



Boletín 3/2007

InfoRed

Comité Científico Español del IHDP
C/Bartolomé Cossío s/n; 28040, Madrid
Tel/Fax: 915491459/1075
E-mail: ayabar@der.ucm.es

WEB: <http://www.ucm.es/info/iuca/IHDP.htm>

Madrid, marzo de 2007

¿Qué objetivos tiene la Red-IHDP?

- ❖ Crear una base de datos de investigaciones, investigadores y centros que desarrollan investigaciones en materia de cambio global desde la perspectiva de las ciencias sociales.
- ❖ Facilitar la divulgación y difusión de información relativa a:
 - Programa internacional (IHDP);
 - Actividades de investigación relacionadas con los núcleos principales de proyectos del IHDP que estén siendo desarrolladas por investigadores españoles;
 - Oportunidades de participación de la comunidad científica nacional en las iniciativas que el IHDP organiza;
 - Iniciativas y acciones que contribuyan a incrementar la investigación científica de calidad sobre las dimensiones humanas, económicas y sociales del cambio global.
- ❖ Facilitar el conocimiento y el intercambio de información entre los integrantes de la Red.

¿Cómo se forma parte de la Red?

Opción 1: Simplemente, completando y remitiendo el cuestionario que obra en la WEB del CCE-IHDP:

<http://www.ucm.es/info/iuca/Nota%20Encuesta%20IHDP%2020.05.06.doc>

Opción 2: Tomando contacto con la sede del Comité Español del IHDP:

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¿Existe algún costo para los integrantes de la Red?

NO existe costo alguno para sus integrantes.

¿Existe alguna ventaja adicional para quienes forman parte de la Red?

SI. A través de la Red Ud. también podrá:

- Difundir noticias sobre proyectos de investigación en curso, conferencias, seminarios, actividades de formación y publicaciones, en el ámbito del programa internacional del IHDP.
- Publicar anuncios para facilitar la toma de contacto con investigadores interesados en participar en proyectos de investigación nacional e internacional del IHDP, publicaciones especializadas, etc.
- Facilitar la gestión y organización conferencias, seminarios y eventos científicos relativos al programa IHDP.

Cambio Ambiental Global

El Sistema Terrestre es un conjunto de subsistemas acoplados que se comporta como uno único y autorregulado.

De manera creciente, los científicos reconocen a la Tierra como un sistema complejo y sensible, que comprende componentes físicos, químicos, biológicos y humanos.

En términos de algunos parámetros ambientales claves, el Sistema se ha movido fuera de la gama de la variabilidad natural exhibida en el pasado.

Los cambios no se restringen al calentamiento global y al sostenido incremento de concentraciones atmosféricas de gases de efecto invernadero de origen antropogénico.

Estudios recientes de las superficies terrestres, los océanos, las costas, la diversidad biológica, el ciclo del agua y de los ciclos biogeoquímicos muestran, también, que las actividades humanas están generando cambios que van más allá de la natural variabilidad y con ritmos que continúan acelerándose.

El cambio ambiental global es el conjunto de transformaciones biofísicas de las superficies terrestres, los océanos y la atmósfera conducidas por actividades humanas y procesos naturales. Dichas transformaciones tienen lugar en el ámbito local, regional y global y afectan la calidad de vida humana y el desarrollo sostenible en la más amplia escala.

Cambios irreversibles en el Sistema Terrestre han sido identificados y estudiados, inicialmente, dentro de las disciplinas naturales de la ciencia. Sin embargo, para entender y explicar el problema de una manera más comprensiva y desarrollar estrategias de respuesta que sean factibles desde un punto de vista económico, político, social y cultural, el ser humano debe estar puesto en el centro del análisis. La investigación de la dimensión humana del cambio ambiental global toma en cuenta, también, las interacciones entre dicho cambio y los procesos socioeconómicos, políticos y culturales globales.

Si desea difundir, mediante Infored, alguna noticia o anuncio relativo a los aspectos referidos anteriormente envíe su texto a: ayabar@der.ucm.es o tome contacto con la Sede del CCE- IHDP.

