survey have clear implications for sanitation policy in India: programmes must concentrate on behaviour change and promoting latrine use. Providing latrine "access" without promoting latrine use is unlikely to markedly reduce open defecation.



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Spears, Dean (2013), Coming up short in India: Debates on malnutrition ignore links with sanitation and disease and the burdens these impose on children, July 4, 2013, Live Mint and Wall Street Journal,

 $\frac{http://www.livemint.com/Opinion/xj6CrTVwZZwZg0EYRQEc0M/Coming-up-short-in-India.html}{}$ 

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> The Hindu Editor, (2014), Commendable Initiative, The Hindu, New Delhi, Sept 1, http://www.thehindu.com/todays-paper/tp-opinion/commendable-initiative/article6367855.ece

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Coffey et al (2014), Revealed Preference for Open Defecation, Evidence from a New Survey in Rural North India, Vol - XLIX No. 38, September 20, 2014, Economic and Political Weekly, p 43-44, <a href="http://www.epw.in/special-articles/revealed-preference-open-defecation.html">http://www.epw.in/special-articles/revealed-preference-open-defecation.html</a>

Table 1: Revealed Preference for Open Defecation Source: SQUAT Survey by Rice, (Rukmini, S., 2014)<sup>5</sup>

The official sanitation policy has been uniquely focused on building toilets. But the connection between good health and using toilets has not yet been made. The scenario may be grim but the government has taken upon itself to eliminate the problem in the coming years through various measures, research, and also with the help of a mandatory fund for Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR).

#### BOLD INITIATIVES TO TACKLE THE PROBLEM

Open defecation remains something of a taboo subject and is seldom discussed in public. It is commendable that Prime Minister Narendra Modi turned the spotlight on the practice while addressing the nation on August 15 and brought the discourse straight into lakhs of drawing rooms. Soon after he urged the corporate sector to "prioritise the provision of toilets in schools" under corporate social responsibility programmes, and the social movement is slowly gaining traction. The Companies Act, 2013, introduced the idea of CSR to the forefront, as "the responsibility of enterprises for their impacts on society." The CSR provisions within the Act are applicable to companies with an annual turnover of 1,000 crore INR or more, or a net worth of 500 crore INR or more. The new rules, applicable from the fiscal year 2014-15, encourages companies to spend at least 2% of their average net profit in the previous three years on CSR activities (PWC, 2013b).

Two companies — Tata Consultancy Services and Bharti Enterprises — have committed themselves to playing their part in achieving the monumental task of ensuring that all schools in the country have toilets for boys and girls in a year's time. Hindustan Zinc Limited has increased by 10,000 the number of toilets it would build in villages in three districts of Rajasthan; its earlier target number was 30,000. Indian capital's government or Delhi government has earmarked 1.25 crores for each rural village for providing basic amenities in 2014-2015 financial year, an initiatives which can become an inspiration for rest of the country. DRDO has developed 'bio-toilets' which are based on the bio-digester technology and these are being installed by the Ministry of Rural Development (Das, 2012)<sup>7</sup>. Eram Scientific Solutions have developed e-toilets. These are unmanned, self cleaning and smart toilets with GPRS connected for monitoring their performance status and six of them where installed this September in Delhi (Nath, 2014)<sup>8</sup>.

As well, the 'Swatch Bharat' or 'Clean India' Mission was just launched on 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2014, Mahatma Gandhi's birthday, and the Finance Ministry has encouraged Public Sector Banks to also contribute to building toilets. The importance of toilets are highlighted under the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) – the government's flagship programme for universalisation of

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Rukmini, S., (2014), The battle for toilets and minds, The Hindu, New Delhi, June 9, http://www.thehindu.com/todays-paper/tp-opinion/the-battle-for-toilets-and-minds/article6095989.ece

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup>PWC (2013), Handbook of Corporate Social Responsibility, Price Waterhouse Coopers, p 1-12, <a href="http://www.pwc.in/assets/pdfs/publications/2013/handbook-on-corporate-social-responsibility-in-india.pdf">http://www.pwc.in/assets/pdfs/publications/2013/handbook-on-corporate-social-responsibility-in-india.pdf</a>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Das, Prafulla, 2012, 'Bapu' Bio-toilets Set to be the New Frontier in Rural Sanitation, June 25, The Hindu, New Delhi, p 7

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Nath, Damini (2014), Six e-toilets inaugurated, Sept 21, The Hindu, New Delhi, p 5

elementary education included a specific provision for separate toilets for girls and boys. Lack of toilets for girls is a reason for dropouts since data from District Information System for Education, 2013, shows that 10% of elementary schools (nearly 2 lakh) do not have functional toilets. The lack of provision of cleaning toilets in SSA is being hotly debated (Bhatty, 2014)<sup>9</sup>. The Union Tourism Ministry is working on a 'Cleanliness Index' to rank cities to better their performance towards cleanliness (Bhargava & Joshua, 2014)<sup>10</sup>. And finally, the Delhi Government and municipal agencies are planning a host of initiatives and an awareness campaign during a Special Sanitation Week to be observed from September 25<sup>th</sup> 2014.

