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NEWSLETTER

CENTRE FOR INTERNATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES
GRADUATE INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL AND
DEVELOPMENT STUDIES
Case postale 136, 1211 Genève 21
T +41 22 908 44 61 - cies@graduateinstitute.ch

Conference co-organised by the CIES on:

Economics of Innovation, Diffusion, Growth and the Environment

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On September 16th-18th 2015, CIES co-organized together with the Grantham Research Institute and the Centre for Economic Performance (London School of Economics and Political Science) an academic conference on the "Economics of Innovation, Diffusion, Growth and the Environment".

The conference took place at the Royal Society of Arts in London and was sponsored by the Swiss National Science Foundation as part of the Sinergia research network including 4 partner institutions (Graduate Institute (Geneva), ETH (Zurich), EPFL (Lausanne), and The London School of Economics)..

The conference brought together 80 scholars and policymakers and about 60 research papers on innovation, diffusion and green growth were presented during the three days.



A policy panel featuring by Sir Nicholas Stern was also held as a side-event on the topic of International cooperation and low-carbon technologies.

Energy technology innovation and the role of domestic and international actors

Public lecture | Geneva Dialogue
Tuesday 24 November 2015, 18:30 - 20:00
Auditorium Ivan Pictet, Maison de la Paix



By Laura Diaz Anadon, Assistant Professor in Public Policy and Associate Director of the Science, Technology, and Public Policy Program Harvard University, John F. Kennedy School of Government.

While there is widespread agreement on the need for new and improved energy technologies to meet current environmental, economic, security, and access challenges, little consensus exists on the role of public decision-makers in catalyzing innovation in energy technologies. This is due to the complexity of the processes underlying technology innovation, the multiplicity of policy tools and actors involved, and the heterogeneity of technologies making up current and future energy systems.

This lecture will draw on recent interdisciplinary research to highlight new insights on the impacts of various policies and on the role that domestic and international actors play and can play to advance energy innovation. Special emphasis will be placed on the growing experience from emerging economies and low-income countries in adopting new energy technologies. It will also suggest future research directions that could help to better inform ongoing national and international discussions on innovation in energy.



Co-organization of the 2nd conference on Environmental Politics and Governance, June 16-19, Gerzensee

The conference aims to showcase outstanding scholarship on Environmental Politics & Governance, provide a venue for scholars to present their research, strengthen their network, and shape future research across the social sciences via theoretically informed and methodologically rigorous empirical work. CIES will co-organize and co-sponsor the 2016 edition of the Environmental Politics & Governance conference, to be held at the Gerzensee conference facility of the Swiss National Bank.

The International Steering Committee is composed of Liliana Andonova, CIES, The Graduate Institute, Geneva; Thomas Bernauer, ETH Zurich; Karin Ingold, EAWAG; Katharina Michaelowa, University of Zurich.

Conference website:

www.ib.ethz.ch/conference.html



CIES-UNEP Side-event on "Technology innovation for a Green Economy in Developing Countries" to be held at OECD.

As part of the SNIS project, CIES will co-organize together with UNEP a side-event at the next OECD "Green Growth and Sustainable Development Forum" to be held in Paris on December 14-15, 2015. Researchers from CIES will present their results on studies examining the issue of access to clean energy technology by developing countries.

Two new research grants awarded

Environmental regulation and economic competitiveness

In December 2015, COP-21 negotiations on climate change to be held in Paris will hopefully lead to a commitment from many countries to significantly reduce their greenhouse gas emissions. The economic cost linked to emission reductions could penalize countries planning a strong reduction and thus cause a rebalancing of international economic competitiveness. These economic impacts present a major obstacle to achieving a global agreement on climate.

This new research project aims to better understand the impact of environmental policies on economic competitiveness. The project will analyze the case of two countries of major importance for the future of emissions of greenhouse gases: China and the USA. In the case of China, the project will examine how environmental policies introduced by regional governments affect the competitiveness of Chinese firms' in terms of productivity, employment and exports. In the case of the USA, the research will focus on the adoption of new technologies under an emission tradeable scheme.

The project will look at how specific sectors (such as the automobile industry) may be affected by environmental regulations. The project will result in a number of environmental policy recommendations that will be shared with field researchers,

policymakers and economic actors throughout Switzerland and the EU.

The project is funded by SNF for a duration of 3 years. The research will be conducted by Dr. Bruno Lanz, Research Associate at CIES, under the supervision of Timothy Swanson and Richard Baldwin, Professors of International Economics.

Transnational governance for the environment in China

In the last two decades, many transnational governance programs led by private actors (e.g. business, non-governmental organizations) to address environmental impacts of global markets have emerged. Originating from North America and Western Europe, many of these private rules or standards are gradually introduced to producers in developing countries.

This research project will examine China's uptake of transnational private governance for different environmental issues. In particular, the project will investigate whether or not the authoritarian regime leaves space for private governance in China.

The project is funded by SNF under at Doc.CH grant for a duration of 3 years as of September 2015. The research will be conducted by Yixian Sun, PhD candidate in Political Science/RA, under the supervision of Pr Liliana Andonova.



