



International Sociological Association  
Research Committee on Environment and Society

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## President's Column

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by **Stewart Lockie**, President of RC24  
The Cairns Institute, James Cook University, Australia

Colleagues,

As this will be my last column as President of RC24 I would like to begin by thanking all of you for your contributions over the last four years both to our organization and to scholarship in environmental sociology. It has been an honour and a privilege to participate in the leadership of RC24. I have enjoyed tremendous support from all members of the Board: Vice-President Dana Fisher, Secretaries Magnus Boström and Mikael Klintman, Treasurer Peter Oosterveer, Past Presidents Arthur Mol, Riley Dunlap and Ray Murphy, and members Çigdem Adem, Lotsmart Fonjong, Dayong Hong, Pedro Jacobi, David Sonnenfeld and David Tabara. And, of course, numerous other members of RC24 have assisted by organizing conference sessions and regional meetings, contributing to the newsletter, and so on.

I would also like to congratulate Koichi Hasagawa and all the other members of the new Board which will take office at the upcoming World Congress of Sociology in Yokohama. RC24 is in good hands!

The program for the XVIII ISA World Congress of Sociology (13-19 July 2014) is now available online at <https://isaconf.confex.com/isaconf/wc2014/webprogram/start.html>. With so much on offer we will all face some difficult decisions about what to attend. In addition to our own sessions, RC24 members may be interested in the Japanese thematic session on disasters and recovery (Monday afternoon) and the environmental justice plenary (Thursday afternoon). The International Council for Science will be involved in the first Presidential Plenary and will discuss the Council's attempts to link with the social sciences.

In this newsletter you will find the program for the Pre-Congress Conference being hosted by the Institute for Sustainability Research at Hosei University and the Japanese Association for Environmental Sociology on July 12 and 13. Remember, attendance at this event is free but please assist the organizers by registering in advance. With thematic sessions covering the Fukushima disaster and the history of environmental problems, along with open sessions, the Pre-Congress Conference will be an event not to be missed.

You will also find in this newsletter the program for the Post-ISA Symposium, *Deciphering Global Risks: Global Warming in Action* (20 July 2014), organized by the Sociology of Science

Society of Japan and the National Institute for Environmental Studies in association with RC23 and RC24.

This topic, *Global Warming in Action*, is timely. We are seeing an important shift I think in global environmental change discourse from a framing of change as a *future* threat associated with the climate to a framing of change as a *contemporary* process in which multiple Earth systems are implicated. This shift in thinking is of course far from universal – my own government in Australia is tripping over itself to dismantle or weaken every strand of environmental policy and regulation. Nonetheless, the sociological issues raised by these dynamics are many; from understanding the causes, politics and implications of environmental change to finding new and creative ways of contributing to positive social and environmental transformations. The World Congress, along with the pre- and post-congress events, provide important opportunities for us to share our knowledge and experiences of these issues and, just as importantly, to initiate new networks and collaborations.

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## Notes from the Editors

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by **Mikael Klintman** (Dept. of Sociology, Lund University, Sweden), and **Magnus Boström** (School of Humanities, Education, and Social Sciences, Örebro University, Sweden). **Co-Secretaries of RC-24 and Editors of the Newsletter**

Dear colleagues,

Among the wide range of useful information in this newsletter, we'd like to highlight three things.

The first is, of course, all the information about the upcoming ISA congress in Yokohama, information with particular focus on RC24-activities. Stewart Lockie gives some congress information in his column above, and more follows below. It would be really nice if as many as possible of the RC24 members who will attend the congress make use of the RC24 events there – including the pre-congress conference and the post-congress symposium – to further strengthen the community, intellectually and socially.

Secondly, there are the reflections made by RC24-members on environmental and social conditions. The first reflection concerns local and regional water conditions in the Taj Mahal area in India, and is written by **Meenakshi Sinha Swami and S P Srivastava**. The second piece, written by **Michael Redclift**, has a global scope concerning the relationship between activities of financial institutions, emerging economies, and sustainable development. Both pieces can be read as important focal points for further environmental sociological examination.

The third issue that we want to highlight is the results of the RC24 election. On that note, we (**Mikael Klintman & Magnus Boström**) would like to thank the RC24 Board and all active RC24 members for your support in making the tasks as secretaries possible to carry out during this period (2010-2014). After all, the key role of an RC24-secretary is to distribute information to and from RC24-members. This entails constant and stimulating communication with many of you. Moreover, one of us (**Mikael Klintman**) would like to wish the other secretary, **Magnus**

**Boström**, four rewarding and fun years in his new position as Vice President of RC24 2014-2018. Together, we would like to give our warm welcome to **Debra Davidson**, the new RC24 secretary. We are fully confident that you will do an excellent job in this position. Nevertheless, we are happy to share our experiences and routines with you, for what they're worth.

We ask all of you readers to continue making the list serve and the Newsletter useful. You do this by communicating with us about any relevant news about upcoming events, vacant positions, new publications, etc., that we in turn spread worldwide. In addition to brief notes, you are very welcome to provide 1-3 pages of reflections of any kind that are of interest to scholars in environmental sociology. Please do also continue to visit the RC24 website, at [www.environment-societymag.org](http://www.environment-societymag.org). Moreover, we should also take the opportunity to remind everyone that the very basis for the Research Community on Environment and Society is paid memberships. Those of you who haven't renewed your RC24 membership, please do so right away!

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## In Memory: Eugene A. Rosa

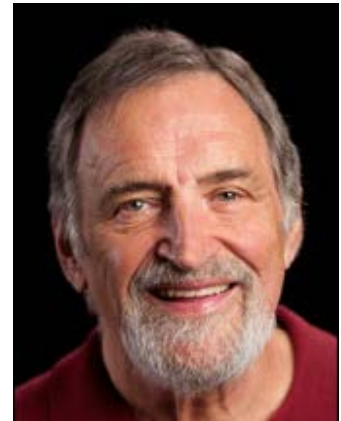
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By **Thomas Dietz**, Michigan State University;

**Aaron M. McCright**, Michigan State University;

**Richard York**, University of Oregon.

Eugene A. Rosa, a pioneer in environmental sociology, died of February 21, 2013 at age 71. Gene's work is foundational to contemporary thinking in structural human ecology, the sociology of risk, and the sociology of energy. He was a pioneer in linking sociology to the ecological and earth system sciences.



Gene did his graduate work with Allan Mazur at the Maxwell School at Syracuse University. His dissertation examined “biosociology”—a term he coined to emphasize that he was studying the influence of the social on the biological—and thus presaged current work in neurosociology. Allan and Gene published what may be the first quantitative macro-comparative analysis in environmental social science, showing that life-style and energy consumption had decoupled. Their analysis changed our understanding of energy consumption in contemporary societies.

After spending two years as a postdoc at Stanford, Gene moved to Washington State University (WSU). He joined an amazing cluster of sociologists pioneering work on environment and on risk: Bill Catton, Riley Dunlap, Lee Freese, Bill Freudenburg, and Jim Short. Gene's contributions to the sociology of risk include two books and more than 40 articles and book chapters. While he did extensive empirical work on risk perceptions and risk controversies, perhaps his most important contributions to the sociology of risk were theoretical. His famous article on the ontology and epistemology of risk, “Metatheoretical Foundations of Post-Normal Risk” continues to spark discussion. One of his books, *Risk, Uncertainty, and Rational Action*, won the 2000-2002 Outstanding Publication Award from the ASA Section on Environment and

Technology. His last book, *The Risk Society Revisited* (co-authored with Ortwin Renn and Aaron M. McCright, 2013), integrates current sociological theories of risk and offers suggestions about risk governance. Gene felt that theory must be engaged with the challenges of improving risk management and fostering sustainability. Recently, Gene led a collaboration of scholars who asserted the importance of social science in assessing the nuclear waste issue. As a result he was asked to testify before the President Obama's Blue Ribbon Commission on America's Nuclear Future.