#### **CONCLUSION**

Sanitation is linked in many ways to livelihoods and sustainable development in general. It also contributes to Millennium Development Goal (MDG) 1, eradicating extreme poverty and hunger, MDG 3, promoting gender equality and empowering women, MDG 5, improving maternal health and MDG 7, ensuring environment sustainability.

The issue of sanitation is also important since the total economic impacts of inadequate sanitation in India amounts to a loss of \$ 53.8 billion in 2006. These economic impacts were the equivalent of about 6.4% of India's gross domestic product (GDP) in 2006. On the beneficial side, the annual sanitation market is also estimated to grow from 300 billion (\$6.6 billion) in 2007 to 683 billion (\$15.1 billion) in 2020 (DeFrancis 2011); this may not add directly to GDP but will result in a reduction in loss. Several new efforts have emerged from government and businesses in India to support the construction of additional toilets. But building toilets alone will achieve next to nothing if providing access to water does not go hand in hand with it. That over 620 million people in India still defecate in the open is at once a shameful and disgusting statistic (The Hindu Editor, 2014)<sup>12</sup>.

### **Upcoming Conferences** (in chronological order)

Sociology of Risk and Uncertainty Research Network 22 (ESA) Mid-term conference on Risk, Uncertainty and Transition

University of Stuttgart, Germany

#### 8-10 April 2015

The European Sociological Association's (ESA) Risk and Uncertainty network plays a major

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> Bhatty, Kiran (2014), The link between sanitation and toilets, Sept 19, The Hindu, New Delhi, p 9

 $<sup>^{10}</sup>$ Bhargava, Yuthika & Joshua, Anita (2014), Cleanliness Index soon to rank cities, Sept 20, The Hindu, New Delhi, p $1\,$ 

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> DeFrancis, Marc P (2011): Economic Impact of Inadequate Sanitation in India, , Flagship Report, Water and Sanitation Programme, New Delhi, p 12-17

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> The Hindu Editor, (2014), Commendable Initiative, The Hindu, New Delhi, Sept 1, http://www.thehindu.com/todays-paper/tp-opinion/commendable-initiative/article6367855.ece

role in the ESA's general conferences, held every four years. In between these events we also convene 'mid-term' events of our own, with the next one to be held at the University of Stuttgart.

We aim to stimulate sociological and interdisciplinary research and debate into how risk and uncertainty are perceived, constructed, managed and/or neglected by social actors – individuals and organisations – as well as the impact of these responses in society. Modern sociological theory describes the modernisation process as a transition from stable, calculable and predictable societies, so-called modern, industrial societies, to a new type of society where stable structures are replaced by fluid arrangements. The term 'risk' is increasingly supported by a focus on uncertainty. Following Beck, a risk and uncertainty perspective allows insights into contemporary society and has become one of its defining features. When individuals, organizations and societies are planning for the future, they are fundamentally exposed to complexity, uncertainty, and ambiguity.

Although the event will have a more specific focus on the theme of transition, this is an open call for papers, which explore aspects of risk and uncertainty across a broad range of sociological and interdisciplinary perspectives. Papers will be grouped into themes after acceptance around topics such as: sense-making of risk; health risks; environmental risks, technological risks, risks of energy supply, risk governance; risk and crime; professional approaches to risk; biographical risks; risk and emotions; trust; risk management and uncertainty; inequality and risk; risk, resilience and everyday life; and social theories of risk. Other risk related issues are welcome.

Our previous mid-term conferences have been very successful and we hope you'll join us in Germany for stimulating discussion and reflection on the latest European risk research.

#### **Keynote Speakers**

Ortwin Renn is Professor of environmental sociology and technology assessment, Dean of the Economic and Social Sciences Department and Director of the Stuttgart Research Center for Interdisciplinary Risk and Innovation Studies (ZIRIUS) at the University of Stuttgart, and President of the Society for Risk Analysis. He has published extensively on risk, risk governance, risk assessment and management.

*Åsa Boholm* is Professor of Social Anthropology at Gothenburg University, Sweden, and has published on historical, cultural, organizational and institutional dimensions of risk.

*Gabe Mythen* is Doctor of Sociology at University of Liverpool, and has published on the relationship between risk, security and control based on research in the intersection of sociology and criminology.

The conference will take place at University of Stuttgart, Stuttgart, Germany, and will be hosted by ZIRIUS (Center for Interdisciplinary Risk and Innovation Studies) and the Department of Sociology of Technology and Environment of the University of Stuttgart

Abstracts, 300-350 words plus full name, institution, and the author(s) contacts, should be sent by *December 20<sup>th</sup>*, 2014 to the following e-mail address: larsake.lindstrom@miun.se. Notification of acceptance will be announced by *February 15<sup>th</sup> 2015*.

