

Dear reader,

From now on, our quarterly IASS Newsletter will keep you informed about the latest developments at the institute. 2015 is set to be a watershed year for sustainability: the international community will adopt a set of 17 sustainable development goals (SDGs) at the UN Summit in New York in September; and in December, measures to halt climate change are due to be agreed at the UN Climate Summit in Paris. These processes are, of course, reflected in the work of our institute for sustainability studies this year. This newsletter is focused on soils as a key to sustainable development, on the protection of threatened oceans and the climate, and on the vision of a world where everybody has access to renewable energy.

IASS Press & Communications Team

Content

News from the IASS	1
Soils	3
Energiewende	7
Oceans	11
Anthropocene	12
Earth Systems	14
IASS Publications	2
Selected Publications	16
Job Advertisements	17
IASS People	18
Upcoming Events	21
Contact and Imprint	22

NEWS FROM THE IASS



Soil as a Key to Sustainable Development: the Third Global Soil Week in Berlin from 19 to 23 April

In the United Nations International Year of Soils, the IASS is hosting the third Global Soil Week from 19 to 23 April 2015 in Berlin. As in previous years, this year's Global Soil Week is an international forum and knowledge platform that brings together more than 450 participants from 70 countries with different cultural and professional backgrounds, from high-level policymakers to scientists, farmers, civil society actors and artists. The motto of the third Global Soil Week is "Soil. The Substance of Transformation." **Read more...**



Sustainable Development Goals: IASS and Partners Propose Land and Soil Indicators

The protection of land and soils will contribute to the achievement of several sustainable development goals (SDGs). It is therefore necessary to develop appropriate indicators to monitor these resources. The participants of an international expert workshop convened by the European Environment Agency (EEA) and the IASS have published a 'shortlist' of three land and soil management indicators. **Read more...**



How an Innovation Fund could Finance the Energiewende

Under the German Renewable Energies Act (EEG), the costs of developing technologies and expanding capacity for renewable energy are borne by electricity customers. There are, however, many good reasons for a more broad-based financing of the Energiewende. A new study by IASS Executive Director Professor Klaus Töpfer and IASS energy expert Patrick Matschoss puts forward proposals for financing technological development by way of a so-called Innovation Fund (*EEG-Fonds*). **Read more...**

NEWS FROM THE IAASS

Energiewende

How Should we Design the Electricity Market of the Future? Transdisciplinary Panel on Energy Change Responds to Green Paper on Electricity Market Design

How should we design the electricity market of the future? What incentives should conventional power plants be given to balance out photovoltaic and wind power fluctuations and maintain enough (back-up) capacity at a reasonable price? These are the kinds of questions the Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy (BMWi) addresses in its recent Green Paper, "An Electricity Market for Germany's Energy Transition". In its commentary, the Transdisciplinary Panel on Energy Change at the IAASS presents its views on central aspects of the Green Paper and makes clear recommendations to policymakers for the design of the future electricity market. **Read more...**

Oceans

The Protection of the High Seas: UN Decides in favour of Negotiations towards a New Agreement

A rescue plan for the high seas is now within reach: after four days of intensive discussions in New York, a UN Working Group agreed at the beginning of this year to launch negotiations on a legally binding agreement to protect marine areas beyond national jurisdiction more effectively. These areas account for almost half of the Earth's surface. Together with partners from academia, politics and civil society, IAASS researchers have elaborated comprehensive recommendations and brought them to bear in the decision-making process. They were present as advisors at the meeting in New York. **Read more...**

Anthropocene

Paradise Reloaded? Researchers, Artists and Laypeople Discuss the Changed Relationship between Humanity and Nature in the Anthropocene

Since the atmospheric chemist Paul Crutzen first used the term 'Anthropocene' fifteen years ago to describe the current era in which humanity has become a quasi geological force, the 'human-made era' has been much discussed in expert circles. A communications project organised by the IAASS, the choir of the Junges Ensemble Berlin and the University of the Arts Berlin titled "Paradise reloaded? - Creation in the Anthropocene" addressed the concept of the Anthropocene. The project was inspired by Joseph Haydn's Oratorio "The Creation", which was first performed in 1798. An interview with Project Leader Manuel Rivera. **Read more..**

Earth Systems

Natural Hazards and Georisks in a Globalised World

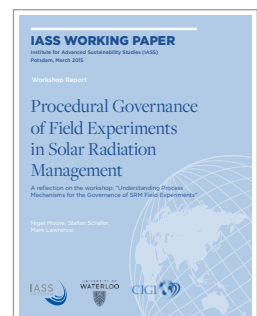
Extreme weather events, floods, earthquakes and landslides are becoming more frequent and severe, impinging on the development of increasingly complex, vulnerable societies. Detecting and predicting natural hazards and developing appropriate protection strategies are among the most pressing challenges in current research on geohazards. At the conference "Natural Hazards, GeoRisks, and Globalization: From Basic Research to Risk Governance" from 24 to 26 March in Berlin, 30 eminent international experts from academia, politics, industry and government agencies developed recommendations for integrating research findings better into decision-making processes. The conference was organised by the geoscience research platform Geo.X. Georisks are also the focus of this year's Potsdam Summer School. **Read more...**

