

IHDP Earth System Governance Project

Planning Group Meetings during the 2007 Amsterdam Conference

Frank Biermann and Ruben Zondervan, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam

Updated version 17 May 2007

Contact:

Frank Biermann and Ruben Zondervan
Department of Environmental Policy Analysis
Institute for Environmental Studies
Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam
The Netherlands

E-mail: frank.biermann@ivm.vu.nl; ruben.zondervan@ivm.vu.nl

Background

The Scientific Committee of the International Human Dimensions Programme on Global Environmental Change (IHDP) decided at its Annual Meeting in Angra dos Reis, Brazil, in March 2007 to convene a group of scholars to explore options for a new long-term research activity within IHDP that would focus on governance and institutions. This new research activity would follow up on the IHDP core project Institutional Dimensions of Global Environmental Change, which formally ended in February 2007.

The first meeting of the Earth System Governance Project Planning Group will be held during the 2007 Amsterdam Conference.

There are currently two planning meetings envisaged, both are upon invitation only:

- An informal dinner discussion (get-to-know-each-other) at the evening of 25 May in Amsterdam, for the planning group and IHDP representatives only.
- A full-day workshop on Sunday, 27 May, followed by informal dinner, for the planning group and IHDP representatives only.

In addition, there are two sessions of the conference particularly geared towards the planning of the Earth System Governance Project:

- One semi-plenary with three speakers of IHDP and ESSP projects (Ken Conca, Frans Berkhout, Diana Liverman) on the governance research needs in their projects, chaired by Michele Betsill, and
- One plenary round table on the question of whether, or to what extent, the new initiative could/should be crosscutting, and how to organise this, chaired by Frank Biermann.

Ideally, members of the planning group would attend these two sessions.

Furthermore, we have planned four Round Table Consultations with different groups of conference participants. The role of the ESG Project planning group would be to facilitate discussions and, most importantly, to take note of what members of the community contribute regarding the topics to be covered in the new science plan. All round tables are listed in the conference programme in more detail:

- A Roundtable Consultation for the members of the Amsterdam Conference national and international steering committees, for all speakers and chairs of the semi-plenary and plenary sessions, for the planning group and few other selected experts.
- A Roundtable Consultation for participants of the Amsterdam Conference from Central and Eastern Europe.
- A Roundtable Consultation for participants of the Amsterdam Conference from developing countries.
- A Roundtable Consultation for the Amsterdam Conference student volunteers and a visiting group of Yale students. (Here, we believe that only few members of the Planning Group should attend, to prevent 'seniority-overkill').

Members/Invited Participants

On the proposed set-up of the Earth System Governance Project Planning Group, see two additional documents by Frank Biermann submitted to IHDP in March (general outline) and April (concrete proposal with names).

Co-ordinating Members, Analytical Themes

1. **Prof Frank Biermann**, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam, The Netherlands
2. **Prof Michele Betsill**, Colorado State University, United States of America
3. **Prof Bharat Desai**, Jawaharlal Nehru University, India
4. **Prof Norichika Kanie**, Tokyo Institute of Technology, Japan
5. **Dr Louis Lebel**, Chiang Mai University, Thailand
6. **Dr Heike Schröder**, Oxford University, United Kingdom
7. **Prof Bernd Siebenhüner**, University of Oldenburg, Germany
8. **Prof Simon Tay**, Singapore Institute of International Affairs, Singapore (does not attend the 2007 Amsterdam Conference for scheduling problems)

Co-ordinating Members, Crosscutting Activities

9. **Prof Ken Conca**, GECHS, and University of Maryland, United States of America
10. **Prof Joyeeta Gupta**, GWSP, and UNESCO-IHE Institute for Water Education, The Netherlands
11. **Prof Diana Liverman**, GECAFS, and Oxford University, United Kingdom

Ex officio Participants

12. **Dr Andreas Rechkemmer**, IHDP executive director, IHDP HQ
13. **Agus Sari**, former IDGEC chair, Pelangi
14. **Falk Schmidt**, scientific officer, IHDP HQ
15. **Prof Oran Young**, IHDP SC chair, and University of California at Santa Barbara

Secretary

16. **Ruben Zondervan**, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam

Email list (for round emails):