Participants will be required to pay a nominal registration fee of 100 Euros (150 Euros for non-members of ESA) by *February 28<sup>th</sup> 2015*. This will include coffee breaks, lunch and one dinner. Late-registration (from *1<sup>st</sup> of March 2015* onwards) will cost 200 Euros (250 Euros non-ESA)

members). Information about registration and payment of registration fee will soon be available at the SoRU-webpage, www.riskanduncertainty.net/conferences/.

**Travel and accommodation**: Participants will need to make their own travel arrangements and hotel reservations. Conference organizers will provide information about accommodation, as well as suggestions about different alternatives for travelling to Stuttgart. This information will be made available nearer to the end of the year.

**Additional information** about key note speakers, registration and payment of conference fee, and more, will be regularly updated on the SoRU-webpage, see <a href="https://www.riskanduncertainty.net/conferences/">www.riskanduncertainty.net/conferences/</a>.

**Research Network co-ordinators:** Anna Olofsson (Anna.Olofsson@miun.se) and Adam Burgess (Adam.Burges@kent.ac.uk).

**Local organizers (in case of inquiries of the local organization):** Juergen Hampel (juergen.hampel@sowi.uni-stuttgart.de)

*Conference on Urban Environmental Stewardship* (co-sponsored by the US Forest Service and the Program for Society and the Environment at the University of Maryland)
April 17, 2015

Atrium and Prince George Rooms in the Stamp Student Union

## Proposals are being accepted for the Urban Environmental Stewardship Conference at UMd Poster Session (DEADLINE: 15 January 2015)

Research on environmental stewardship has paid greater and greater attention to the relationships among the social, built, and natural environment of cities. This relationship has been studied from multiple perspectives. We are calling poster proposals that seek to enhance our understanding of urban environmental stewardship across disciplinary boundaries and from all methodological perspectives. Topics can include, but are not limited to: urban gardening and agriculture; urban greening; governance processes (organizations, institutions, and groups) that mobilize around urban environmental stewardship; and social and/or ecological impacts of the urban/natural environment interaction.

The poster format is a particularly effective way to present research findings and is a perfect way to network with colleagues. The poster session will take place during the conference reception so conference attendees and speakers can view poster displays while participating in the reception. We are looking for posters that can succinctly communicate novel, relevant findings and implications to an interdisciplinary audience interested in environmental stewardship in cities or across the rural-urban gradient.

To apply for this poster session, please send a project title and abstract that includes information about the findings and implications of the work (no more than **300 words**) to stewardshipconference@gmail.com.

#### **Program**

I. Invited Panel on Theoretical Perspectives on Urban Environmental Stewardship:

Dr. Henrik Ernstson, Stanford University

Dr. Harvey Molotch, New York University

Dr. Dorceta Taylor, University of Michigan

II. Invited Panel on Innovations in Urban Stewardship:

James Connolly, Northeastern University

Debra Davidson, University of Alberta

Mimi Sheller, Drexel University

III. Invited Panel on Mapping Urban Stewardship across Space and Place:

Nathalie Blanc, Laboratoire Dynamiques Sociales et Recomposition des Espaces

Dana R. Fisher, University of Maryland

Erika Svendsen, United States Forest Service

IV. Refereed Poster Session (to be held During Afternoon Reception)

For more details about the conference and the confirmed speakers, see <a href="http://www.cse.umd.edu/upcoming-events.html">http://www.cse.umd.edu/upcoming-events.html</a>.

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual International Conference on Demography and Population

#### 15-18 June 2015, Athens, Greece

The Athens Institute for Education and Research (ATINER), is a world association of academics and researchers. Please submit a 300-word abstract before 17 November 2014, by email (atiner@atiner.com), addressed to Dr. Barbara Zagaglia, Academic Member, ATINER & Assistant Professor, Polytechnic University of Marche, Italy. Please include: Title of Paper, Full Name (s), Current Position, Institutional Affiliation, an email address and at least 3 keywords that best describe the subject of your submission. Decisions will be reached within four weeks of your submission.

Should you wish to participate in the Conference without presenting a paper, for example, to chair a session, to evaluate papers which are to be included in the conference proceedings or books, to contribute to the editing of a book, or any other contribution, please send an email to **Dr. Gregory T. Papanikos, President, ATINER & Honorary Professor, University of Stirling, UK** (gregory.papanikos@stir.ac.uk).

## INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON LAND GOVERNANCE FOR EQUITABLE AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT - JOINING FORCES

8-10 July 2015

Utrecht, the Netherlands

Organized by the Netherlands Academy on Land Governance (LANDac) and its partners and aims to present state-of-the-art knowledge on how land governance may contribute to equitable

and sustainable development, as well as setting the agenda for future research and fostering collaborations for new research, policy and practice.