IASS PUBLICATIONS



IASS Activities 2012-2013

- English version



Workshop Report: Climate Engineering; **Procedural Governance of Field Experiments in Solar Radiation Management**
 A reflection on the workshop: "Understanding Process Mechanisms for the Governance of SRM Field Experiments",
 Nigel Moore, Stefan Schäfer, Mark Lawrence

Soils

Soil as a Key to Sustainable Development: the Third Global Soil Week in Berlin from 19 to 23 April



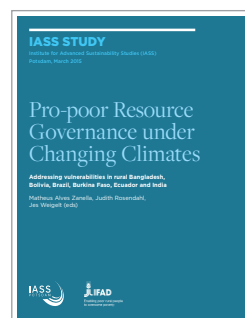
At the last Global Soil Week in 2013 more than 450 participants from 70 countries came together to discuss soils. © Piero Chiussi/Agentur StandArt

The main themes of this year’s Global Soil Week in Berlin from 19 to 23 April are the crucial role soils play in sustainable development, the rehabilitation of degraded soils, and the monitoring and implementation of a sustainable development goal for soils as part of the 17 SDGs due to be adopted by the international community at the UN Summit in New York in September. Against this background, Global Soil Week participants will discuss the necessity of approaching the 17 SDGs in an integrated way to ensure that they don’t run the risk of being non-sustainable.

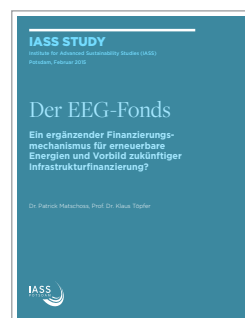
Countless demands are being placed on the world’s soils. But soil is a finite resource, so a lot is at stake. Soils will be crucial to providing enough water, energy and food to the more than nine million people that will populate the Earth in 2050. The unique format of the Global Soil Week encourages knowledge sharing among the most diverse participants from the field and academia. It also creates a space for lively discussions and joint problem-solving towards a sustainable approach to our soils from an international perspective.

At the “ONE HECTARE” exhibition in a central Berlin park, the wider public will be able to learn about soils as a scarce resource over the period of a month. “ONE HECTARE” is organised by the IASS together with the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), the German Agency for International Development (GIZ) and other partners and will be officially opened on 22 April by Minister Gerd Müller and IASS Executive Director Klaus Töpfer.

IASS PUBLICATIONS



Study: **Pro-poor Resource Governance under Changing Climates: Addressing Vulnerabilities in Rural Bangladesh, Bolivia, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Ecuador and India**; Matheus Alves Zanella, Judith Rosendahl, Jes Weigelt (eds)



Study: **Der EEG-Fonds - Ein ergänzender Finanzierungsmechanismus für erneuerbare Energien und Vorbild zukünftiger Infrastrukturfinanzierung?**; Patrick Matschoss, Klaus Töpfer

The partners of the Global Soil Week are: the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD), the International Union of Soil Sciences (IUSS), the European Commission, the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development, the German Agency for International Development (GIZ) and the German Environmental Agency. GEO is a media partner.

**EIN HEKTAR
ONE HECTARE**

We are demanding ever more of our soils: among other things, they are expected to provide us with food and biofuels, filter our drinking water, and store carbon. But we're also losing soils: in Germany alone, one hectare of land is sealed every twenty minutes. The "ONE HECTARE" exhibition highlights the multiple demands placed on soils and makes potential land-use conflicts palpable for visitors. The exhibition can be visited from 26 April to 25 May in Berlin's Gleisdreieck Park. It will be officially opened by Minister Gerd Müller and IASS Executive Director Klaus Töpfer during the Global Soil Week on 22 April at 2.30 pm and is a contribution to the GIZ campaign "Boden. Grund zum Leben" and the International Year of Soils. The exhibition is complemented by an interactive cultural programme.

After the success of the Global Soil Weeks in 2012 and 2013, an offshoot of the event took place for the first time in Brazil from 25 to 27 March, and a first African Soil Week is currently being planned.