1. Integración del CCE-IHDP

En la reunión del CCE, celebrada el pasado 28 de noviembre, se actualizó la integración del dicho órgano el cual quedó constituido de la siguiente forma:

- Presidente: *Ana Yábar Sterling*
Doctora en Derecho y en Ciencias Económicas;
Catedrático de Economía Aplicada: Universidad Complutense de Madrid (UCM).
- Vocal-Secretario: *José Antonio Sotelo Navalpotro*
Doctor en Geografía y en Ciencias Ambientales
Profesor Titular de Análisis Geográfico Regional: UCM.
- Vocales: *Artemio Baigorri Agoiz*
Doctor en Sociología
Profesor Titular de Sociología: Universidad de Extremadura
- Alfonso de Esteban Alonso*
Doctor en Ciencias Económicas
Catedrático de Sociología: Universidad Rey Juan Carlos
- Emilio Fontela Montes*
Doctor en Ciencias Económicas
Catedrático de Economía: Universidad Antonio de Nebrija
- Félix Hernández Álvarez*
Doctor Ingeniero Industrial
Investigador del Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Científicas.
- Pedro Manuel Herrera Molina*
Doctor en Derecho
Profesor Titular de Derecho Financiero y Tributario: UCM.
- Joan Subirats Humet*
Doctor en Economía
Catedrático de Ciencia Política y de la Administración
Universidad Autónoma de Barcelona.

2. Reuniones científicas del CCE-IHDP

Tal como fuera oportunamente programado y anunciado, se desarrollaron los siguientes eventos:

2.1 Foro "Las zonas costeras ante el cambio ambiental global"

Dicho Foro fue organizado por el CCE conjuntamente con el Instituto Universitario de Ciencias Ambientales (IUCA) de la Universidad Complutense de Madrid (UCM) y la Facultad de Geografía e Historia de dicha Universidad y se celebró el pasado 8 de marzo, en el Aula de Grados de la referida Facultad, con el siguiente detalle:

- 11:00 h. Apertura.
La misma estuvo a cargo de la Prof^a. Dra. Mercedes Molina Ibáñez, Decana Facultad de Geografía e Historia de la UCM y del Dr. Dn. Guillermo Morales Calvo del Dpto. de Medio Ambiente y Recursos Naturales del Ministerio de Educación y Ciencia.
- 11:15 h. Conferencia: **"Las Zonas Costeras ante el Cambio Climático y el Programa de Investigación del IHDP"**: Prof^a. Dra. Ana Yábar Sterling, Directora del IUCA y Presidenta del Comité Científico Español de IHDP (CCE-IHDP).
- 11:50 h. Mesa Redonda y Conferencias Invitadas
La introducción estuvo a cargo del Prof. Dr. José Antonio Sotelo Navalpotro, Director Adjunto del IUCA y Secretario del Comité Científico Español de IHDP.
- 12:00 h. Conferencias:
a. **"Riesgos naturales y cambio global en los espacios litorales españoles"**: Prof. Dr. Jorge Olcina Cantos, Catedrático de Análisis Geográfico Regional y Director del Laboratorio de Climatología de la Universidad de Alicante.

b. **"Tendencias recientes en el análisis de la vulnerabilidad a los riesgos ambientales"**: Prof. Dr. David Saurí Pujol, Catedrático de Geografía Humana y Miembro del Instituto de Ciencia y Tecnología Ambientales de la Universidad Autónoma de Barcelona.

Finalmente hubo coloquio entre los participantes.

2.2. Mesa Redonda: "La sostenibilidad local desde la óptica del IHDP"

Dicho evento fue organizado por el CCE-IHDP y se celebró a partir de las 12:00 horas del pasado 20 de marzo, en la Sala Club del Salón de Convenciones de FIBES - Centro de Conferencias de Sevilla- y en el marco del desarrollo de la **"V Conferencia Europea de Ciudades y Pueblos Sostenibles"**, organizada por la Ciudad de Sevilla, ICLEI - Gobiernos Locales para la Sostenibilidad y la V Conferencia Europea de Ciudades y Pueblos Sostenibles.