With collaborators Richard York and Tom Dietz, Gene established a research program that evaluated the contributions of population, affluence, technology, institutions, culture, and other factors in shaping environmental stress. This work is a cornerstone of the new structural human ecology and a new macro-sociology of the environment. Its ongoing influence is evidenced in the more than 2000 citations to Gene's work in this area. A volume Gene co-edited, *Human Footprints on the Global Environment* (2010), examines structural human ecology and related approaches to global environmental change. It won the Gerald R. Young Book Award from the Society for Human Ecology. *Structural Human Ecology* (2013) presents essays centered on Gene's contributions to this emerging perspective. The most recent thread in this work—examining the efficiency with which societies produce human well-being relative to the stress they place on the environment—is deeply resonant with his 1970s' work on energy and lifestyle. Gene considered it a new way of thinking about sustainability.

It is not surprising that so accomplished a scholar won many accolades. He was Regents Professor, Boeing Distinguished Professor of Environmental Sociology, and Meyer Distinguished Professor of Natural Resources and Environmental Policy at Washington State University. He was a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science and a member of the Sociological Research Association. He was one of only two people to twice win the Outstanding Publication Award of the Section on Environment and Technology of the American Sociological Association. (The other two time winner is his student, Richard York.)

Gene viewed environmental sociology as an international effort. His two most important books, *Risk, Uncertainty and Rational Action* and *The Risk Society Revisited*, were international collaborations, and some of his most important papers were published in European or international journals. He was active in RC 24 since 1990 and was Vice President from 2002-2006.

In addition to his scholarship, Gene was an accomplished artist and was very proud of his appointment as an Affiliated Professor of Fine Arts at WSU. His sculptures, which he described as *Ecolage*, appeared regularly in the Faculty of Fine Arts Exhibition and were the subject of a solo exhibition as well. (Images are at: <http://cooley.libarts.wsu.edu/rosa/artistry.html>.)

Coming from a working class family in the Finger Lakes/Lake Erie region of New York state, he always had a sense of wonder about his social and intellectual journey. And he was proud of his family and heritage. He established the Luigi Gastaldo and Flora Brevette Rosa Endowment, named for his parents, at the WSU Museum of Art to fund visits for children who might otherwise not experience an art museum.

Gene was an extraordinary sociologist and colleague. Whether it was new ideas for research, sage advice about professional life and ethics, or his gourmet cooking and incredible collection of wines, his generosity was unfailing. Every conversation with Gene would sparkle with new ideas and his unflinching good humor. He will be missed as both a scholar and as a friend.

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## Results from the Election: The RC-24 Board 2014-2018

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**By Arthur Mol, Wageningen University, The Netherlands**

Dear RC24 members

As voting for the board by RC24 member was possible until April 1, 2014, we now have the results. These results have been approved by the nominations and election committee. Here are the results.

Kind regards,  
On behalf of Riley Dunlap, Julia Guivant and Ray Murphy,  
Arthur Mol

**Executive:**

President:	Koichi Hasegawa (Japan)
Vice-President:	Magnus Boström (Sweden)
Secretary:	Debra Davidson (USA)
Treasurer:	Peter Oosterveer (Netherlands)

**Board of Governors:**

Deba Prashad Chatterjee  
Rolf Lidskog  
Leonardas Rinkevicius  
Luisa Schmidt  
Ana Maria Vara  
Marja Ylönen

**Past-presidents:**

Stewart Lockie (Australia)  
Raymond Murphy (Canada)  
Arthur Mol (the Netherlands)  
Riley Dunlap (USA)

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## Two environment & society reflections by RC24 members

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### Water crisis in the city of the Taj Mahal, India

By Meenakshi Sinha Swami and Dr. S P Srivastava

#### Water supply in Agra

It is just the beginning of the month of May 2014 and the water level has started falling, the water taps may start drying up soon. The present water requirement by the city of Agra is 500mld (million litres per day). While the present availability from the three pumping stations of Agra (Jeevni Mandi, Sikandra MBBR and Old Sikandra water works) is 240mld of water<sup>1</sup>. Out of the total water supply 40% is lost in transmission and distribution. Hence the actual water available is about 120 mld, which comes out to be 100 lpcd (litres per capita daily) whereas the requirement is 150 lpcd. There is a shortage of about 60 mld.

According to D.K. Joshi, a member of the Supreme Court monitoring committee, "The top officials of various departments have collectively played a crude joke on Agra. We neither have water, nor power; the sewage system does not work, community ponds have disappeared; trees have been chopped up; and the Yamuna River continues to wail and scream. Nothing has changed, conditions have worsened."<sup>2</sup>

The local residents use bore wells and hand pumps currently, for water supply through groundwater<sup>3</sup>. Rainwater harvesting possibilities exist in Agra but the water is not collected and stored. The water table depth has been increasing, from 48 ft in 1985 to 80 ft in 2003 to even beyond 130 feet in 2013<sup>4</sup>.

#### Alarming situation on the water availability front

The present level of water in the river Yamuna which supplies water to the city of Agra is 481 feet as on May 5<sup>th</sup> 2014 while the requirement of water is 480 feet is just one foot extra water is available.<sup>5</sup> In mid May when the heat increases water will dry up. Water protests during summer months are not new.

The problems which will arise as soon the water falls by another meter in the river Yamuna

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<sup>1</sup> Deepak Tiwari (2014) Paani ke Bade upbhoktao par jalkal ka jal, April 28, , Hindustan (Hindi), Agra, p2

<sup>2</sup> Khandelwal, Brij (2013b, April 18), Agra faces acute power and water crisis, Uttar Pradesh, Environment/Wildlife, IANS, Retrieved from, <http://newstrackindia.com/newsdetails/2013/04/18/65--Agra-faces-acute-power-and-water-crisis-.html>

<sup>3</sup> CPCB, (2007, Feb), Groundwater Quality Series: GWQS/ 09/2006-2007, *Status of Groundwater Quality in India, Part – I*, Central Pollution Control Board, Ministry of Environment and Forests, pgs 247 Retrieved from [http://www.cpcb.nic.in/upload/NewItems/NewItem\\_47\\_foreword.pdf](http://www.cpcb.nic.in/upload/NewItems/NewItem_47_foreword.pdf)

<sup>4</sup> MDP Consultants (P) Ltd and Allianz Securities Limited (2006) City Development Plan for Agra City in the state of Uttar Pradesh under JNNURM, Urban Development Dept, Government of Uttar Pradesh, p 31-66

<sup>5</sup> Hindustan Samvad (2014b) Bas ek foot, aur sookh jayengi nal, May 7, Hindustan (Hindi), Agra, p2

- The raw water uplifting machine fails if water level falls further
- The water filter gets choked due to lack of supply of water. Sand and garbage get stuck in it
- The treatment plant fails to supply water to the city of Agra
- The water supply to the city homes and business comes to a standstill

### The water quality crisis

With the progress of summer, the colour of river Yamuna water changes to dirty reddish yellow. There is an increase in algae and this has a pernicious effect on potable water supply in the city. There is also a stink in the water coming through the taps in houses. Water filters have to be changed too often by the Water Works Department of Agra<sup>6</sup>. The contamination in water carries with it many health risks.