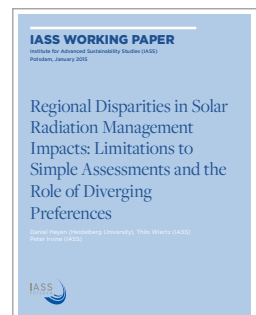
For further information, see:

- **Website**
- **Facebook**
- **Our award-winning animation film "Let's Talk about Soil"**
- **Soil Atlas 2015 (German version)**
- **Registration for journalists**

IASS PUBLICATIONS



Working Paper on the Anthropocene Project: **Schöpfung im Anthropozän**; Manuel Rivera



Working Paper: **Regional Disparities in Solar Radiation Management Impacts**; Daniel Heyen (Heidelberg University), Thilo Wiertz (IASS) and Peter Irvine (IASS)

Sustainable Development Goals: IASS and Partners Propose Land and Soil Indicators



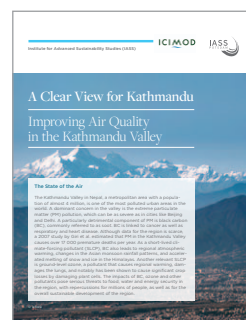
With indicators – for example, of sustainable land use – national development targets can be monitored. © UNCCD Photo Contest 2005

The outcome document of the workshop, titled ‘Proposal for land and soil indicators to monitor the achievement of the SDGs’, identifies three ‘tiered’ global indicators – land cover/land use change, land productivity change, and soil organic carbon change. It supports the monitoring of these global indicators but also suggests that they must be accompanied by indicators developed at national and sub-national level to obtain a more comprehensive overview of the state of land and soil resources.

The proposal asserts that land and soil resources underpin key services, such as the production of food, feed, fibre and fuel; the sequestration of carbon; nutrient cycling; the protection of biodiversity; and water regulation. It urges that land- and soil-related language be kept in the targets on sustainable food production systems (SDG 2.4) and land degradation (SDG 15.3), as proposed by the Open Working Group on the Sustainable Development Goals. The proposal also highlights the links between the proposed indicators and good governance of land and soil resources.

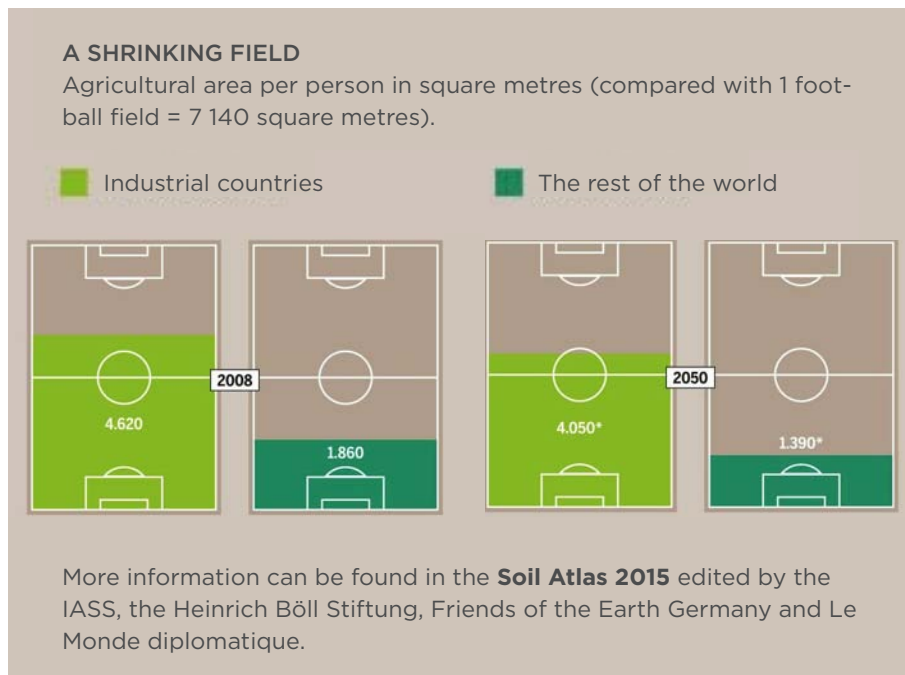
The proposed indicators contribute to the land governance indicators developed by the Global Land Indicators Initiative and also build on the work by the UN Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) Secretariat to explore common land indicators across the Rio Conventions. The proposal describes the shortlisted indicators as “measurable and essential in capturing a minimum of land characteristics that are globally comparable”. It calls for their inclusion in the list of proposed SDG indicators being developed by the UN Statistical Commission (UNSC) and their consideration in the further Post-2015 Agenda and SDG process.

IASS PUBLICATIONS



A Clear View for Kathmandu
Improving Air Quality in the Kathmandu Valley; Kathleen Mar, Arnico Panday, Maheswar Rupakheti

As a next step to implementing effective monitoring strategies, the proposal suggests that the “monitoring of these indicators needs to be accompanied by local monitoring and accountability initiatives that include a wide range of stakeholders. Linking global data to (sub-)national data would thus blend a top-down with a bottom-up approach.”



© Soil Atlas 2015/Alexandratos U. A.

Link:

■ **To the Soil Atlas 2015**

The indicator proposal was discussed during the 3rd Session of the Post-2015 Development Agenda Intergovernmental Negotiations on Goals and Targets, which took place in New York from 23 to 27 March at the United Nations Headquarters.