En la primera parte del desarrollo del mismo, se presentaron las siguientes ponencias, a cargo de los integrantes de la Red IHDP-España:

- **"El cambio climático en los programas de sostenibilidad de las grandes ciudades españolas"**: Prof. Dra. Doña Ana Yábar Sterling (Presidenta del CCE-IHDP);
- **"Ámbito escalar y sostenibilidad"**: Prof. Dr. Don José Antonio Sotelo Navalpotro (Vocal y Secretario del CCE-IHDP);
- **"La sociología ambiental y la sostenibilidad local"**: Prof. Dr. Don Alfonso de Esteban Alonso (Vocal del CCE-IHDP; Catedrático de Sociología de la Universidad Rey Juan Carlos); y ,
- **"Sostenibilidad y riesgos naturales. La ciudad de Badajoz"**: Prof. Urbano Fra Paleo (Miembro de la Red IHDP-España; Prof. en el Dpto. de Geografía Física de la Universidad de Extremadura).

En la segunda parte del evento tuvo lugar un coloquio entre los participantes y el público que se centró, fundamentalmente, en los temas expuestos por los mencionados conferenciantes.

❖ Información general (ICSU)

Atendiendo la sugerencia de un miembro de la Red IHDP-España, con fines de divulgación, se presenta la primera parte de un resumen de información relativo al ICSU.

ICSU (parte 1)

El Consejo Internacional para la Ciencia (ICSU) es una organización no gubernamental que representa un conjunto de miembros que incluyen tanto a órganos científicos nacionales (111 miembros) como uniones científicas internacionales (29 miembros).

A través de esta extensa red internacional, ICSU proporciona un foro para la discusión de los aspectos relevantes de la política para la ciencia internacional y la importancia de la ciencia internacional para las cuestiones políticas y emprende las actividades esenciales:

- a. Planeando y coordinando investigaciones interdisciplinarias dirigidas a las mayores cuestiones de relevancia en la ciencia y la sociedad;
- b. Abogando activamente por la libertad en el ámbito científico la conducta de la ciencia, promoviendo el acceso equitativo a la información y los datos científicos, y facilitando la educación científica y el fortalecimiento de las capacidades de investigación;
- c. Actuando como foco para el intercambio de ideas, la comunicación de la información científica y el desarrollo de estándares científicos;
- d. Apoyando más de 600 conferencias, congresos y simposios científicos por año, alrededor del mundo, así como también, produciendo una amplia gama de boletines de noticias, manuales, revistas y procedimientos;

ICSU ayuda, también, a crear redes internacionales y regionales de científicos con intereses similares y mantiene estrechas relaciones de funcionamiento con un importante número de organizaciones intergubernamentales y no gubernamentales, especialmente de la

Organización para Educación, la Ciencia la Cultura de las Naciones Unidas (UNESCO) y la Academia de las Ciencias del Tercer Mundo (TWAS).

Debido a la amplia y diversa membresía que lo integra, el Consejo es crecientemente invitado a hablar a nombre de la comunidad científica global y a actuar como asesor en materias que comprenden desde la ética hasta el medio ambiente.

❖ **Noticias sobre conferencias y congresos**

1. Congreso Nacional sobre Cambio Ambiental Global Universidad Carlos III de Madrid (Getafe) 25-27 de abril de 2007

a. Introducción

El Comité Organizador tiene el placer de anunciarle la celebración del I Congreso Nacional sobre Cambio Global, que tendrá lugar del 25 al 27 de abril del 2007 en la Universidad Carlos III de Madrid (Getafe).

Este primer Congreso Nacional, de carácter netamente científico, tiene el objetivo de presentar los avances en el conocimiento de los sistemas naturales y sociales del cambio global de forma interrelacionada, así como la movilización de la comunidad científica española para abordar el desafío del cambio global desde un punto de vista multidisciplinar, facilitar su participación en los programas internacionales de investigación y reforzar la relación ciencia-políticas científicas y públicas.