The pollution levels are so high that a prechlorination dose as high as 20mg/l is necessary to bring down the coliform count within the acceptable limits formulated by the CPHEEO, Govt. of India.

Agra's groundwater quality has indicated higher concentration of electrical conductivity, total dissolved solids, hardness, calcium, magnesium, chloride, sulphate, nitrate, fluoride, iron, manganese, nickel, lead and cadmium vis-à-vis drinking water quality standards. The ranges of each parameter and their percent violation along with observations on groundwater quality present a poor picture. In Agra groundwater fluoride content according to CPCB (2007) is very high.

	Parameters	Raw Water quality in Yamuna 2006	Raw Water quality in Yamuna 2010	CPCB Standard	Quantity of Pollution
1	Colour –Hazen unit	300-400			
2	pH	7.8-9.5		6.6-8.5	Slightly higher
3	Chemical Oxygen Demand (C.O.D)	5.0 – 35		>3.0	12 times more
4	Biochemical Oxygen Demand (B.O.D)	38.0 – 110.0	84	>10.0	11 times more

<sup>6</sup> Hindustan Samvad (2014a) Posh elako mein aa rahalal-peela pani, aapoorti prabhavit, Hindustan (Hindi), Agra, May 4, p3

5	Oxygen (D.O.) minimum	0 – 12.0	0.0	>4.0	8 times less
6	Most Probable Number of Bacteria (MPN) Index/100ML	$4 \times 10^4$ – $240 \times 10^4$	$39 \times 10^7$	> 5000	50 times more
7	Faecal Coliform / 100 ML	$11 \times 10^3$ – $18 \times 10^3$	$29 \times 10^6$	> 2000	9 times more
8	Total Ammonic Nitrogen	4.4 – 40.0		> 1	40 times more

Table 2: Water Quality in the River Yamuna, Agra<sup>7</sup>

### Agra water quality is a doctor's dilemma

The first question the doctors in the city ask their patients is, 'Which water do you drink?' The doctor's are warning patients to be careful with the quality of water they consume. Water contamination in the city has been decades old but of late it has become explosive. A third of the residents have household filter machines installed for filtering the tap water, while another third of the households are dependent on private players for 20litre plastic bottles supplying potable water commercially.

### Solutions for water availability

Water harvesting option is proposed and half heartedly implemented by the city administration. The ecovillage of Dayalbagh on the outskirts of Agra has set an example for water harvesting<sup>8</sup> but the city is not complying with even the government water harvesting norms. There is also a Rs.100 million plan for providing relief to 36 villages of Agra block through water recharging by reviving lakes and canals. 12-15 feet water gets collected during monsoons on stretches of 3-4 kilometres, which can be used for water recharging<sup>9</sup>. This is a 2013 plan but still on paper, though summer is here monsoons cannot be far behind. Water meters of the water department also plans to charge for every litre of water to the residents and commercial establishment, but implementation of it is a controversial issue<sup>10</sup>, more so since water department is unable to supply sufficient quantity of water and the quality of water supply is much wanting.

<sup>7</sup> CPCB (2012), Environmental Standards, Central Pollution Control Board, Government Of India, New Delhi, India, Retrieved from [http://www.cpcb.nic.in/Water\\_Quality\\_Criteria.php](http://www.cpcb.nic.in/Water_Quality_Criteria.php)

<sup>8</sup> Hindustan (2013b) Dayalbagh se kuch seekho sahar walon, June 22, Hindustan, Agra, p 4

<sup>9</sup> Hindustan (2013a), Agra banega water recharge hub, June 16, 2013, Hindustan, Agra, p 2

<sup>10</sup> Jal kal ka meter lega ek ek liter ka hisab, April 21, 2013, Hindustan, Agra, p 2



## Author profiles

Meenakshi Sinha Swami is an economics lecturer by profession, but has been pursuing PhD full time at Dayalbagh Deemed University. She has been a member of the Dayalbagh community and a participant in ecovillage activities. She has been involved in environmentally sustainable initiatives through her research, publications, participation in conferences and being an associate member of SPHEEHA (Society for the Preservation of Healthy Environment, Ecology and Heritage of Agra) and a life member of SSI (System Society of India).

Dr. S.P Srivastava is an associate professor and Head of the Department of Economics at Dayalbagh Deemed University, Agra. He is an active life member of various professional bodies. He has about 50 research papers published in various international and national/ regional journals and has many conference paper presentations to his credit. He was honoured by the Cambridge Biographical Association UK as the Eminent Scientist of the World-2012 and with the Bharat Jyoti Award 2012

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## **New realities for the environment: the development of the ‘emerging economies’ and the progress of globalisation**

**By Michael Redclift, King’s College, London**

The hope that markets and technology would solve the environmental problems associated with accelerated economic growth and the enormous rise in global consumption have been challenged by a number of events at the beginning of the twenty-first century, which nation states came to prioritise over the institutional changes associated with public endorsement of sustainable development. Foremost among them was the ‘financial crisis’ that afflicted Europe and North America after 2007.

This major disruption in the economic development model was a crisis fed by the personal greed of many bankers and financial managers, and fuelled by the virtually unregulated production of credit – not because interest rates were low, but because in some countries the price attached to housing equity (the United States, the United Kingdom, Spain and Ireland) was unrealistically high. The financial crisis was fuelled by cheap credit, and in this sense the absence of sustainability made most consumers complicit with the model. The rise in ‘sub-prime’ lending and borrowing, took place under systems of ineffective governance that emphasised everybody’s right to property regardless of collateral and debt levels. Politically it was ‘sold’ as everybody’s right to credit rather than their right to debt. The financial crisis revealed that it was completely unsustainable. There were several obvious corollaries:

1. The policy response paid lip service to the rapidly disappearing Green agenda, but did not support this rhetoric with effective interventions. [Compare the almost derisory role of new Green investment in attempts to address the financial crisis].
2. There is now considerable evidence of the effects of the financial downturn on migration, as well as poverty, notably in China, which supported the United States’ debt through buying in to its financial packages, and supported raised consumption in the West generally, by lowering the costs of manufactured goods there.

3. Another process that has gathered speed is that of transnational sourcing of food, minerals and other resources. The internationalisation of capital movements and the need to secure resources has led to increased transnational acquisition of land and minerals, on the part of China and some of the Gulf States, principally in Africa. Rather than depend exclusively upon trade relations to meet their domestic resource deficiencies – trade contracts during an economic recession – the advantages of acquisition of land, water sources, food (via ‘virtual water’) became evident, especially for their geopolitical reach. Land displacement for crops like soya had already changed international food/land imbalances.

Finally, there is the continuing problem of trade barriers erected by the industrialised world against cheap food and fibre imports from the South. The protection afforded domestic agricultural producers in the North, especially the United States, the European Union and Japan, continues to undermine food security in the South. At the same time the environmental services provided largely by tropical countries – such as forests, water courses and extensive grasslands – are not being paid or supported by trading partners in the North. The global environment is being depleted without compensation being offered to most of those on the ‘sharp end’ of the process of depletion.

#### The financial crisis, sustainable development and consumption

The changes in the way that materials, food and energy are sourced globally have usually been discussed without much reference to what might constitute ‘sustainable development’. The expansion of credit in much of the developed world, and the associated levels of personal and corporate debt that has affected most financial institutions since September 2008, lead to an economic downturn and period of recession from which we have still not emerged in 2014. An understanding of the ‘limits’ imposed by shifts in demand needs to be complimented by an analysis of the rising levels of personal consumption and debt, not only in the developed world but in many middle-income and fast growing developing economies.