Link:

■ **Outcome Document**

IASS PUBLICATIONS



SOIL ATLAS 2015: Joint publication with the Heinrich Böll Stiftung and Friends of the Earth Germany

■ **English version**



Report on the Climate Engineering Conference 2014 (CEC 14)

Energiewende

How an Innovation Fund could Finance the Energiewende



The world's largest rotor, with a diameter of 154 metres, graces this wind turbine in Østerild (Denmark), which has been in test mode since 2012. There are many good reasons for taking the costs for technological development and innovation out of the Renewable Energy Surcharge system.

© www.siemens.com/presse

Traditionally, the costs of technological development have mainly been covered by public finances, since the benefits to society as a whole are seen to outstrip anything that ordinary citizens could and should pay for. Based on a study by the Öko-Institut, Töpfer and Matschoss have therefore come up with two funding models for the Energiewende, each of which would transfer the costs of technological development for photovoltaic and offshore wind farms from the Renewable Energy Surcharge (EEG-Umlage) to an Innovation Fund. This would result in a fund of around nine billion euro per year in its first eight years of existence. After that, the size of the fund would shrink over a period of ten years to meet the relatively constant requirement of around one billion euro per year; it would then continue to fall gradually before plateauing at around 0.6 billion euro per year by 2050. With the introduction of such a fund, the Renewable Energy Surcharge would immediately fall by two cents per kilowatt hour. After that, it would begin to rise steadily - but at a slower pace than without the fund - until 2050, returning to its 2014 level by 2033.

If the Renewable Energy Surcharge were to remain at its current level until 2033 despite the introduction of a fund - and this is the second funding model - the fund would be reduced by more than half over its first twenty years. Politically unpopular increases in the Renewable Energy Surcharge would thus be avoided for almost two decades.

Yet despite the above arguments in favour of a publicly financed Innovation Fund, public financing is increasingly controversial, and some recent political developments – e.g., the ‘debt brake’ or the introduction of road tolls – seem to point in an entirely different direction. By actively involving institutional investors in the financing of infrastructure, we can, however, take this tendency on board. For example, investing in technological development is attractive for life insurance companies, which are finding it hard to meet their interest commitments in the face of currently low interest rates. An Energiewende that is funded via capital markets rather than electricity customers could set an example for the financing of other infrastructure projects.

How Should we Design the Electricity Market of the Future? Transdisciplinary Panel on Energy Change Responds to Green Paper on Electricity Market Design

In its Green Paper, the Ministry presented two possible models for ensuring that enough dispatchable generation capacity is available in the long term: a so-called 'capacity market' and an 'energy-only market (EOM) 2.0'. In the case of the EOM 2.0, only the electricity produced by power plants is traded on futures or spot markets. There is, however, no direct trading of capacity, which is only needed when photovoltaic and wind power do not generate enough electricity. The capacity market would, by contrast, create trading platforms where electricity producers could trade the dispatchable capacity of their power plants. In its commentary, the Transdisciplinary Panel on Energy Change makes the following recommendations for the design of the future electricity market:

1. The electricity market should be supplemented by an instrument that contributes to reducing overcapacity and emissions from electricity generation by removing emissions-intensive and relatively inflexible power plants from the market. This instrument would increase the profitability of the remaining mid-merit and peak-load power plants, while also contributing to the achievement of the 2020 climate targets. It would provide a framework for the future electricity market, which is necessary regardless of whether we decide in favour of the energy-only market (EOM) 2.0 with a capacity reserve or the capacity market. The instrument to reduce emissions should therefore be included as a no regret measure in the forthcoming White Paper. Such measures serve to optimise the energy-only market.

2. The introduction of a capacity market represents a significant intervention in the electricity market. The considerable effort this would require would be a huge disincentive to abandoning the instrument at a later date. No clear recommendations for or against the introduction of capacity markets in Germany have emerged from empirical studies. With this knowledge, IAASS researchers believe that it would be better not to intervene in the market. Instead, they favour the further development of the EOM and the introduction of a capacity reserve. These steps would allow for further insights without compromising electricity supply or limiting the future scope for decisions.

3. The willingness of industrial consumers to reduce their electricity demand during capacity shortages is surrounded by huge uncertainties. From this perspective, too, the consolidation of the EOM 2.0 by means of a capacity reserve is advisable.

4. With regard to flexibility options, we need a level playing field, where providers and consumers have equal opportunities. The hurdles to load management (managing demand based on price signals or by the grid operator) should be removed. These hurdles affect, for example, the trading products of the ancillary services market and grid charge regulations.

5. Under the 2012 Ordinance Governing Interruptible Loads, major industrial consumers receive availability payments in return for reducing electricity demand when requested by the transmission grid operator. This Ordinance does not encourage competition among the various flexibility options and only leads to further costs for final electricity consumers. Given these disadvantages, the Ordinance should be abolished.