El Comité Español de Investigación en Cambio Global, organizador de este congreso, parte de la necesidad de construir puentes entre las distintas disciplinas científicas, con el fin de llegar a entender, de una manera integral, el funcionamiento de los ecosistemas y de los impactos que los humanos estamos

b. Líneas temáticas

- Desafíos epistemológicos del cambio global
- La dimensión del cambio global a través de las ciencias de la Tierra
- La dimensión del cambio climático
- Grandes cambios de uso del suelo
- Puesta en valor de la biodiversidad
- Efectos en bienes y servicios de los ecosistemas
- El coste económico del cambio global, la necesidad de un nuevo marco económico
- Las consecuencias demográficas y socio-sanitarias del cambio global
- Compromisos internacionales y políticas de mitigación en España
- Adaptación, preparación de la sociedad para el cambio global
- Relación e interfase ciencia-políticas pública.

c. Información e inscripciones:

http://www.uc3m.es/uc3m/dpto/CPS/ceicag/congreso/home_esp.htm

2. Online E-Conference- EcoRes Forum Series From Anthropocentrism to Ecocentrism: Making the Shift 14-30 April 2007

a. Background

EcoRes Forum, a nonprofit, nonpartisan organization dedicated to the free exchange of knowledge and ideas concerning society and climate change, invites you to join us for the first in a series of online e-conferences focusing on the ethical, political and socio-cultural aspects of climate change. The series, which will be offered free of charge, starts off in April 2007 with a two-week dialogue on a topic of increasing urgency: expanding and accelerating an ecocentric philosophy among societies around the world.

The need for such a shift has long been recognized. At the November COP gathering in Nairobi, Kofi Annan cautioned, "The question is not whether climate change is happening but whether, in the face of this emergency, we ourselves can change fast enough." As US political hopeful Al Gore observed, based on the UN's Rio Declaration of Environment and Development, "Our challenge is to accelerate the needed change in thinking about our

relationship to the environment in order to shift the pattern of our civilization to a new equilibrium -- before the world's ecological system loses its current one."

b. Online Registration:

<http://www.eco-res.org/register.html>

3. International Conference on Climate Change and their Impacts on Coastal Zones and River Deltas: Vulnerability, Mitigation and Adaptation. 21- 25 April 2007; Alexandria, Egypt.

a. Background.

The impacts of climate change on coastal zones and river deltas may hamper significantly the developmental and demographic security. Anticipated climate changes will greatly amplify risks to these areas. The increased sea level will cause flooding and storm damage, increased erosion of shorelines, decreased marine and coastal biodiversity, and contamination of drinking and irrigation water through sea water intrusion. Climate change urgently needs to be assessed at a high priority level, so that vulnerable populations and societies dependent on agriculture can be appropriately targeted in research plans.

Conference Topics:

1. Global climate changes; mitigation and adaptations.
2. Forecasting the rising of sea level based on climate models results and other techniques.
3. Impacts of sea level rise on groundwater and soil salinization in river deltas.
4. Impacts of global climatic changes on river deltas and coastal zones from geoenvironment, the socio-economic point of view.
5. Implications of climate changes in the wider river Nile delta.
6. Long-term vulnerability to global warming and changes in natural resources.
7. Soil and water treatment.

b. More information and registration:

<http://www.ccie.eg.net/index.html>

**4. The Ceres Conference 2007
Advancing Sustainable Prosperity
25-26 April 2007; Boston, MA, USA.**

a. Background

The Ceres Conference 2007, **Advancing Sustainable Prosperity**, comes at a critical juncture. The world is struggling to meet energy and water needs, the planet is warming at an alarming pace, and many still live and work in poverty. While corporations are under increasing pressure to compete globally while maximizing returns, these environmental and social challenges are business issues that need serious attention. They pose both risks that must be managed proactively and opportunities that must be leveraged immediately.

Advancing sustainable prosperity is about understanding that capitalism and sustainability are deeply and increasingly interrelated. By uniting investor and environmental perspectives, business strategies can be aligned with sustainable solutions so that the planet can be protected at the same time that people can prosper.

Ceres, the world's largest network of investors, environmentalists and companies united for sustainable prosperity, challenges conventional short-term thinking, builds long-term value and produces measurable results. Join us for the Ceres Conference 2007, which will bring together and mobilize CEOs, corporate directors, investors and national environmental leaders to take action on these vast challenges before us.

b. Registration:

<http://www.ceres.org/events/conference/07/>

**5. 2nd International EWA Conference WATERS IN PROTECTED AREAS
25-27 April 2007; Dubrovnik, Croatia.**

a. Background

Water is a finite natural resource essential for sustainable development, economic prosperity, and social stability. There is no doubt about the necessity of its protection and particular care. All over the world protected areas are identified and measures for its provision are prescribed.