As suggested above the ‘toxicity’ of many financial institutions, which prompted national governments to bail out much of the banking sector, was triggered by excessive lending in a number of countries, and especially on house purchases. This brought about a loss of confidence in the ability of the lending institutions to recoup their assets, and national governments acted to guarantee the private banking sector against a feared ‘run on the banks’. These developments occurred within a context of relatively high personal (and institutional) indebtedness since the 1980s.

At the same time another shift had been occurring in consumer policy, this time prompted by the much wider acknowledgement of global climate change, especially after the Stern Report was published in 2007 (Stern 2007). The need to pursue ‘low-carbon’ solutions to economic growth rapidly altered the policy discourses surrounding consumption, and it has become an article of faith for public policy that economic growth is only tolerable if it does not exacerbate existing concentrations of carbon in the atmosphere. At one level such an acknowledgment of the importance of ‘sustainable development’ is both positive and challenging. An example was the introduction of the Climate Change Bill in the United Kingdom in 2008, which established a

very ambitious target for carbon reductions of eighty per cent by 2050. This policy activity has been accompanied by sustained lobbying on the part of NGOs, and the series of Climate Camps that have repeatedly mobilised the public in their thousands. Nevertheless, since 2010 the impact of budget cuts in the UK and throughout many of the countries of southern Europe, has imperilled pro-environment policy and targets.

The characterization of climate change as a ‘market failure’ immediately offered economists, businesses and Government a lifeline (Stern 2007). It should cause environmental sociologists to pause and reconsider the implications of the new policy orthodoxies heralded by Stern. Rather than necessitating expensive and comprehensive restructuring in systems of provision, or even reduced volumes of production and consumption, Stern’s neoclassical view that sustainability could be delivered through *increased* consumption of particular kinds of products, simultaneously feeding the economy has come to typify the mainstream sustainable consumption discourse, while serving to turn sustainability thinking on its head. In addition, such developments in the economy and in public policy raise some awkward questions for our understanding of the policy discourses which have characterised the environmental field, – such as the role of an ‘information deficit’ about the environmental costs of products and services, and the targeting of personal responsibility for policy solutions as being sufficient to lead to voluntary behaviour change (Redclift and Hinton 2008). Remarkably, these assumptions are largely untested and circumstantial. Whilst policymakers and pundits alike tend to measure progress towards sustainable consumption in terms of the numbers of purchases of particular ‘green’ or ‘ethical’ commodities, where success is framed in terms of market share, an alternative discourse suggests that sustainable consumption involves frugality, thrift and a kind of voluntary austerity. If this is indeed the case, then a focus on economic growth – low carbon or otherwise – may still be unsustainable.

As the Stern Report suggests, climate change is now regarded as a ‘given’, markets are now considered more relevant to policy solutions than ever before, and the reduced dependency on hydrocarbons is widely regarded as the single most urgent policy challenge facing us. It is also widely assumed that evidence of a slow emergence from economic recession in the developed world will only serve to intensify this process, creating policy tensions and more opportunities for fiscal sacrifices.

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## Upcoming Conferences (in chronological order)

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### Pre-Congress Conference in Yokohama, Japan July 12<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup>, 2014

**Open for registration (free of charge)**, please send an e-mail to: [applyisapre@gmail.com](mailto:applyisapre@gmail.com)  
**See also the pre-congress conference website**, at <http://www.sustenaken.hosei.ac.jp/en/>

In collaboration with RC24, the Institute for Sustainability Research, Hosei University (ISR-HU; Tokyo, Japan) and the Japanese Association for Environmental Sociology (JAES; Tokyo, Japan) will be co-hosting a 2-day pre-congress conference a day before the ISA World Congress of Sociology to be held in Yokohama. Anyone interested as well as all the ISA Congress participants are strongly encouraged to attend this international pre-conference. The organizing committee is now working hard to finalize the program. However, we would like to let you know the tentative program here, for the convenience of interested scholars.

There will be two thematic and two RC24 regular sessions. The first thematic session is “The Fukushima Nuclear Disaster and Tasks of Social Reform.” Some of the papers will chronicle and analyze the Fukushima accident in great detail and there will also be paper-givers from USA and Germany to place this nuclear disaster in a world context. The second thematic session, “History of Environmental Problems and Environmental Sociology,” will focus on the less-known environmental issues and less-featured tradition of environmental sociologies across the Globe to shed new light on the future of environmental sociology. RC24 sessions covered wide range of very important topics and are programed by the RC24 committee.

We are very happy to say that admission fee for this pre-congress conference is free. There will also be a socializing event (a light snack and beer party) scheduled on Saturday, July 12<sup>th</sup> for a nominal fee. This would provide pre-congress participants a wonderful opportunity to mingle with scholars across the globe.

For those coming from overseas, all you have to do to attend this information-rich and thought-provoking conference is easy and simple: just come to Yokohama a night (or two nights) earlier. We are very much looking forward to welcoming you all this summer.

We are very much looking forward to welcoming you here in Japan. See you all in Yokohama.

#### **The Organizing Committee:**

[ISR-HU]: Harutoshi Funabashi, Hiromi Nishiyauchi, Takashi Moriya, Ryusuke Matsuo,  
Yu Gao, Maiko Kusaka

[JAES]: Saburo Horikawa, Ryoichi Terada, Kazuko Uda, Yoichi Yuasa

[RC24-ISA]: Stewart Lockie

#### **Contact:**

Prof. Saburo Horikawa (Hosei University/Chair, International Relations Committee, JAES)

Email: irc [at] jaes.jp

## The (Tentative) Program for the Pre-Congress Conference, Yokohama, Japan

As of May 27<sup>th</sup>, 2014

**Venue:** Pacifico Yokohama, Rooms F203+F204  
1-1-1 Minato Mirai, Nishi-ku, Yokohama 220-0012, Japan

Map and Transportation information:

[http://www.pacifico.co.jp/promoter/dl/pdf/map\\_color.pdf](http://www.pacifico.co.jp/promoter/dl/pdf/map_color.pdf)

### DAY 1: Saturday, July 12<sup>th</sup>, 2014

- 8:00-9:00 Registration
- 9:00-9:15 Welcome and Opening Remarks (Shuichi Kito [JAES President], Riley Dunlap [ex-President, RC24], and Stewart Lockie [President, RC24])
- 9:15-11:50 **Thematic Session 1:** “The Fukushima Nuclear Disaster and Tasks of Social Reform” [Part 1] (Chair: Komei Hosokawa)  
Speakers: Koichi Hasegawa, Masuro Sugai, Luisa Schmidt, Akihiko Sato, and Michael Dreiling
- 11:50-12:50 Lunch
- 12:50-14:40 **Thematic Session 1:** “The Fukushima Nuclear Disaster and Tasks of Social Reform” [Part 2] (Chair: Arthur Mol)  
Speakers: Jeffrey Broadbent, Wolf Schluchter, Sylvia Kotting-Uhl, and Harutoshi Funabashi.
- 14:40-15:00 Coffee Break
- 15:00-17:00 **RC24 Session:** Regular Session [Part 1] (Chair: Stewart Lockie)  
Speakers: Dowan Ku and D. H. Hong, Akihiko Sato, Jo Mylan, Ritsuko Ozaki and I. Shaw, Noriko IWAI and Kuniaki Shishido, Hiroyuki Fukuda, I. J. Buot, U. Galamiton, D. Melana, and O. Magallones.
- 18:00-20:00 [Socializing event; TBA]