The Ministry is currently reviewing all the proposals it has received, some of which will be reflected in the forthcoming White Paper in which the Ministry will discuss the envisaged reforms of the electricity market in more detail.

Oceans

The Protection of the High Seas: UN Decides in favour of Negotiations towards a New Agreement

IASS Executive Director Klaus Töpfer welcomed the Working Group's recommendations: "This is an important milestone on the way to protecting the high seas. UN Member States have made good on the initial promise they made to safeguard the oceans at the Rio+20 Earth Summit in 2012. Now it's time to advance the negotiation process and take concrete steps such as establishing marine protected areas."

The future agreement will protect endangered ecosystems and species and ensure the sustainable use of the oceans. In addition to the establishment of marine protected areas, the package of measures with which states wish to combat the loss of marine biodiversity foresees environmental impact assessments of proposed interventions in the oceans, fair rules for the use of genetic resources, the transfer of modern offshore technology, and capacity building in developing countries. The working group's recommendations still have to be adopted by the UN General Assembly in September 2015 before negotiations within the framework of a preparatory committee for an international conference of states can begin in 2016.

On the margins of the meeting, David Miliband, former British foreign secretary and co-chair of the Global Ocean Commission, stressed that a binding agreement was in the shared interest of all countries: "Before someone begins exploiting high seas resources, it would allow the international community to undertake environmental impact assessments just like on the rest of our planet."

Sebastian Unger, head of the IASS research group on ocean governance, explained that while a consensus had been reached on launching negotiations, it was likely that the whole process would take several years. "For that reason, states should use existing instruments and management structures as far as possible. In the North-East Atlantic a first regional system of marine protected areas has already been established on the high seas. Initiatives like that should be extended to other areas, not least to bolster the implementation of any future agreement," said Unger. The questions of what form that agreement might take and how regional and global organisations might cooperate and coordinate action were also discussed at an expert workshop organised by the IASS, IDDRI and the UN Environment Programme (UNEP) on the sidelines of the meeting in New York.

Links:

- **IASS Working Paper: The Scores at Half Time**
- **IASS Policy Brief: Advancing Governance of the High Seas**
- **Special Section: Advancing Governance of Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction (Marine Policy, November 2014)**

Anthropocene

Paradise Reloaded? Researchers, Artists and Laypeople Discuss the Changed Relationship between Humanity and Nature in the Anthropocene

Interview with Manuel Rivera

How would you characterise the relationship between humanity and nature in the Anthropocene?

Of course, any answer to that question has to take cultural and regional specifics into consideration. However, if we look at the general thrust of the Western urbanised way of life that continues to spread across the world, we see that people's relationship to the natural world around them is increasingly shaped by ever more complex interdependencies; there are hardly any regions or resources that a member of the middle class in a city like Berlin or New York cannot access. At the same time, our everyday perceptions of nature and its processes have become far less acute and are increasingly mediated. Thus nature has become synonymous with leisure, a safe haven, an idyll or a threatening setting, but it's not something we actually experience in our daily lives.

Is this trend set to continue or will people in industrial countries like Germany be able to live once more in harmony with nature?

It's difficult to predict what will happen. In some cases people have been fighting against the exploitation of parts of the natural world and the manipulation of their own bodies. I could mention the resistance to 'red' genetic engineering here, i.e., the use of genetic methods in medicine and biomedical research. But it would be wrong to assume that this nature is necessarily better understood or experienced. On the contrary, it is often simply idealised or instrumentalised in a critique of civilisation. Hopefully, society will manage to devote more time and space to a discussion about what we see, desire and experience as 'our' nature.

What was special about the format of the symposium on "Culture and Nature in the Anthropocene"?

For me, at least two things made the symposium special. The first was that it took place between two performances of Haydn's "The Creation" - a work that arose at the dawn of the Anthropocene - and the interdisciplinary reflections on changes in both nature and culture since 1800 continually referred back to this work or at least used it as a source of metaphors. Secondly, the symposium participants comprised not only researchers from various disciplines, but also artists and interested laypeople. All fifty of them didn't just listen to presentations, but also entered into a sophisticated dialogue with each other.



Manuel Rivera is a sociologist, who studies the cultural prerequisites for sustainable development at the IAASS. © IAASS Potsdam

So a lively exchange among the various participants was possible despite their different backgrounds?

The problem with interdisciplinary – and especially with transdisciplinary – dialogues is that they tend towards the lowest common denominator and often shun specialist knowledge completely. At the other extreme, nobody would stray from their specialist area and there would be no mutual understanding. I think that we managed to avoid both scenarios in the way we moderated the discussion and communicated with the presenters in advance. In this way, everybody was able to learn something new and almost all the participants could contribute to the discussion. The feedback we received was extremely positive.