Frank.biermann@ivm.vu.nl; mbetsill@lamar.colostate.edu; desai@mail.jnu.ac.in;
kanie@valdes.titech.ac.jp; louis@sea-user.org; heike.schroeder@ouce.ox.ac.uk;
bernd.siebenhuener@uni-oldenburg.de; kconca@gvpt.umd.edu; joyeeta.gupta@ivm.vu.nl;
diana.liverman@eci.ox.ac.uk; rechkemmer.ihdp@uni-bonn.de; agus.sari@ecosecurities.com;
schmidt.ihdp@uni-bonn.de; young@bren.ucsb.edu; ruben.Zondervan@ivm.vu.nl; chair-
man@siaaonline.org; lawtaysc@nus.edu.sg

Planning Group Dinner, 25 May

Purpose/Agenda

Informal first get-together of the members of the planning group for the IHDP Earth System Governance Project.

Introduction of members; introduction into the planning process

First discussion of core issues and ideas about division of work

First discussion about concrete planning/writing process in 2006/2007

Time

Friday 25 May, 20.00-23.00

Location

Brasserie Harkema

Kleine Kamer

Nes 67

1012 KD Amsterdam

Phone 020-4282222

Fax 020-5287300

Direction

It would be best to meet at the conference venue around 7.10pm, and then travel by tram as a group.

Directions: Walk from the 2007 Amsterdam Conference venue to the tram-stop 'De Boelelaan/VU'. You need to catch "**TRAM 5- Centraal Station**". The journey to the restaurant takes approximately 15 minutes. Disembark the tram at the **Spui/Nieuwezijds Voorburwal** stop. From there walk down the street called 'Spui'. Cross several small streets and the big 'Rokin'. Continue this direction for about 100 meters and turn left to 'Nes'.

Not able to participate in the dinner are so far:

Louis Lebel, Simon Tay

Roundtable Consultations

Note: we have planned all round tables in the last segments of the conference, in order to maximise new ideas and findings from the conference sessions.

Round table Consultation with Conference Participants from Central and Eastern Europe

Time: Friday, 25 May, 17.30-19.00

Location: C 541

Co-ordinator/Chair: Dr Maria Falaleeva, Institute for Environmental Studies, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam

Note: depending on how many participants from Central and Eastern Europe will participate, maybe not all planning group members will need to participate.

Round table Consultation with Student Participants and Student Volunteers

Time: Saturday, 26 May, 9.00-10.30

Location: C 623

Co-ordinator/Chair: Ruben Zondervan, Institute for Environmental Studies, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam

Note: Not all planning group members will need to participate.

Round table Consultation with Conference Participants from Developing Countries

Time: Saturday, 26 May, 14.00-15.30

Location: C 623

Co-ordinator: Johanna Mendoza, Institute for Environmental Studies, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam (Chair: Agus Sari)

Round table Consultation with Keynote Speakers at the 2007 Amsterdam Conference

Time: Saturday, 26 May, 15.40-17.10

Location: C 623

Co-ordinator/Chair: Dr Marleen van de Kerkhof, Institute for Environmental Studies, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam

ESGP Planning Group Full-Day Workshop, 27 May

Purpose

Detailed discussion of outline of science plan.

Preliminary agreements on division of work.

Preliminary agreements on procedures, including future meetings.

Preliminary agreements on fund-raising strategies.

Time

Sunday, 27 May, 10.00-18.00 followed by dinner 18.30 - ...

Location

Workshop:

Restaurant-Café in de Waag

Klovenierskamer

Nieuwmarkt 4

1012 CR Amsterdam

Phone 020-4227772

Fax 020-4228641

Dinner:

Hemelse Modder

Oude Waal 11

1011 BZ Amsterdam

Phone 020-6243203

Directions will be provided during the conference.

Not able to participate in the workshop are:

Ken Conca, Simon Tay

Not able to participate in the dinner are:

Ken Conca, Louis Lebel, Agus Sari, Simon Tay

Finances

Currently, the costs for the workshop (rent, lunch, refreshment) and the two dinners, as well as some of the travel costs, are covered by the general conference budget of the 2007 Amsterdam Conference, that is, there are paid through participant fees and sponsorships.

Since these activities are rather IHDP-activities than conference-related activities, reimbursement through the governance-earmarked funds from the IHDP secretariat has been requested. A final decision is pending.