### DAY 2: Sunday, July 13<sup>th</sup>, 2014

- 8:00-8:30 Registration
- 8:30-10:20 **RC24 Session:** Regular Session [Part 2] (Chair: Larissa Gata)  
Speakers: Mark Stoddart, P. Graham, and N. Slawinski, Alesha Istvan, M. Jonas and B. Littig, C. Halpern and J. P. Bozonnet, V. Anzoise and S. Sardo, N. A. Tajuddin, and Marta Biagi.
- 10:20-10:40 Coffee Break

- 10:40-12:00 **Thematic Session 2:** “History of Environmental Problems and Environmental Sociology” [Part 1] (Chair: Kanji Ikeda)  
 Speakers: Ryoichi Terada, Harutoshi Funabashi, Ajiang Chen, Suricai Wun’Gaeao, and Shu-Fen Kao.
- 12:00-13:00 Lunch
- 13:00-15:50 **Thematic Session 2:** “History of Environmental Problems and Environmental Sociology” [Part 2] (Chair: See-jae Lee)  
 Speakers: Ana Delicado, Emina Ahmetovic, Nabeel Abu-Shriha, Rafa Art, Muhammad Khurshid, Dayong Hong, Dowan Ku, and Saburo Horikawa.
- 15:50-16:00 Closing Remarks (Koichi Hasegawa [Next President, RC24])

### Nearby Accommodations:

(\* Please note that these URLs are to help you find a hotel and we cannot arrange a room reservation for you.)

#### Luxury hotels

- Yokohama Sakuragicho Washington Hotel  
<http://yokohama-s.washington-hotels.jp/>
- The Yokohama Bay Hotel Tokyu  
<http://ybht.co.jp/en/>
- Yokohama Royal Park Hotel  
<http://www.yrph.com/en/>

#### Relatively reasonable hotels

- Hotel Monterey Yokohama  
<http://www.hotelmonterey.co.jp/en/htl/yokohama/index.html>
- Toyoko Inn Yokohama Sakuragicho  
[http://www.toyoko-inn.com/e\\_hotel/00050/index.html](http://www.toyoko-inn.com/e_hotel/00050/index.html)

#### ➤ Useful websites to search for accommodation

- Booking com  
[http://www.booking.com/country/jp.en-us.html?aid=376383;label=bookings-naam-bM7iEpfEgtuE5\\_3%2AAeeO6QS35038045138%3Ap1%3Ata%3Ap1%3Ap2%3Aac%3Aap1t1%3Aneg;sid=aea72318df4403d7e10af2d8aa1c27ba;dcid=1;inac=0](http://www.booking.com/country/jp.en-us.html?aid=376383;label=bookings-naam-bM7iEpfEgtuE5_3%2AAeeO6QS35038045138%3Ap1%3Ata%3Ap1%3Ap2%3Aac%3Aap1t1%3Aneg;sid=aea72318df4403d7e10af2d8aa1c27ba;dcid=1;inac=0)
- Expedia.co.jp  
<http://www.expedia.co.jp/?&langid=1033>
- Trip Advisor  
[http://www.tripadvisor.com/Hotels-g298173-Yokohama\\_Kanagawa\\_Prefecture\\_Kanto-Hotels.html](http://www.tripadvisor.com/Hotels-g298173-Yokohama_Kanagawa_Prefecture_Kanto-Hotels.html)

## **About the Institute for Sustainability Research (one of the cohosts of the pre-congress conference):**

The Institute for Sustainability Research, Hosei University (ISR-HU; Tokyo, Japan) aims at new development of sustainability research by 1) inheriting research activities on environmental sustainability which were conducted under the Institute for Sustainability Research and Education (closed in March 2013); 2) reconstructing of the disaster-stricken areas by the Great East Japan Earthquake; and 3) establishing new energy policies which are considered as main issues for Japanese society after the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Disaster. More specifically, based on environmental sociology, sociology of local community, social planning, citizens' movement, administrative law, environmental law, social philosophy, ethics, media studies and archival science, ISR-HU takes following 5 approaches;

1. Elucidating problems for energy policies based on establishment of environmental archives and compilation of *A Comprehensive Chronology for Nuclear Energy: History of events leading to the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Disaster* (Tokyo: Suiren-sha, 2014; in Japanese).
2. Exploring solutions for nuclear waste problems which are expected to meet more difficulties accompanied by a nuclear phase out, as well as economic, financial and employment problems for regions where nuclear power plants are located
3. Understanding policy changes and analyzing policy logics for foreign energy policies
4. Establishing “the Integrated Commercialization Model” which promotes renewable energy projects and supporting its implementation
5. Local development in the disaster-stricken areas, population declining areas and developing countries by introducing renewable energies

In the 1<sup>st</sup> approach, there is a project called the *World Environmental Chronology Project* (WEC project), which is now planned to present its work in the Thematic Session 2: “History of Environmental Problems and Environmental Sociology” at the 2<sup>nd</sup> day of the Pre-Congress Conference. *WEC* is the first collective handbook written in English on the environmental chronology for 124 different countries/regions from the industrial revolution to the first decade of the 21st century. It contains various information on the environment, such as environmental problems, environmental policies and legislations and environmental movements, with specific references for each item. ISR-HU and the *WEC* project expect that participants of the session will witness the usefulness of the *WEC* and its chronological method for their future research.

### **Useful links**

- XVIII ISA World Congress of Sociology  
<http://www.isa-sociology.org/congress2014/>

- Research Committee on Environment and Society, RC24  
<http://www.isa-sociology.org/rc24.htm>

- The Japan Sociological Society  
<http://www.gakkai.ne.jp/jss/index-e.shtml>

- The Japanese Association for Environmental Sociology (JAES)

[http://www.jaes.jp/jaes\\_en/](http://www.jaes.jp/jaes_en/)

- Institute for Sustainability Research, Hosei University, Japan (JAPANESE only)

<http://www.sustenaken.hosei.ac.jp/>

- Hosei University

<http://www.hosei.ac.jp/>

- PACIFICO Yokohama

<http://www.pacifico.co.jp/english/index.html>

- Yokohama Visitors' Guide

<http://www.welcome.city.yokohama.jp/eng/travel/>

- Narita International Airport

<http://www.narita-airport.jp/en/index.html>

- Haneda Airport

<http://www.tokyo-airport-bldg.co.jp/en/>

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**Misc. information about ISA World Congress in Yokohama, July 13-19, 2014 (abstracts submission closed):**

**Welcome to Yokohama! A leading "smart city" is waiting for you!**

**by Koichi Hasegawa (Dept. of Sociology, Tohoku University, Sendai, Japan)**

**Chair of the local organizing committee of the World Congress of Sociology in Yokohama 2014, k-hase@m.tohoku.ac.jp**

A leading "smart city" Yokohama ~~Welcomes you~~ the leading city with its Yokohama Smart City Project, promoting renewable energy, energy management of households, buildings and local communities, and next generation transportation systems. In the Exhibition Hall, you can watch a two-seat commuter electric vehicle by Nissan Automobile Company. Quite new! In Yokohama, a one-year experiment has progressed. You can also watch it run in a street of downtown areas.