How will the results of this project feed into future work at the IASS?

The documentary-maker Johanna Ickert was present at every stage of the project with the Junges Ensemble Berlin and the University of the Arts – apart from the symposium and the two concerts, there was a rehearsal and discussion weekend in the Schorfheide as well as recordings and interviews on the sidelines of rehearsals, seminars and classes at school. The end product, a wonderfully varied 35-minute film, will be available together with a brochure on the project from April or May at the latest. I hope that we'll be able to show the film from time to time at events that touch on similar themes. Within the institute, we are examining ways of continuing and expanding our approach to integrating artistic processes into scientific projects. And we will of course be conducting further research and publishing more on the relationship between humanity and nature in the Anthropocene.

Earth Systems

Natural Hazards and Georisks in a Globalised World

Representatives from politics, industry and civil society must work together to ensure that the insights gained in research on geohazards are effectively put into practice. During workshop discussions, the participants of the Geo.X closing conference developed the following nine recommendations together with IASS Executive Director Klaus Töpfer, Undersecretary Wilfried Kraus from the Federal Ministry of Education and Research, the spokesperson of the Geo.X platform and Chair of the German Research Centre for Geosciences (GFZ) Reinhard Hüttl, as well as practitioners (e.g. from THW and Münchner Rück) and decision-makers (BMZ, BMBF):

- A more inter- and transdisciplinary approach to analysing and evaluating geohazards
- Greater involvement of decision-makers and vulnerable population groups in the development of research agendas
- Development of a worldwide, interactive risk app
- Forensic analysis of risk scenarios in a risk simulator
- Establishment of an international network for risk research and management
- Development of new forms of educating and sharing knowledge about risk (e-learning, risk simulator, etc.)
- Consideration of different cultural, social and scientific perspectives on risks and how they are handled
- Cross-border collection of and access to reliable and relevant data on risks and vulnerability
- Risk management and coping with natural hazards as an opportunity for economic growth

This year's Potsdam Summer School is also devoted to the theme of natural hazards. Prospective participants are invited to send their applications by 31 May. Now in its second year, the Summer School will take place from 14 to 23 September 2015. It is a transdisciplinary, interactive event that brings together a range of different participants from around the world: up-and-coming scholars and young professionals from research institutes as well as experts from government agencies, NGOs and the private sector.

Together, they will discuss various aspects of catastrophe preparedness. The Summer School aims to bridge the gap between innovative methods in research on the Earth, the environment and sustainability and how knowledge about natural hazards is used in policymaking and administration. The entire Summer School will be conducted through English. With the support of the City of Potsdam, the Potsdam Summer School 2015 is organised by the IASS, the Alfred Wegener Institute (AWI), the German Research Centre for Geosciences (GFZ), the Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research (PIK) and the University of Potsdam. The Summer School programme also includes informative lectures by experts, stakeholders and guest speakers from national and international institutes and organisations.

Link:

■ **Potsdam Summer School Website**

Selected Publications

The IASS regularly publishes its research findings in its own publication series. Our recent publications appear on the right-hand margin of this Newsletter from page 2 onwards.

Link:

■ IASS Publications

Here is a selection of journal articles by IASS researchers published in the first quarter of 2015:

Jian, L., Zheng, Y., Xiao, X., Chan, C. (2015): Optimal scheduling for vehicle-to-grid operation with stochastic connection of plug-in electric vehicles to smart grid. – *Applied Energy*, 146, 150 – 161.

■ Doi

Keil, K. (2015): Spreading Oil, Spreading Conflict? Institutions Regulating Arctic Oil and Gas Activities. – *The International Spectator: Italian Journal of International Affairs*, 50, 1, 85 – 110.

■ Doi

Muñoz-Antón, J., Rubbia, C., Rovira, A., Martínez-Val, J. M. (2015): Performance study of solar power plants with CO₂ as working fluid. A promising design window. – *Energy Conversion and Management*, 92, 36 – 46.

■ Doi

Rosendahl, J., Zanella, M. A., Rist, S., Weigelt, J. (2015): Scientists' situated knowledge: Strong objectivity in transdisciplinarity. – *Futures*, 65, 17 – 27.

■ Doi

Schmale, J., von Schneidemesser, E., Dörrie, A. (2015): An Integrated Assessment Method for Sustainable Transport System Planning in a Middle Sized German City. – *Sustainability*, 7, 2, 1329 – 1354.

■ Doi

Titirici, M.-M., White, R. J., Brun, N., Budarin, V. L., Su, D. S., del Monte, F., Clark, J. H., MacLachlan, M. J. (2015): Sustainable carbon materials. – *Chemical Society Reviews*, 44, 250 – 290.

■ Doi

Sillmann, J., Lenton, T. M., Levermann, A., Ott, K., Hulme, M., Benduhn, F., Horton, J. B. (2015): *Climate emergencies do not justify engineering the climate*. – *Nature Climate Change*, 5, 290 – 292.