In Europe, the Water Framework Directive, which integrates water protected areas into watershed management frameworks, offers different opportunities, linking biodiversity conservation, flood and flow management and human health objectives.

2nd International Conference – Waters in Protected Areas is a continuation of important European Water Association (EWA) project. The conference aims to bring together both scientists and practitioners, exchange opinions on professional, social, economic, legislative and educational aspects.

The conference aims to present the most important issues, challenges and strategies, discuss the threats as well as the potentials of protected areas for conservation and rational use of precious resources, safeguarding of ecosystems and cultural heritage and expose the problems to public.

Topics:

1. Water management in National parks
2. Protected resources (groundwater and surface water)
3. Threats to islands and coastal zones
4. Water and wastewater infrastructure in ancient cities

In the frame of those main topics next issues should be focused:

- legislation and its implementation
- integral watershed management
- new concepts, visions and technical solutions
- conflicting situations
- water and water quality research
- education and public information

b. More information and registration:

<http://www.hdzv.hr/registration.htm>

6. Sustainable Neighbourhood – from Lisbon to Leipzig through Research 8-10 May 2007, Leipzig, Germany

a. Background

The aim of this conference is to position sustainability research as an engine for European competitiveness within the Lisbon Agenda.

It is a cooperative event between policy and scientific communities, which seeks to provide a forum to debate current research in this field, the interaction between policy, economic and research communities, as well as future research priorities.

Conference Programme:

Thematic Pillars

Innovation for Europe

Climate Change & Uncertainty

Energy & Environmental Technologies

Innovation beyond Technologies

Strategy & Governance.

b. Registration:

http://www.fona.de/de/3_akteure/forum_2007/index.php?lang=eng

7. Towards Sustainable Global Health - Conference & Exhibition 9-11 May 2007, Bonn, Germany

a. Background

This conference is a forum for decision-makers such as national and local key politicians, stakeholders, international scientific organizations, institutions for development, knowledge transfer and education and NGOs, as well as internationally active private companies with the intention of sharing their best practices and to introduce their knowledge, products and technologies for sustainable health, hygiene and environment.

The meeting is designed to work as an interface for science, policy, economy and the public sector and kicks off a series of international conferences and symposiums at different locations around the globe to shape and focus further communication and co operation between these different groups.

Sustainable Global Health, as an integral part of the UN Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), plays a key role for global stability as well as for worldwide economics and politics.

The conference is organized by the partner organizations UNESCO/UNEVOC, UNU-EHS, ILO, IHDP and the University of Bonn, Institute for Hygiene and Public Health (WHO CC).

Major topics at the conference will be:

- What are the advantages of an integrated global health strategy to reach the MDGs?
- What are the risks and needs for global health in the future?
- What significance will have holistic hygiene concepts and public health strategies on global health?
- Why do we need a multi level strategy integrating education and training, family, workplace, scientists, government and private organisations?
- Is global human health sustainable in the face of global environmental change, including threats to human security and the emergence of mega-cities?
- How can we learn from multinational business and Public Private Partnerships (PPPs)?

b. Registration:

<http://www.gemini.de/global-health/>

**8. SENSE Summer Schools in 2007S310 Understanding Global Environmental Change: Pressure, State and Impact
18 - 24 May 2007**

a. Background

This course aims to provide an overview of scientific knowledge with respect to the most important processes in the climate system. The educational objective will be to learn and understand the climate system. The emphasis will be on the environmental pressure caused by human activities, the state of the environment, and the environmental impacts.

This course is primarily meant for PhD students from the natural sciences.

b. Course website and enrollment:

<http://www.sense.nl/courses/course/S310>

**9. Effective and Sustainable Land Management – A permanent challenge for each society - UNECE WPLA Workshop
24-25 May 2007; Munich, Germany**

a. Background

The theme of the workshop is 'Effective and Sustainable Land Management' and its main topics are:

- New approaches in rural development
- Modern land consolidation
- Social and constitutional dimension of land management
- Legal framework of land management

Attached please find the programme and organisation, where further information including registration instruction is provided.

Participate the workshop is free, but delegates must pay their own travel and hotel/accommodation costs.