<http://www.city.yokohama.lg.jp/ondan/english/yscp/> <http://www.choi-mobi.com/> (only in Japanese, but you can get some images with movies)

In the current issue of American Sociological Association's Footnotes, you can read my article on Sociology in Japan: History, Challenges, and the Yokohama World Congress came out. I hope you can grasp the brief outline of Japanese Sociology.

[http://www.asanet.org/footnotes/apr14/intlpersp\\_0414.html](http://www.asanet.org/footnotes/apr14/intlpersp_0414.html)

Did you reserve your flight and hotel to the congress? If not yet, please arrange it ASAP. As a chair of the local organizing committee of the World Congress, I am very glad to inform you that



the whole ISA congress had more than 8,000 people registered from 126 countries and regions by April 1. The congress will be the largest ever for sociologists.

For flight booking with special rate, please go to the link below. <http://www.isa-sociology.org/congress2014/airlines-discount.htm>

You can also use the site for on-line hotel booking with special discount rate (<http://www.isa-sociology.org/congress2014/hotels-tours.htm>). RC24 has an excellent custom to encourage members to stay at the same hotel at the world congress. I would like to personally recommend you to reserve *Yokohama Sakuragicho Washington Hotel via the ISA site*, where is locating within walking distance, 15 minutes walk to the venue and very close to the Sakuragicho Station. The location is really convenient to visit anywhere within and outside the city.

Inter Continental Yokohama Grand Hotel is a next door of the venue. It looks a little bit expensive in case of single-stay, especially for Friday night and Saturday night, but it is really convenient to the venue.

Stay from July 11th for the Pre-conference.

~~24 has removed RC~~

conference on July 12th and 13th in collaboration with Japanese Association for Environmental Sociology and Hosei University. So I strongly recommend that you to stay from July 11th to July 19th. I really hope you will enjoy the conferences and streets, shops cafes, museums and more in Yokohama. Too much fun! If you have any questions, please feel free to ask me. Looking forward to seeing you in Yokohama soon!

Useful information all about Yokohama for foreign travellers

<http://www.welcome.city.yokohama.jp/eng/travel/>

Including information of cheaper hotels, Ryokan (Japanese style Inn) and hostels

<http://www.welcome.city.yokohama.jp/eng/travel/accommodations/>

[http://www.welcome.city.yokohama.jp/eng/travel/accommodations/ryokan\\_hostel/](http://www.welcome.city.yokohama.jp/eng/travel/accommodations/ryokan_hostel/)

<http://www.pacifico.co.jp/english/services/accomodations.html>

**See also the congress website, at**

<http://www.isa-sociology.org/congress2014/>

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## **Post-ISA Symposium**

### **Deciphering Global Risks: Global Warming in Action**

**Theme:** Global risks beyond Fukushima

**Time & Date:** Sunday July 20th, 2014, 13:00-17:00

**Venue:** Yayoi Auditorium, The University of Tokyo

On the right of the main gate of the Yayoi campus of the University of Tokyo

<http://www.u-tokyo.ac.jp/campusmap/restaurantmap.pdf>

E-mail : [yayoi@ofc.a.u-tokyo.ac.jp](mailto:yayoi@ofc.a.u-tokyo.ac.jp)

**Program:**

13:00~14:20

The Aim of the Symposium, Chair: TBA

Keynote Speech 1 “The Current State of the Art of Climate Science (tentative)”: Dr. Akimasa Sumi, President of National Institute for Environmental Studies, Japan, (<http://en.ir3s.u-tokyo.ac.jp/faculty/sumi/> , <http://www.nies.go.jp/gaiyo/aisatu-e.html>.)

Keynote Speech 2 "Scaling Up: Code, Community, and Trust in Earth System Science (tentative)": Professor Paul N. Edwards, University of Michigan (<http://pne.people.si.umich.edu>)

14:20~14:40 Coffee break

14:40~16:10 Discussion

Discussants:

“From the Viewpoint of Environmental Sociology” (tentative): Professor Stewart Lockie, James Cook University.

“From the Viewpoint of the Sociology of Science and Technology after Fukushima” (tentative): Professor Miwao Matsumoto, The University of Tokyo

16:10~16:20 Concluding Remarks

**Organized by:**

The Sociology of Science Society of Japan (SSSJ)  
National Institute for Environmental Studies (NIES)

**In association with:** ISA RC23, RC24

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**Call for contributions: VIII. International Cultural Studies Conference Environment and Culture.**

**Organized by Cultural Studies Association of Turkey and Department of Anthropology, Yeditepe University.**

**September 1-3, 2015 Yeditepe University Ataşehir, Istanbul**

**Deadline for abstracts: May 31, 2014 (possible extended)**

The eighth cultural studies conference, on the theme of “Environment and Culture,” jointly organized by the Cultural Studies Association of Turkey and the Department of Anthropology at Yeditepe University, will be held on September 1-3, 2015 at the Yeditepe University campus on the Asian side of Istanbul. The international cultural studies conferences that are organized every two years by this association have made significant contributions to cultural studies and brought together scholars who work in this area. Since the first one in Kemer, Antalya (2001), the conferences have been organized jointly with 100. Yıl University in Van (2003), Koç University in Istanbul (2005), Işık University in Şile (2007), Karaelmas (now Bülent Ecevit) University in Zonguldak (2009), Kadir Has University in Istanbul (2011), and Bilkent University in Ankara

(2013). Founded in 1998, the Department of Anthropology at Yeditepe University, has organized numerous conferences, including the Eastern Mediterranean and Central Asia Regional Conference on “Social Sciences in Health” (1998); the “Crisis Management” (1999); International Forum for Social Sciences and Health World Congress (2005); “Turcoman Tents” (2007); “Anthropology Education, Internationally and in Turkey” (2008); and “Materiality, Memory and Cultural Heritage” (2011) conferences; as well as “The 10th Border Crossing Student Conference” (2012). The current research focus of the department includes environmental ethnography. The environmental crisis, as manifested in issues such as climate change, urban development, and water shortage, continues to be the subject matter of social science research and theory. While the environment has largely been the focus of natural sciences and engineering disciplines, the anthropogenic era strongly involves the built environment and calls for a redefinition of the “natural.” At the same time, theoretical conceptualizations of the social environment, such as habitus, remain core theoretical tools for our understanding of human life and culture. The combination of the natural, physical and social environments as understood and critically problematized by social scientists and humanities scholars call for new social scientific explanations. The purpose of the conference is to question existing paradigms in topics that bring together the concepts of “culture” and “environment,” to present critical and analytical studies in these themes, and to explore new theoretical and methodological approaches in cultural studies with the challenges of integrating inter and trans disciplinary perspectives. The 2015 conference bears, but is not exclusive to, the following as its core issues and sub-themes, inviting abstracts in the realm of cultures of Turks and Turkey, whether they are located in or outside Turkey. The conference is open to a variety of approaches and themes as long as they deal with the interaction of “culture” and “environment,” and are pertinent to the central focus of the conference. Papers based on original field research as well as textual analyses are also welcome.

- Culture in environment / Environment in culture
- Cultural conceptualizations and constructions of nature and environment
- Cultural ecology
- Cultural perception of environmental change
- Environmental politics and policies
- Environmental protest movements
- The environment in art and literature
- The environment in the media
- Nature and education
- Civil society and the environment
- Culture, gender and the environment
- Colonialism and the environment
- Nature and mythology
- Critical readings of folklore and religious texts on nature (Trees and Forests, Water, Rivers, Seas and shores,

Lakes, Mountains, Rocks, etc.)