■ Doi

Varone, A., Ferrari, M. (2015): Power to liquid and power to gas: An option for the German Energiewende. – *Renewable and Sustainable Energy Reviews*, 45, 207 – 218.

■ Doi

Xue, B., Tobias, M. (2015): Sustainability in China: Bridging Global Knowledge with Local Action. – *Sustainability*, 7, 3714 – 3720.

■ Doi

JOB ADVERTISEMENT

Academic position:

Researcher (legal studies or political science) sought for the project “Environmental Law and Institutions for Air and Sea” (ELIAS).

The position is initially foreseen for the period until 31 December 2016. Deadline for applications: 30 April 2015.

Link:

■ **To the job advertisement**

Post-doc for research on ozone formation mechanisms using the regional air quality modelling system WRF-Chem.

The position is initially foreseen for the period until 31 December 2016. Deadline for applications: 15 May 2015.

Link:

■ **To the job advertisement**

IASS PEOPLE AND NEW APPOINTMENTS



© Private

Profile **Jairam Ramesh**

For the whole of 2015, the economist and former Indian Environment Minister Jairam Ramesh is a Distinguished Senior Fellow at the IASS. During his stay at the institute, he will investigate the possibility of developing a global climate agreement in India with a view to the upcoming COP21 Climate Summit in Paris in December. Ramesh is committed to anchoring environmental issues in the pursuit of economic growth and the fight against poverty. The insights he gained as a high-level Indian politician and India's Chief Negotiator at the 2009 Climate Summit in Copenhagen will enrich the IASS's transdisciplinary work with stakeholders from politics, science and civil society. Ramesh has long been recognised as a leading figure in international climate diplomacy and is internationally renowned for his experience and foresight. As a leading member of the Indian National Congress (INC), he plays a key role in shaping global sustainability policy. In his recently published book, *Green Signals*, he provides insights into relevant debates and describes the challenges and obstacles he faces in his efforts to integrate environmental issues into political and economic decision-making processes.

From April to July, **Antonio Andreoni** will work as a fellow on the project "The Variety of Public Good Production, Technologies and Policy: New Insights from Engineering-Economics Twists". Andreoni explores the theoretical foundations of the public good within conventional economic cultures in comparison to alternative economic approaches. He is a lecturer in economics at the School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London, and a Senior Research Fellow at the Institute for Manufacturing, University of Cambridge.

On 1 January, **Dr Tim Beringer** joined the Renewable Resources and the Sustainable Development Goals Forum as a research associate. Among other things, Beringer examines the possible impacts of an emerging bioeconomy for global biomass demand on national sustainable development strategies. Prior to joining the IASS, the geographer and Earth system modeller was a research associate at the Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research (PIK).

Holly Jean Buck joined the IASS on 1 February and works as a research associate on the CEMICS project – Contextualising Climate Engineering and Mitigation: Complement, Substitute or Illusion?, which focuses on the integration of ethical and normative criteria into research on various climate engineering technologies. Buck's specialist areas are environmental sociology and human geography. She began research towards a PhD in development sociology at Cornell University in 2012.

Dr Sabine Christiansen joined the Blue Growth and Ocean Sustainability project on 9 March. As a research associate, she investigates the (in)compatibility of deep-sea mining with global and European climate protection and resource-usage targets. The marine biologist has been working freelance on marine protection issues such as the establishment and management of marine protected areas in the North-east Atlantic, the ecosystem approach, and deep-sea mining since 1999.

In February, **Dr Anne Flohr** took over the coordination of the Soil Protection and Rehabilitation for Food Security project. A political scientist with a particular interest in human rights, Flohr previously worked as a research associate at the Peace Research Institute Frankfurt.

Thomas Greiber has been working since 1 January on the Ocean Governance project. As a research associate, he focuses on the development of a new legally binding implementation agreement within the framework of the UN Law of the Sea to ensure the sustainable use of marine biodiversity in areas beyond national jurisdiction. Greiber is particularly interested in the connections between the sustainable management of land and soils on the one hand and coasts and oceans on the other. An expert on international environmental law, he worked as a Senior Legal Officer

at the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) – Environmental Law Centre prior to joining the IASS.

Stefanie Hansen has been working as an assistant in the IASS Executive Office since 1 February. Prior to that the geoscientist worked as an assistant to a department head at the Fraunhofer IPK in Berlin.

Ferdinand Knauß is a journalist and historian who has been investigating the fixation on growth in German economic and political journalism since 1 April.

Herbert Küster joined the IASS as interim Head of Administration at the beginning of March. Prior to that he worked as Head of the Central Department at the former Federal Ministry for Consumer Protection, Food and Agriculture. Küster has also been teaching university courses, for example at Cologne University, since 2006.