Since the start of the land grab debate in 2008 our knowledge has advanced greatly: we now know much more about the diversity of drivers, actors and alliances involved, and the scope and impacts of the developments. We also know that there are strong historical roots to these developments; many problems are the outcomes of policies in the past. At the same time, land has now become embedded in a diversity of related discussions about sustainable development, food security, rural development and agriculture, investments, housing, urbanization, biofuels, climate change, gender, and many more. But new questions have also emerged, e.g. what stakeholder interaction takes place and how does that impact on land governance; what are effective policies, at which level; how can land tools and data be used effectively and equitably; how can investments be made more beneficial for all by means of benefit sharing mechanisms; how to effectively implement principles and guidelines for strengthening land governance. This conference seeks to bridge gaps between disciplines, sectors, theory and practice, investment advocates and critics, recipient and investing country debates; and is aimed at making an effort to move the frontiers of the land debate in the direction of equitable and sustainable development.

We are inviting abstract submissions for papers, posters and other forms of contributions on the topics outlined in this call. You are kindly invited to submit your abstract of no more than 300 words to <a href="mailto:landac.geo@uu.nl">landac.geo@uu.nl</a> by 1 February 2015 mentioning LANDac conference 2015 in the subject line. Abstracts should be written in English. The organizing committee will decide on the selection of abstracts. Following this process, selected authors are invited to submit their full papers or other contributions by 1 June 2015. In case of any questions, please contact the conference organizers through: <a href="mailto:g.betsema@uu.nl">g.betsema@uu.nl</a>.

There is no registration fee. We do ask for a contribution of for lunches and the conference dinner on 9 July. LANDac has limited funds available to cover for travel and accommodation. In case you wish to apply for this possibility, please attach a short written explanation of why you need assistance in covering your costs and why it is essential that you attend the conference.

Authors who submit an abstract are not automatically registered for the LANDac Conference. Please register for the conference separately by sending an email to <a href="landac.geo@uu.nl">landac.geo@uu.nl</a> mentioning LANDac conference 2015 in the subject line. All submitting authors/ presenters of other contributions should be available to present at the conference in person or by a co-author (8-10 July 2015, Utrecht, the Netherlands).

LANDac (<u>www.landgovernance.org</u>), is a network of Dutch organizations interested in how land governance can contribute to equitable and sustainable development.

#### International Workshop: Core Concepts in Environmental Sociology

ÖREBRO, 23-25 SEPTEMBER 2015Arranged by the Environmental Sociology Section, Örebro University, Sweden in collaboration with Research Committee 24 (Environment and Society) of the International Sociological Association

What are the core concepts in environmental sociology that have contributed to scholarship and praxis, and what theoretical advances are needed? Considering that our conceptual understanding of nature-society relations plays a key role in the theoretical and empirical directions taken in

sociology, as well as society's influence on those relations themselves, the core concepts developed and advanced by environmental sociologists have tremendous influence. But the continued societal and scholarly relevance of our field, and indeed the vitality of environmental sociology itself, demands that we subject our core concepts and emerging conceptual developments to critical scrutiny.

Since the early 1970s, environmental sociology has successfully "brought nature back in" to sociology. Environmental sociology has indeed become one of the strongest sub-disciplines in sociology. But are the prevailing core concepts in our field adequate? What is the need for conceptual innovation to better understand and cope with our most demanding environmental problems and risks today and in the future? This workshop aims to go beyond the well-trodden debates--realism vs constructivism, ecological modernisation vs treadmill of production, European vs American environmental sociology--and instead look for other avenues for theoretical innovation. Treatments of these debates, moreover, tend to define a theoretical landscape of incommensurable paradigms. In particular, there may be a need for more explicit and systematic theoretical discussions within environmental sociology on a middle range level, without overlooking the need for development of *core concepts* to guide research.

Theoretical innovation in **environmental sociology** can also feedback to:

- a) **theory development in sociology**, which is essential because global environmental issues such as climate change render strong demarcations between society and nature wholly inadequate; and
- b) **environmental sciences and studies more broadly,** because environmental sociology is so clearly situated within a trans-disciplinary research area.

Core concepts of interest could be of three kinds. First, they may originate from sociology and be commonly discussed and applied in environmental sociology, such as the nation-state, social practice, knowledge, social movements, modernization, individualization, justice, etc. Second, they may originate within environmental sociology, such as reflexive modernization, the double diversion, risk, or environmental flows. Thirdly, there are concepts from other fields increasingly discussed in environmental sociology, such as adaptation, precaution, resilience, sustainability, and anthropocene.

Crucial questions to address may include:

What happens when the prefix 'environment' is placed before classical sociological concepts, or when sociological concepts are applied to environmental studies? Do adequate understandings and explanations of environmental problems require particular developments/applications of these concepts? Do environmental problems present particular challenges compared with other social problems?

What new conceptual understandings of society have emerged from environmental studies and become increasingly important in sociology or in environmental sciences? How should they be further developed to reach their full potential?

What new environmental concepts with other disciplinary origins have influenced environmental sociology? What are the implications (positive and negative) of importing "non-sociological" concepts into the tool-kit of environmental sociology?