Themes and Agenda:

1. New Approaches to Rural Development
2. Modern Land Consolidation
3. Social and Constitutional Dimension of Land Management
4. Legal Framework of Land Management.

b. More information and registration:

<http://www.landentwicklung.bayern.de/wpla/>

**10. Amsterdam Conference on Human Dimensions of Global Environmental Change
'Earth System Governance: Theories and Strategies for Sustainability'
24-26 May 2007**

a. Conference Background

The 2007 Amsterdam Conference on the Human Dimensions of Global Environmental Change is the latest in the emerging series of European conferences on human dimensions research.

This series began in 2001 with the first Berlin Conference on the Human Dimensions of Global Environmental Change. The 2007 Amsterdam Conference will bring about the Europeanisation of this successful conference cycle. The European conferences are mid-size annual events

(much smaller than Open Meetings of IHDP or IGBP) of about 150 international participants, selected through rigorous international peer review. Each conference has a clear thematic focus that allows for intense exchange and discussion.

Conference themes are selected with a view to bringing new and emerging topics to the European and global debate, thus ensuring the continuous innovative thrust of the conference series.

The European Conferences on the Human Dimensions of Global Environmental Change are endorsed by the International Human Dimensions Programme on Global Environmental Change (IHDP) and the World Academy of Art and Science. The International Steering Committee ensures close integration with the overarching Earth System Science Programme and other networks, such as the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change.

In addition, the European Conferences on the Human Dimensions of Global Environmental Change aim to further the integration of the European research projects in order to assist in shaping a European research area in the field of the human dimensions of global environmental change.

b. Conference registration:

<http://www.2007amsterdamconference.org/registration.htm>

**11. SENSE Summer Schools in 2007
S460 Earth System Governance
28 May - 8 June 2007**

a. Information

This course aims to help students to better understand the causes of global change in an integrated manner and at the same time to develop options for the governance of a transition to more sustainable development paths at the national and global levels.

It will bring together insights from the modeling, integrated assessment, and sustainability science communities and from the social science, governance-oriented research communities. This course is primarily meant for PhD students from the social sciences.

For this course a selected number of people will be invited to participate. When you enroll, you will be added to the list of potential participants. You will be informed within a few months about the selection procedure, and additional information that we may need from you to make the selection possible.

b. Course website and enrollment:

<http://www.sense.nl/courses/course/S460>

**12. International Conference on Climate Change
ACT ON CLIMATE CHANGE - NOW OR NEVER
29-31 May 2007, Hong Kong**

a. Background

It has been proven beyond reasonable doubt that humanity's dependence on fossil fuels is causing a host of environmental problems, most significantly, global warming and climate change. Addressing the problem of climate change is now high on the political, economic, social and environmental agenda of economies around the globe.

The purpose of the proposed International Conference on Climate Change is to provide a platform to explore the scientific, technical and socio-economic issues relevant to the understanding of human induced climate change, assess its potential impacts, propose mitigation and adaptation measures, and to develop strategies to implement these measures.

This International Conference will be held in Hong Kong, a world-class city in Asia, open to leading scientists, engineers, economists, academics, journalists, representatives from business, civic communities, legislatures, national and international agencies who care about the future well-being of the planet earth.

The theme will be addressed in four different aspects:

Scientific and Technical issues: Coastal cities and ocean states, Ecosystem responses to climate change, Estimating, measuring, monitoring and reporting on carbon stock changes and greenhouse gas emissions, Impact on climate due to economic developments in India and China Impacts, adaptation (man and wildlife), Land use-desertification, deforestation, Relationship between global warming and climate variations, Scientific aspects of the climate system and climate change.

Socio-economic issues: Agriculture and food supply, Commercial fisheries, Energy security and conflicts between nations, Freshwater resources, Green GDP, Human Health, Human settlement, Migration of population, True cost of energy.

b. Registration: <http://www.hkie.org.hk/ICCC2007/reg.htm>

13. 4th DUBROVNIK CONFERENCE ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT OF ENERGY WATER AND ENVIRONMENT SYSTEMS 4-8 June 2007, Dubrovnik, Croatia

a. Background

The conference will retain the broad rational scope of the Program, maintaining attention to energy, water and environment as the essential commodities needed for human life. In the development of our civilization these three commodities have served as the fundamental resources for the economic, social and cultural development. The conference will focus on the following objectives as they apply to both developing countries that wish to improve the quality of life of their citizens, and to countries that are developed and resource-rich but wish to sustain the future quality of life of their citizens:

- Development of new methods for the analysis and evaluation of complex system
- Promotion of a new field of sustainability science that seeks to understand the fundamental character of interactions between nature and society
- Development of inter-disciplinary partnership bringing together leading experts in physical, life and environmental sciences, engineering, economic and social sciences.
- Analysis of potential scientific and technological processes reflecting energy, water and environment exchange
- Study of the sustainable development in agriculture
- Development of models of energy, water and environment systems and their evaluation
- Biofuels sustainability
- Hydrogen strategy and sustainable development
- Hybrid vehicles sustainability
- Enhanced methodologies for assessing the comparative sustainability of different technological options, particularly energy and water intensive technologies, taking into account economic, environmental, resource use and social validation.
- Education in Sustainable Development at all levels, specially higher education, oriented towards foster environmentally aware attitudes, skills and behaviour patterns, as well as a sense of ethical responsibility.

b. More information:

<http://www.dubrovnik2007.fsb.hr/>

14. ESEE 2007 Integrating Natural and Social Sciences for Sustainability 5-8 June 2007, Leipzig, Germany

a. Background

The conference will explore contemporary scientific approaches for putting the concept of Sustainable Development into research and into practice, and it will focus on bridging natural and social sciences. It will address sustainability topics such as loss of biodiversity, human vulnerability to global change and water problems on all geographical and institutional levels. The conference aims to contribute to a better understanding of societal and natural processes and their interaction by integrating scientific methodologies to overcome the shortcomings of disciplinary and multi-disciplinary approaches. Impediments to inter- and transdisciplinary research will be examined and new research concepts for sustainability identified. In "plenary", "parallel" and "poster sessions" the following sustainability topics will be addressed during the conference:

- Biodiversity: conflicts and management
- Climate change: vulnerability, mitigation and adaptation
- Sustainable use of landscapes
- Sustainable cities
- Environment and development: growth, globalization and environmental degradation
- Sustainable management of living systems
- Industrial ecology: managing product life cycles and material flows
- Managing contaminated sites

- Technological change for sustainability.
- **b. Registration:**
- <http://www.esee2007.ufz.de/participation/registration.html>

15. International Society for Industrial Ecology (ISIE) 2007 17-20 June 2007, Toronto, Canada

a. Background

The International Society for Industrial Ecology, ISIE, has a worldwide membership of about 500 leading scientists and engineers broadly concerned with the technical foundations of sustainable development. The membership, from academia, industry and government, has expertise in the technological development and societal progression towards industrial systems that are compatible with the functioning of natural ecosystems, e.g., efficient use of energy, material recycling and non-polluting. Many members of the society are advisors to national governments on matters of environmental technology and policy.

The field of Industrial Ecology has adopted and developed rigorous tools for assessing the environmental impacts of products, processes, industrial sectors and economies at local, regional and global scales. These include methods of life cycle assessment, material and energy flow analysis, applied thermodynamics, risk assessment, input-output analysis, and resource economics. These methods serve: in the design of green products and processes, e.g., green buildings, eco-industrial parks; in assessing technological change, dematerialization and decarbonization; and in developing policy to encourage product stewardship and environmental protection.

b. More information and registration:

<http://www.pdc.utoronto.ca/PageFactory.aspx?PageID=144>

16. Online E-Conference- EcoRes Forum Series Environmental (In)Justice: Sources, Symptoms, and Solutions 14-27 July 2007

a. Background

What does the environmental justice concept encompass? What are its underlying causes and what can be done to stop intentional discrimination? How can awareness of these concerns be raised to prevent unintentional discriminatory practices? Have efforts to address environmental issues further perpetuated this shameful phenomenon? What are the implications of the decisions environmental policy-makers, professionals, and activists are making? What can be done to ensure that the many facets of environmental justice are fully incorporated in decision-making venues and strategic planning sessions throughout our societies?