Prof. Philipp Lepenies has been appointed Guest Professor of Sociology at Berlin's Freie Universität for three semesters. In the courses he will teach at the FU, the Head of the IASS research team on Cultures of Economics – Cultures of Sustainability will highlight the socio-political dimension of sustainability. He will continue to be associated with the IASS and his project at the institute.

Dr Sybille Röhrkasten joined the Transdisciplinary Panel on Energy Change as a research associate on 1 February. She is responsible for research on the international dimension of the Energiewende, especially with regard to the water-energy nexus. Röhrkasten previously worked in the Global Questions Research Group at the German Institute for International and Security Affairs (SWP) in Berlin.

Appointments and Awards

IASS Executive Director [Prof. Klaus Töpfer](#) will be awarded the German Corporate Social Responsibility Prize on 20 April. Led by Roland Tichy, chair of the Ludwig Erhardt Foundation and former editor in chief of the German news magazine Wirtschaftswoche, the jury has acknowledged Töpfer's outstanding contribution to corporate social responsibility.

[Dr Jes Weigelt](#) was appointed chair of the European Soil Partnership in March. The ESP strives to promote sustainable land use in Europe.

Link:

■ IASS News

In March, IASS Arctic expert [Dr Kathrin Keil](#) was appointed by the German Foreign Office to the German Observer Delegation of the Arctic Council.

Link:

■ IASS News

UPCOMING EVENTS

April 2015

19–23 April

19–23.04 3rd Global Soil Week: “Soil. The Substance of Transformation” in Berlin (registration required); Selected highlights of the Global Soil Week 2015: 20.04 Critical Dialogue Series: the first in a series of public events organised by the IASS on the theme of sustainable urbanisation. Title: Overriding the Urban/Non-Urban Divide

22 April

Official opening of the “ONE HECTARE” exhibition by Minister Gerd Müller and IASS Executive Director Klaus Töpfer. The exhibition is organised jointly by the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), the German Agency for International Development (GIZ), and the City of Berlin. It can be visited at Berlin’s Gleisdreieck Park until 25 May.

23–24 April

Workshop for Global Soil Week participants on the Technical Guide on Commons, a guideline to ensure the protection of commons, which was commissioned by the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and completed by the IASS.

27 April

Workshop on “Citizen Participation – Which Factors are Critical?” at the IASS; jointly organised by the IASS and the Institute for Advanced Studies in the Humanities (by invitation only)

May 2015

05 May

Expert workshop: “Towards a Research Agenda for Ocean Governance” in Brussels. Organised by the IASS and the German Marine Research Consortium (by invitation only).

05 May

Lunchtime briefing from 12 to 2.30 pm: “Towards a Research Agenda for Ocean Governance” in Brussels. Organised by the IASS and partners. For more information and registration:

Registration

09 May

Public event: 3rd Potsdam Science Day at the Neues Palais, Potsdam. IASS soil researchers will present the Soil Atlas 2015; children can play in the ‘mud’ kitchen; and people can play a game to calculate their very own carbon footprint.

Link:

- **To the IASS Calendar of Events**

May 2015

11-12 May

Stakeholder workshop on the “Governance of Resources for Arctic Sustainable Policy and Practice (GRASP)” at the IASS; organised by SMART (IASS project on the sustainable transformation of the Arctic) and the Alfred Wegener Institute, with Prof. Mark Lawrence (by invitation only)

12-13 May

High-level round-table discussion on the role of renewable resources in the sustainable development goals, New York. Organised by the IASS (by invitation only)

12-13 May

Workshop 18 – Living Labs – a tool for transformation in the ground at the Bonn Conference for Global Transformation 2015 – from Politics to Implementation; organised by the IASS and the Wuppertal Institute

June 2015

29-30 June

International stakeholder dialogue in Brussels on “European Perspectives on Sustainable Biomass in the post-2015 Development Agenda”; organised by the IASS. The dialogue will focus on the sustainable development goals, in particular on the role of sustainable biomass in the post-2015 Development Agenda.

September 2015

14-23 September

Potsdam Summer School “Facing Natural Hazards” at the IASS

Link:

- **To the IASS Calendar of Events**



Join the discussion: how sustainable are the sustainable development goals? How can we meet the increasing demand for water and energy across the globe? What is the City of Potsdam doing to support sustainable urban development? Read the latest blogs penned by IASS researchers!



Follow us on Twitter!

We keep you informed on a daily basis and tweet live from important events.

CONTACT AND IMPRINT

Publisher:

IASS Potsdam
Institute for Advanced Sustainability Studies e.V.

Berliner Strasse 130
14467 Potsdam
Deutschland
Telephone 0049 331-28822-340
www.iass-potsdam.de

e-mail:

newsletter@iass-potsdam.de

Edited by:

Corina Weber (V.i.S.d.P.),
Bianca Schröder, Hagen Pieper

Translated by:

Anne Boden

SPONSORED BY THE