#### **About the workshop**

The workshop is planned to include approximately 25 participants. Each participant should provide a written paper to be submitted one month before the workshop. Each contribution should thus do more than a literature review of the meaning and usage of a selected concept, but reflect on its conceptual development in order develop environmental sociology. The selection of participants will be made based on the abstracts. Each participant will also serve as discussant of a presented paper.

Abstracts (200-300 words) should be submitted no later than 15 January 2015. Send your abstract to magnus.bostrom@oru.se. The scientific committee will adjudicate and inform participants of the outcome by 15 February.

There is no conference fee and meals will be included.

#### **Keynotes**

Matthias Gross, Professor in Sociology, Helmholtz Centre for Environmental Research and University of Jena, Germany

Raymond Murphy, Professor in Sociology, Canada, University of Ottawa

For more information, please contact magnus.bostrom@oru.se or rolf.lidskog@oru.se

## The Fifth International Symposium on Environmental Sociology in East Asia (ISESEA-5): The First Announcement

In collaboration with RC24, the Japanese Association for Environmental Sociology (JAES) will be hosting an international symposium (ISESEA-5\*) to be held in Sendai, Japan, in 2015. All RC24 members are encouraged to attend this Symposium. Although tentative at the time of this writing, we are planning to have individual paper sessions as well as special thematic sessions on Fukushima disaster and Asia-related issues. Field trip (excursion) is also planned.

Date: Friday, October 30th—Sunday, November 1st, 2015

Venue: "Katahira Sakura Hall," Tohoku University, Sendai, Japan (<a href="http://www.tohoku.ac.jp/en/">http://www.tohoku.ac.jp/en/</a>) Tentative Schedule:

DAY 1 (Oct. 30th): Registration, Welcome Party, session 1.

DAY 2 (Oct. 31st): sessions and thematic session.

DAY 3 (Nov. 1st): Field Trip (excursion) to the 2011 Great Earthquake and tsunami affected area.

Details will be provided to members of RC24 as soon as they are ready. Open Submission Calls and the deadline for Submissions will be announced shortly. Please save the dates and we will be very much looking forward to welcoming you all in Sendai next autumn.

About the ISESEA: The very first ISESEA was held in 2008 in Tokyo and it was decided to hold a symposium in every two years in East Asia region (Taiwan, Korea, China and Japan). ISESEA-2 was held in 2009 in Hsinchu (Taiwan), the 3rd in 2011 in Bucheon (Korea), the 4th in 2013 in Nanjing (China), concluding the first round. This Sendai Symposium will mark the beginning of the ISESEA's second round.

For further information, please contact:

Saburo Horikawa, Chair, International Relations Committee, JAES, and

Professor, Dept. of Sociology, Hosei University (Tokyo, Japan)

Email: sab@hosei.ac.jp.

#### Sustainable and Just Rural Transitions: Connections and Complexities

IRSA XIV World Congress of Rural Sociology

Toronto, Canada August 10-14, 2016

First call for session proposals (due by January 15, 2015)

Global environmental changes, shifting resource scarcities, deepening social inequalities, both innovation and crisis in urban centers, and new patterns of voluntary and involuntary migrations are among the conditions and dynamics now shaping the futures of rural places and people. Intensifying and intertwining forces of commodification, industrialization, neoliberalization and globalization over the last several decades have produced uneven and arguably illusory gains, given evidence of the increasingly precarious position of labor and livelihoods throughout the rural world and the widespread distribution of environmental harm and ecological degradation. Within these general patterns and trends, circumstances can vary greatly across rural contexts Rigorous analysis of the interconnected challenges now within and between continents. experienced by rural people and places, as well as comprehensive assessment of the proposed solutions and diverse experiments now underway will increase our understanding of the pathways which may be open, blocked or yet to be created for movement towards more sustainable and just rural futures. Sociologists and other social scientists addressing rural concerns play indispensable roles in identifying, analyzing and assessing the forms and consequences – both intended and unintended – of the diverse transition aspirations and experiences of rural people and places. We invite proposals for sessions that invoke the overarching theme of the Congress: the connections and complexities shaping prospects for sustainable and just rural transitions in the present era of crisis and change. details on the call for sessions and a list of suggested themes, please see the attached notice [pdf] or visit the IRSA Congress 2016 website: http://www.ryerson.ca/arts/irsacongress2016/call-forsubmissions/call-for-sessions.html

#### **Other Announcements**

**Dr. Mark CJ Stoddart**, Associate Professor of Sociology, Memorial University was the 2014 winner of the Canadian Sociological Association Early Investigator Award, which is given annually to a Canadian sociologist "that has made significant research contributions within the first ten years since the completion of their PhDs [and] recognises research demonstrating high quality, theoretical rigour and/or methodological innovation, and future potential" (http://www.csa-scs.ca/early-investigator-award). Congratulations Mark!

## Please consider submitting a manuscript to our new journal, *Environmental Sociology*, with the first issue scheduled to come out in 2015!