- Culture of forest villages
- Landscapes as cultural objects
- Wars and the environment
- Endangered species and ethics
- Wild life politics
- National laws, borders and the environment
- Technology, culture and the environment

Keynote speakers will be announced later.

The working language of the conference is Turkish. Sessions in English will be scheduled as necessary.

A volume containing a selection of the papers will be published and made available during the conference.

Proposals, in either Turkish or English, may be in the form of

- individual paper presentations,
- pre-organized panels consisting of 3 to 4 individual presentations,
- poster sessions,
- exhibitions,
- workshops or
- film shows and should be submitted on the conference website at <http://semp2015.kulturad.org>. Proposals, not to exceed 200 words, should include five keywords and should be accompanied by a short curriculum.

Important Dates:

- 01 May 2014 (Possible extended): Deadline for abstract submission
- 15 July 2014: Notification of results
- 15 December 2014: Early Registration deadline
- 15 December 2014: Registration deadline for inclusion in the program
- 15 December 2014: Deadline for submission of full papers

Please note that the early registration fee is 100 TL for members of the association and 150 TL for non-members; it will then be 150 TL for members and 200 TL for non-members. The fee covers the conference bag and program booklet, tea/coffee and cookies, and reception.

All other information will be made available on the conference website. Write to [semp2015@kulturad.org](mailto:semp2015@kulturad.org) if you have any questions or for more information. The Organization Committee

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## **Impressions from a conference**

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**Regional conference of RC24 : Environment, Technology and Sustainable Development: Promises and Challenges in the 21st Century (ETSD2014), March 2-4, 2014, ABV-Indian Institute of Information Technology and Management Gwalior (ABV-IIITM), Madhya Pradesh, India**

**By Pradip Swarnakar, ABV-IIITM & Stephen Zavestoski, University of San Francisco**

ETSD2014 ([www.etsd2014.org](http://www.etsd2014.org)) was organized by ABV-IIITM Gwalior ([www.iiitm.ac.in](http://www.iiitm.ac.in)) in association with Institute of Social and Economic Change, Bangalore, India ([www.isec.ac.in](http://www.isec.ac.in)) and College of Arts & Sciences, University of San Francisco, USA ([www.usfca.edu/artsci](http://www.usfca.edu/artsci)). The conference was supported by Indian Council of Social Science Research ([www.icsr.org](http://www.icsr.org)), SAGE Publications, University of San Francisco and RC24. The conference was jointly coordinated by Dr. Pradip Swarnakar ([ps@iiitm.ac.in](mailto:ps@iiitm.ac.in)), Associate Professor of Sociology at ABV-IIITM and Dr. Stephen Zavestoski ([smzavestoski@usfca.edu](mailto:smzavestoski@usfca.edu)), Associate Professor of Sociology and Environmental Studies Program Co-Director, University of San Francisco. The main conference themes were science and technology, climate change, energy, water, urban ecology and environmental governance.

The conference attracted a significant number of early-career scholars, as well as a range of senior scholars from all corners of India and from different countries around the world including United States, United Kingdom, Netherlands, Germany, France, Nigeria, Bangladesh and Nepal. With outstanding support from information technology students at IIITM, online data management systems were created and nearly 400 abstracts were submitted before deadline. Following blind review process 96 papers were finally selected for presentation across 24 themes and subthemes. Eminent keynote speakers delivered lectures from academia and industry. Important speakers were Prof. Richard York (Chair, Environment and Technology Section, American Sociological Association), Prof. Kirith Parikh (Former Member of Planning Commission, Government of India), Yasir Ahmad (Technical Director, Climate Change & Sustainability Services, KPMG), Prof. Marc Ventresca (Economic Sociologist, University of Oxford), Anna Wiczorek, (Institute for Environmental Studies, VU University Amsterdam), Dr. Dieter Mutz (Director, Indo-German Environment Partnership Programme, GIZ), Franck Vogel (Environmental Photojournalist from Paris), Prof. Patrick McSharry (Head of Catastrophe Risk Financing, University of Oxford), Pranshu Singhal (Head of Sustainability, Nokia), Dr. Ashok Das (CEO SunMoksha), Naveen Sharma (Vice President, JK Lakshmi Cement Ltd.) and Sanjay Bindal (Vice President, J K Tyre Industries Ltd.).

SAGE Publications sponsored a cash prize of Rs. 50000 (approx 1000 USD) for best paper. The best paper was awarded to Farhat Naz, Marie-Charlotte Buisson and Archisman Mitra (from International Water Management Institute) for their paper "Downscaling Climate Change: Perceptions and Adaptive Behaviours of Rural Farmers in West Bengal, India". RC24 offered international travel grant for developing country scholar. This conference would not have been possible without the mentorship of senior RC24 scholars, particularly Prof. Riley Dunlap, Prof. Stewart Lockie and Prof. Matthias Gross. The organizers look forward to publish two edited volumes from SAGE and Routledge and three special journal issues from Emerald, SAGE and Inderscience publishers. After several positive and encouraging feedbacks, coordinators would

like to organize follow up conference in the summer of 2016 at University of San Francisco, or another North American venue.

Pradip Swarnakar, ABV-IITM

Stephen Zavestoski, University of San Francisco

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## **Announcements (in alphabetical order)**

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### **Call for papers in the new journal *Environmental Sociology***

See the journal webpage, at <http://explore.tandfonline.com/page/bes/aedarchives/rens-call-for-papers/#> =

*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.

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**Debra Davidson** has discussed Climate Change on the radio and television:

Davidson, D.J. 2014. Quirks and Quarks on IPCC Climate Change report (Radio broadcast). *Canadian Broadcasting Corporation's Quirks and Quarks Radio*. The show is available Online at Show: <http://www.cbc.ca/quirks/2014/04/05/2014-04-05-5/>

Davidson, D.J. 2014. Climate change: An urgent, global issue. *Canadian Business News Network Television* (TV broadcast) The show is available Online, at <http://watch.bnn.ca/headline/headline-april-2014/headline-april-4-2014/#clip1078452>

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**David A. Sonnenfeld**, Dept. of Environmental Studies, SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry, Syracuse, New York, has been appointed Editor-in-Chief of the journal, *Society & Natural Resources*, for a three-year term beginning July 1, 2014 (with Peter Leigh Taylor, Colorado State University). *S&NR* is the official journal of the International Association for Society and Natural Resources, and is published by Taylor & Francis.

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## **The European Institutes for Advanced Study (EURIAS) Fellowship Programme for 2015-2016.**

**Deadline for applications:** Thursday, 05 June 2014

Pay Rate: €26,000 for a junior fellow and €38,000 for a senior fellow

Duration: 10 months

The European Institutes for Advanced Study (EURIAS) Fellowship Programme is an international researcher mobility programme offering 10-month residencies in one of the 16 participating Institutes: Berlin, Bologna, Budapest, Cambridge, Delmenhorst, Edinburgh, Freiburg, Helsinki, Jerusalem, Lyon, Marseille, Paris, Uppsala, Vienna, Wassenaar, Zürich. The Institutes for Advanced Study support the focused, self-directed work of outstanding researchers. The fellows benefit from the finest intellectual and research conditions and from the stimulating environment of a multi-disciplinary and international community of first-rate scholars.

EURIAS Fellowships are mainly offered in the fields of the humanities and social sciences but may also be granted to scholars in life and exact sciences, provided that their proposed research project does not require laboratory facilities and that it interfaces with humanities and social sciences. The diversity of the 16 participating IAS offers a wide range of possible research contexts in Europe for worldwide scholars. Applicants may select up to three IAS outside their country of nationality or residence as possible host institutions.