Aspects to be considered include fair access to resources, protection from pollution, preventing social conflict, discrimination and racism in decision-making, and alleviating the 'not in my backyard' philosophy that has far too often set the tone for problem-solving discussions. Plenary sessions are being designed to reach those at the forefront of the environmental movement: educators, activists, and the researchers and scientists whose technologies and findings are guiding climate change efforts. Breakout groups will center around the different roles these concepts play in academic, activist, policy development and decision-making platforms.

b. Registration:

<http://www.campusactivism.org/displayevent-1687.htm>

17. IUFRO European Congress 2007 Forests and Forestry in the Context of Rural Development 6-8 September 2007; Warsaw, Poland

a. Background and objectives

The IUFRO European Congress aims to take a comprehensive and integrated view on the key issues inside and outside the forest sector that shape and influence the role of forests and forestry as a means of rural development. The current state of knowledge will be presented, and further research priorities will be identified. The Congress will focus on four main themes:

- Policies supporting rural development
- Forests and rural development in the light of global change

- Social aspects of forests and forestry in the rural landscape
- Economic role of forests in rural development.

b. Registration:

<http://conference2007.wl.sggw.pl/register>

**18. The Eighth Annual Global Conference on Environmental Taxation
Innovation, Technology and Employment: Impacts of Environmental Fiscal
Reforms and Other Market-Based Instruments.
18-20 October 2007, Munich, Germany**

a. General information

The Eighth Annual Global Conference on Environmental Taxation is part of an annual series of international conferences focussing on environmental fiscal reform (EFR). The conference provides a forum for legal scholars, economists, political scientists, conservationists, representatives of the private sector and non-governmental organisations to exchange the latest research on the use of environmental taxes and other market-based instruments, as well as other economic instruments such as tax relief and subsidies, to advance environmental policy objectives.

This year's conference will focus on the positive effects of environmental taxation and environmental fiscal reform. The focus will not only or indeed primarily be on their ecological benefits, as these are already well-documented, but rather on less well-publicised aspects of EFR, such as the stimulation of innovation, the development of new technologies, and job creation.

The importance of emphasising these positive effects should not be underestimated. For the implementation of EFR to be successful in the long-term, it is imperative that the benefits of such policies be communicated, both to leading decision-makers and politicians and to a wider audience than is presently the case. Political will has a crucial role to play in climate change mitigation, and convincing legislators that implementing EFR may even be a vote-winner, if communicated intelligently, may itself play a crucial role in delivering such political will. In addition, a public that understands the benefits of EFR (and indeed the underlying principles of EFR) will prove more open to reform and more receptive to shifts in taxation patterns.

Within this thematic framework, the conference will focus on the following six areas: transport; buildings and households; energy; employment; political issues; and NGOs. Each issue will be launched with a plenary session for all conference participants, followed by a number of panel sessions to examine specific issues in more depth.

b. More information:

<http://www.worldcotax.org/overview.html>

**19. German Environmental Sociology Summit 007
International and Interdisciplinary Challenges
8-10 November 2007, Lüneburg, Germany**

a. Background

Current trends such as global environmental change, as analyzed in international reports like the *Millennium Assessment Report* or the studies of the *International Panel on Climate Change* (IPCC), and processes of economic, political and sociocultural globalization and transnationalization, fuelled by developments of transport, communication and information technologies, have put challenging research questions on the agenda.

Especially welcome are contributions on the following key topics, which we consider as important research areas in Germany and abroad for the coming years:

- Social Theories and the Environment
- Disaster, Risk and Adaptation
- Ecosystem Design & Management
- Sustainability, Environmental Governance and Multi-Level Decision Making
- (Global) Environmental Change, Culture and Communication

Besides paper presentations on theory and research, time will be allocated for papers on new developments in the teaching of environmental sociology, especially in international and interdisciplinary contexts. Moreover there will be time slots for structured discussions on new challenges for environmental sociology in research and teaching as well as on the successful

transfer of environmental sociological expertise, e.g., to practitioners, stakeholders or policy makers.

Additionally, we will invite Keynote speakers from Germany and abroad who have contributed and continue to contribute significantly to our field of research.

b. For further questions please contact the Organizing Committee:

harald.heinrichs@uni-luneburg.de; matthias.gross@ufz.de

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Comité Científico Español del HDP (CCE-IHDP)
C/Bartolomé Cossío s/n; 28040, Madrid
Tel/Fax: 915491459/1075
E-mail: ayabar@der.ucm.es WEB:
<http://www.ucm.es/info/iuca/IHDP.htm>