Editor: Stewart Lockie, *The Cairns Institute, James Cook University, Australia* (stewart.lockie@jcu.edu.au)

Environmental Sociology is dedicated to applying and advancing the sociological imagination in relation to a wide variety of environmental challenges, controversies and issues, at every level from the global to local, from 'world culture' to diverse local perspectives. As an international, peer-reviewed scholarly journal, Environmental Sociology aims to stretch the conceptual and theoretical boundaries of both environmental and mainstream sociology, to highlight the relevance of sociological research for environmental policy and management, to disseminate the results of sociological research, and to engage in productive dialogue and debate with other disciplines in the social, natural and ecological sciences.

Contributions may utilize a variety of theoretical orientations including, but not restricted to: critical theory, cultural sociology, ecofeminism, ecological modernization, environmental justice, organizational sociology, political ecology, political economy, post-colonial studies, risk theory, social psychology, science and technology studies, globalization, world-systems analysis, and so on. Cross- and transdisciplinary contributions are welcome where they demonstrate a novel attempt to understand social-ecological relationships in a manner that engages with the core concerns of sociology in social relationships, institutions, practices and processes. All methodological approaches in the environmental social sciences – qualitative, quantitative, integrative, spatial, policy analysis, etc. – are welcomed. *Environmental Sociology* welcomes high-quality submissions from scholars around the world.

Topics of interest to *Environmental Sociology* include biodiversity; business and the environment; climate change adaptation, mitigation and consequences; consumers and consumption; culture and the environment; ecological citizenship; ecological practices; energy; environmental attitudes, behaviours and practices; environmental communication; environmental controversies; environmental governance, policy and regulation (including participatory approaches); environmental risks, hazards and uncertainties; environmental social movements; environmental technologies; food, agriculture and the environment; gender and the environment; global environmental change; health and the environment; human ecology; mass media, new medias and the environment; mobilities, migration and transport; natural resource management; population and environmental change; race, ethnicity and the environment; sociology of water management; sustainable development; urban and industrial environments; etc. Submissions are also sought on innovations, challenges and debates in research methods and teaching in environmental sociology.

For submission details, consult the journal homepage at http://www.tandfonline.com/rens or click here to submit your paper online.

### Two Position Announcements at the Centre for Agroecology, Water and Resilience Senior Research Fellow in Gender, Food and Resilient Communities

**Salary:** £47,334 - £59,058 per annum

**Ref No:** REQ002890

The Centre for Agroecology, Water and Resilience will drive innovative transdisciplinary research on the development of resilient food and water systems throughout the world. This University Research Centre aims to be globally recognised for its research excellence and influence on policy and practice.

The overall emphasis here is on identifying processes that enhance community strengths and build resilience through people's agency and self-organisation in the face of adversity, natural and human induced disasters, instability and change. Within this overall framework, research will focus on the complex ways in which gendered roles and identities intersect with social, cultural and economic and political dimensions of food systems in the context of communities.

An enthusiastic and committed mid-career researcher will work closely with the theme leader, Dr Moya Kneafsey and the Research Director, Dr Michel Pimbert, to support the establishment of our research theme leading on the funding proposals and leading on the delivery of research projects in the theme of "Community self-organisation for resilience".

The post holder will actively contribute to the strategic direction of the Centre and for some periods, will work on their own initiative with limited supervision from the theme leader. Some very limited teaching will be required, primarily at postgraduate level and you will be expected to join PhD supervisory teams, as appropriate. You should therefore have significant experience working in research in water resilience or sustainability; experience of curriculum development in an institution of Higher Education would be advantageous.

Responsibilities also include; preparing project proposals, undertaking writing of bids and tenders for external projects or contracts and secure funding for large scale research projects. To lead and manage research projects and project teams, developing relationships and collaborations that enhance the reputation of the University whilst advancing knowledge in the discipline.

Educated to Degree level and PhD in a social science or related discipline, you should have demonstrable experience of working in the broad area of "gender, food and communities" and a track record of publishing peer-reviewed papers and/or presentations at international conferences, with the ability to communicate clearly with peers and students.

If you would like to join us on our journey and find out more about our expertise, visit our website and register your interest or apply online: www.coventry.ac.uk/explore

Closing date: 23rd November 2014

#### Senior Research Fellow on Water and Resilient Communities

**Salary:** £47,334 - £59,058 per annum

**Ref No: REO**002889

The post holder will actively contribute to the strategic direction of the Centre and for some periods, will work on their own initiative with limited supervision from the theme leader. Some very limited teaching will be required, primarily at postgraduate level and you will be expected to join PhD supervisory teams, as appropriate. You should therefore have significant experience working in research in water resilience or sustainability; experience of curriculum development in an institution of Higher Education would be advantageous.

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tenders for external projects or contracts and secure funding for large scale research projects. To lead and manage research projects and project teams, developing relationships and collaborations that enhance the reputation of the University whilst advancing knowledge in the discipline. You should have a track record of publishing peer-reviewed papers and/or presentations at international conferences and the ability to communicate clearly with peers and students.