The Programme welcomes applications worldwide from promising young scholars as well as from leading senior researchers. The EURIAS selection process has proven to be highly competitive. To match the Programme standards, applicants have to submit a solid and innovative research proposal, to demonstrate the ability to forge beyond disciplinary

specialisation, to show an international commitment as well as quality publications in high-impact venues.

For the 2015-2016 academic year EURIAS offers 44 fellowships (22 junior and 22 senior positions).

All IAS have agreed on common standards, including the provision of a living allowance (in the range of €26,000 for a junior fellow and €38,000 for a senior fellow), accommodation (or a mobility allowance), a research budget, plus coverage of travel expenses.

#### APPLICATION

- Applications are submitted online via [www.eurias-fp.eu](http://www.eurias-fp.eu), where, you will find detailed information regarding the content of the application, eligibility criteria, and selection procedure.
- Applications period April 15th → June 5th, 2014, 12 pm (noon) GMT.
- Late applications will not be considered.

#### SELECTION PROCEDURE

- Scientific assessment by two international reviewers
- Pre-selection by the international EURIAS Scientific Committee
- Final selection by the IAS Academic Boards
- Publication of results: January 2015

For further information on the Programme, please consult our website: [www.eurias-fp.eu](http://www.eurias-fp.eu)

For further information on the IAS and their specific working conditions: [www.eurias-fp.eu/ias](http://www.eurias-fp.eu/ias)

See also <http://www.europeansociology.org/jobs.html?view=posting&id=220>

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## Recent Member Books (in alphabetical order)

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**Lionel Charles, Hellmuth Lange, Bernard Kalaora, and Florence Rudolf, eds. 2014 (in French). *Environnement et Sciences Sociales en France et en Allemagne*. Paris, France: L'Harmattan.**

L'Allemagne et la France présentent de profondes différences dans le domaine de l'environnement, lui-même en pleine mutation. L'Allemagne s'y est affirmé leader mondial, surtout dans l'innovation et les écotechnologies, sur fond d'une puissante dynamique collective. L'évolution française est plus incertaine, plus contrainte par ses configurations socio-institutionnelles et culturelles. Ces perspectives et ces différences sont ici mises à jour et interrogées.

For further information on this book, see

<http://www.editions-harmattan.fr/index.asp?navig=catalogue&obj=livre&no=42972>



**Matthias Gross, Rüdiger Mautz. 2014. *Renewable Energies*. London: Routledge (Key Ideas Series).**

Renewable Energy normally refers to usable energy sources that are an alternative to fuel sources, but without the negatively evaluated consequences of the replaced fuels. Although energy issues have a long tradition in sociology and other social sciences, it may now be high time to conceptualize these in sociological terms as the lynchpin in our understanding of the way societies are set to develop in the 21st century.

This concise book focuses on sociological attempts at better framing contemporary theories of energy transformations and to deliver an accessible overview on the relationships between different types of renewable energy sources and their practical usages in modern societies. A strong focus is laid upon new forms of environmental governance and unavoidable knowledge gaps triggered by attempts to transform contemporary energy systems to renewable ones.

Critical topics include the challenge of transition from centralized to decentralized system structures, the integration of renewable energies into existing energy structures or the replacement of these, coping strategies to unforeseen risks and conflict issues, and socio-cultural reservations to new technologies connected to renewable energies.

For further information on this book, see:

<http://www.routledge.com/books/details/9780415858618/>

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**Mercedes Martinez-Iglesias, ed. expected in June 2014. *Experts and Campaigners: Scientific Information and Collective Action in Socio-Ecological Conflicts*. Valencia (Spain): PUV University of Valencia Press, 2014.**

This book brings together texts by social scientists from the United States, France and Spain, some of them members of RC24. Their common frame of reference is the dialectic between experts and activists in socio-environmental 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, socio-ecological conflicts appear with the contradictory multiplicity of forms that characterise major social problems.

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.

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**Luísa Schmidt and Ana Delicado, eds. 2014. *Ambiente, Alterações Climáticas, Alimentação e Energia: a opinião dos portugueses*. Lisbon: Imprensa de Ciências Sociais.**

Joining the European Community in 1986 had significant consequences over environmental matters in Portugal. If on a policy level, measures, directives and regulations proliferated, on a social level the interest in environmental issues became increasingly salient, across (even if asymmetrically) the Portuguese society.

This book offers a panorama of the evolution of public opinion on environmental, consumption and energy issues in Portugal over the last few decades. Each theme merits a brief policy outlook, at the European and national level. From energy to urban mobility, from climate change to waste, from water to consumption, Portuguese responses to Eurobarometer surveys are examined against the backdrop of European trends and variations by gender, age or educational attainment. Topics such as information on environmental issues, levels of concern with environmental problems or agreement with policy measures are analysed.

This book stems from the activities of OBSERVA Observatory of Environment and Society, which conducts studies and dissemination actions concerning the social and political dimensions of environmental, energy and sustainability problems.

**Contributors:** A. Delicado, A. Horta, J. M. Mourato, J. G. Ferreira, L. Schmidt, M. Truninger, R. Carvalho, S. Fonseca, S. Valente.

For further information on this book, see

[https://www.imprensa.ics.ul.pt/index.php?main\\_page=product\\_book\\_info&cPath=5&products\\_id=337](https://www.imprensa.ics.ul.pt/index.php?main_page=product_book_info&cPath=5&products_id=337)

**Valentine Van Gameren, Romain Weikmans & Edwin Zaccai, eds. 2014 (in French).  
*L'adaptation au changement climatique*. Paris, France: La Découverte.**

L'adaptation émerge aujourd'hui comme une dimension incontournable de la réponse au changement climatique. Complémentaire à l'indispensable réduction des émissions de gaz à effet de serre, ses enjeux restent cependant largement méconnus.

À quels risques les sociétés humaines et les écosystèmes vont-ils être confrontés ? Dans quelle mesure l'adaptation peut-elle y répondre ? Comment se matérialisent les politiques en ce domaine, depuis le niveau international jusqu'au niveau local, en passant par les pays et les villes ? Quels rôles auront les entreprises, les assurances, les individus ?

Telles sont les questions que l'auteur apporte au lecteur un historique, des clés de compréhension et des illustrations éclairantes. Cette synthèse intègre également un nombre important de références essentielles en matière d'auteurs et de travaux internationaux.

For more information on this book, see

<http://widget.editis.com/ladecouverte/9782707174697/#page/1/mode/1up> INFO S :  
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## **Recent Member Articles, Special Issues & Conference Proceedings**

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Calleros-Rodríguez, H. 2014. Land, conflict, and political process: The case of the Lacandon Community, Chiapas, Mexico (1972–2012). *The Journal of Peasant Studies* 41(1). Available online, at : <http://www.tandfonline.com/eprint/CwvmUgN5Tn8AVgQW5hRj/full>

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## **Editors**

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Mikael Klintman  
Dept. of Sociology, Lund University  
PO. Box 114  
SE-221 00 Lund, Sweden  
Email: mikael.klintman@soc.lu.se  
Website: www3.soc.lu.se/index.php?id=315

Magnus Boström  
School of Humanities, Education, and Social Sciences, Örebro University  
SE-701 82, Örebro, Sweden  
Email: magnus.bostrom@oru.se  
Website: www.oru.se/humus/Magnus\_Bostrom/