If you would like to join us on our journey and find out more about our expertise, visit our website and register your interest or apply online: www.coventry.ac.uk/explore

Closing date: 23rd November 2014

#### **FACULTY POSITION ANNOUNCEMENT**

## Associate / Assistant Professor, Environmental and Natural Resource Policy, School of Environment and Natural Resources,

College of Food, Agricultural & Environmental Sciences, The Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio

Job ID: 402489

The School of Environment and Natural Resources (SENR;

http://senr.osu.edu) is seeking an assistant or an associate professor of

Environmental and Natural Resource Policy. This position is a full-time,

9-month, tenure-track position intended to build on our school's social science expertise and interdisciplinary work in social-ecological systems.

We seek a candidate with a demonstrated ability to apply social science theory to environmental and natural resource challenges and the desire to work as part of an interdisciplinary research team. Preference will be given to candidates with demonstrated expertise and research interest in policy and governance aspects of water, climate change, and/or complex social-ecological systems. Demonstrated interest in international contexts is also desired, though not required. The successful candidate will be expected to develop a extramurally-funded and nationally-recognized research program with a strong theoretical and methodological grounding in the applied social sciences (expertise in qualitative and/or quantitative methods), provide graduate advising and instruction, contribute to undergraduate instruction and advising (in the Environmental Policy & Decision Making and the Natural Resource Management programs) and provide professional and university service.

Expectations and responsibilities include, but are not limited to:

- Secure extramural funding and publish in leading refereed journals.
- Develop and teach graduate course(s) based on the incumbent's area of expertise consistent with the mission and curriculum needs of the School of Environment and Natural Resources.
- Advise graduate and undergraduate students, including honors students, and assist with advising student organizations.
- Teach undergraduate courses in environmental and natural resource policy, natural resource management, and/or governance issues related to water or related area of expertise.
- Work collaboratively with other university faculty/personnel, agencies, non-government organizations, and citizen groups to advance the land grant mission of the university.
- Serve the university and professional communities through appropriate activities. Qualifications: An earned doctoral degree in political science, public policy, sociology,

geography, natural resource management, or a related field of inquiry. The ideal candidate will have teaching and advising experience, history of theoretically grounded research with a successful publication record, and an ability to collaborate with social and natural scientists within SENR and other academic units at The Ohio State University.

Salary is dependent on qualifications and experience. The Ohio State University offers one of the most comprehensive benefits packages in the nation, which includes medical, dental, vision, and life insurance; tuition authorization; paid vacation and sick leave; ten paid holidays; and State Teachers Retirement System of Ohio (STRS) or an Alternative Retirement Program. A start-up package, including discretionary funding, will be provided.

Application: Send a curriculum vita or resume and a letter of interest summarizing areas of expertise, research interests, teaching philosophy, career goals, and experience appropriate to the position. Also send copies of three relevant publications or reports. Provide contact information for three qualified references and arrange for current letters of recommendation to be sent upon request. Application materials should be sent to:

Dr. Eric Toman, Search Committee Chair School of Environment and Natural Resources The Ohio State University 2021 Coffey Road, Columbus, Ohio 43210-1085 Phone, 614-292-8522; FAX, 614-292-7432; e-mail: ENRpolicy@osu.edu

Initial consideration will be given to applications received by November 2, 2014. Review of applications will continue until the position has been filled. To build a diverse workforce Ohio State encourages applications from individuals with disabilities, minorities, veterans, and women. EEO/AA employer.

### **Recent Member Books (in alphabetical order)**

Davies, A., Fahy, F. and Rau, H. (eds.) *Challenging Consumption: Pathways to a More Sustainable Future*. London: Routledge. (2014)

Sustainable consumption is a central research topic in academic discourses of sustainable development and global environmental change. Informed by a number of disciplinary perspectives, this book is structured around four key themes in sustainable consumption research: Living, Moving, Dwelling and Futures. The collection successfully balances theoretical insights with grounded case studies, on mobility, heating, washing and eating practices, and concludes by exploring future sustainable consumption research pathways and policy recommendations. Theoretical frameworks are advanced throughout the volume, especially in relation to social practice theory, theories of behavioural change and innovative visioning and backcasting methodologies.

This groundbreaking book draws on some conceptual approaches which move beyond the responsibility of the individual consumer to take into account wider social, economic and political structures and processes in order to highlight both possibilities for and challenges to sustainable consumption. This approach enables students and policy-makers alike to easily recognise the applicability of social science theories.

Martinez-Iglesias, Mercedes (ed.): *Experts and Campaigners: Scientific Information and Collective Action in Socio-Ecological Conflicts*. Valencia (Spain): PUV-Publicacions de la Universitat de València [University of Valencia Press], 2014.

Paperback: ISBN 9788437095042

 $\underline{http://puv.uv.es/product\_info.php?products\_id=25084\&osCsid=507c77e71cd6e3feddce0065ced}$ 

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E-book: ISBN 9788437095363

http://ebooks-uv.es/EXPERTS-AND-CAMPAIGNERS-AA\_VV\_-U\_-VALENCIA-LibroEbook-ES-SPB0270786.html.

This book brings together texts by social scientists from the United States, France and Spain. Their common frame of reference is the dialectic between experts and activists in socioenvironmental movements, as well as the concern about changes, both cognitive and political, arising in that context. The various contributions to this volume represent a wide range of approaches. However, they share a point of view more or less close to a conflictivist sociology, which can be clearly distinguished from other schemes, such as the environmental modernization doctrine or the science-technology-society perspective. When taken as a whole, they provide a balanced vision between the excesses of scientifism and economicism, between the description of socio-environmental conflicts as if they were merely the social expression of technical dislocations and the simplification that sees them as no more than the clash of economic interests or power struggles.

The book also expresses a balanced vision between the thesis that the ecologist movement is merely a part of a spontaneous process of "reflexive modernisation" and the thesis that it is an anti-scientific and irrational reaction. Finally, it contains a balanced vision between the theory according to which participation is primarily an instrument for the integration of protest and the naive idealisation of regulated participation as a proof of the replacement of conflict by more democratic governance. Under this range of diverse perspectives, socioecological conflicts appear with the contradictory multiplicity of forms that characterise major social problems.

On the back cover of this book, **William R. Catton**, the distinguished pioneer in the environmental sociology field, writes: "The papers assembled in this volume should enable readers to understand what too many people today insistently misperceive. Environmental protection is not just a 'special interest'. It is an essential task for everyone."

#### **Contents:**

Mercedes Martinez-Iglesias: Introduction.

Joaquim Sempere: Expert Knowledge, Public Participation and the "Ecological Transition".

Kenneth A. Gould: Unsustainable Science in the Treadmill of Production: The Declining Salience of Impact Science in Environmental Conflicts in the U.S.

Ernest Garcia: Expert Knowledge, Public Participation and Reflexivity in Social-ecological Conflicts: Do These Three Really Always Go Together?

Tammy L. Lewis: How Biodiversity Science Shaped Ecuadorian Environmental Organizations.

Laurence Raineau & Aurélien Cohen: Socio-technical Conflicts and the French Energy Model.

Àlex Casademunt Monfort: Impact of Socio-ecological Conflicts on Policy References. The (Paradoxical) Case of Catalonia's Territorial Policy over the Past Decade (2002-2012).

Jesús Vicens: To Think in a Light Way About Environmental Problems.

Mercedes Martinez-Iglesias: A Self-portrait of the Environmental Movement as an Enlightened Vanguard.

# Recent Member Articles, Special Issues, Book Chapters & Conference Proceedings

Boström, Magnus. (2014) Between Monitoring and Trust. Commitment to Extended Upstream Responsibility. *Journal of Business Ethics*. DOI 10.1007/s10551-014-2277-6

Boström, M. (2014) Sustainable Development by the Multi-Stakeholder Model? *International Handbook on Social Policy & the Environment* (edited by Tony Fitzpatrick), Edward Elgar.

Boström, Magnus; Gilek, Michael; Hedenström, Eva & Jönsson Anna Maria. (2015) How to achieve sustainable procurement for 'peripheral' products with significant environmental impact? *Sustainability: Science, Practice, & Policy.* Volume 11, Issue 1. Electronically available at: <a href="http://sspp.proquest.com/archives/vol11iss1/1309-010.bostrom.html">http://sspp.proquest.com/archives/vol11iss1/1309-010.bostrom.html</a>

Davidson, Debra J. and Michael Gismondi. 2014. "Footprints in the Oilsands: A Double Diversion with global repercussions." *Sociological Imagination* 50(1): 13-34.

Davidson, Debra J. Jeffrey Andrews and Daniel Pauly. 2014. "The effort factor: Evaluating the increasing marginal impact of resource extraction over time." *Global Environmental Change* 25: 63-68.

Jones, Kevin, and Debra J. Davidson. 2014. "Adapting to Food Safety Crises: interpreting success and failure in the Canadian response to BSE." *Food Policy* 49: 250-258.

Monfort, E., Mezquita, A., Vaquer, E., Mallol, G., Gabaldón-Estevan, D. La evolución energética del sector español de baldosas cerámicas. Bol Soc Esp Ceram V 2014 Vol 53, 3, 111-120. Available online at:

http://ceramicayvidrio.revistas.csic.es/index.php/ceramicayvidrio/article/download/1272/1308

Moran, L. & Rau, H. (2014) Mapping divergent concepts of sustainability: lay knowledge, local practices and environmental governance. *Local Environment: The International Journal of Justice and Sustainability.* <a href="http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/13549839.2014.963838">http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/13549839.2014.963838</a>

Murphy, Raymond. 2014 "The emerging hypercarbon reality, technological and post-carbon utopias, and social innovation to low-carbon societies" *Current Sociology Online* doi:10.1177/0011392114551757.

#### The RC-24 Board 2010-2014

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