Meet with CIES

CIES welcomes 3 new associated faculty

As of September 1st, three new Assistant Professors working on environmental topics have joined the institute:

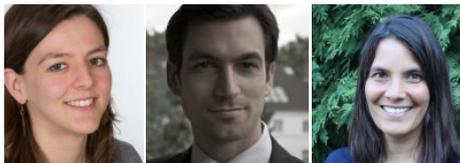
- **Anne Saab** (International Law),
- **James Hollway** (IR/Political Science)
- **Shaila Seshia Galvin** (Anthropology and Sociology of Development).

Anne Saab holds a PhD in International Law from the London School of Economics (LSE), and an LL.M. in Public International Law from King's College London. Her areas of expertise include public international law, climate change and agriculture.

James Hollway holds a DPhil from the University of Oxford and was postdoctoral research fellow at ETH Zürich and USI Lugano. His research focuses on the governance of complex fields of social activity, such as the environment or trade.

Shaila Seshia Galvin holds a PhD in Anthropology and Forestry and Environmental Studies from Yale University, and was a Postdoctoral Fellow at the Center for Environmental Studies, and Department of Anthropology and Sociology at Williams College, USA, from 2013 to 2015. Her research concentrates on agrarian change in particular.

We are happy to welcome them as Associated Faculty within CIES and we look forward to benefit from their field of expertise.



Kathryn Chelminski to join doctoral research fellowship at Harvard's sustainability science program



Kathryn Chelminski, PhD candidate in International Relations/Political Science at the Graduate Institute and CIES Research Assistant, was admitted to the Harvard University Kennedy School of Government's Sustainability Science Program (SSP) as a Doctoral Research Fellow for 2015-2016.

She will be jointly affiliated with the Mossavar-Rahmani Center for Business and Government, the Belfer Center for Science and International Affairs' Energy Technology Innovation Policy research group, and the Ash Center's Rajawali Foundation Institute for Asia.

Her research at SSP will focus on the impact of fossil fuel subsidy reform on the competitiveness of geothermal energy in Indonesia as part of the Initiative on Fossil Fuel Subsidies: Impacts, Opportunities, and Challenges to Reform led by Henry Lee.

While at SSP, Kathryn will continue a part-time affiliation with the SNIS project "Access to Clean Energy for the Green Economy in Developing Countries," working on questions of clean energy policy and technology diffusion in Indonesia.

Changes in staff

CIES is happy to announce that **Nathalie Fauvarque** has joined CIES team as Administrative Coordinator. Nathalie is in charge of the smooth running of the centre by providing administrative support, designing communication materials, and managing the organization of events.

CIES welcomes **Yanming Kan**, **Helena Ting** and **Yixian Sun** as new Research Assistants within CIES. Yixian Sun has been awarded a Doc.CH grant from the Swiss National Science Foundation as part of the project on "Transnational private governance for the environment in China".

The junior visiting position of **Xuan Huang**, PhD candidate in economics from Beijing University, within CIES has ended. Xuan was awarded a research grant by the China Scholarship Council to work with Bruno Lanz on environmental policy in China.

CIES welcomes **Lina Díaz Castro**, PhD candidate in public health at the National Institute of Public Health, Mexico. She will be visiting CIES as a Junior Visiting Fellow until November 15, 2015.

Lucia Zizzari, master student in international relations at the University of Roma, will join CIES as a Junior Visiting Fellow from October 15 to December 15, 2015. Lucia's work mainly focuses on poverty, its meanings and its relations with the environment.

In October 2015, **Jules Wurlod** and **Ankai Xu** will defend their dissertation and move on with their careers. Jules Wurlod has started working at NERA Consulting in Paris, while Ankai Xu holds a position at the World Trade Organization in Geneva.

Two PhD candidates to defend their thesis



On October 13th 2015, **Ankai Xu** defended her PhD dissertation "Three Essays on Trade and the Environment".

The thesis contains three chapters on the relationship between trade and the environment. The first chapter looks at trade in natural resources and its relation with property rights.

In particular, it examines trade in one particular resource - the water embodied in the trade of agriculture products, or "virtual water trade".

The second and third chapters use rich Chinese firm-level data to test pollution haven effect and the Porter hypothesis, respectively. It shows that larger firms are more likely to be driven by differences in environmental stringencies across regions. On the other hand, empirical evidence shows support of the Porter

hypothesis that tighter environmental regulations can increase productivity under certain circumstances.



In November 2015, **Jules Wurlod** will defend his PhD thesis "Essays in Environmental Economics -- Innovation, diffusion and consumer choices". The thesis presents two empirical studies on technology. The first aims at measuring the

impact of green innovation on energy consumption using patent statistics, and the second tests whether innovation in agriculture converges to less productive ones.

The last chapter analyzes consumer choices for low-carbon goods in a behavioral economics framework, and estimates the motivational costs behind price-based incentives.

Lunch seminars series - a forum for interdisciplinary research on the environment

- Thursday, November 5th, from 12:15 to 13:30
Who is really serious about the green economy? An empirical assessment of green goods liberalization, by Manfred Elsig, Associate Professor, International Relations, University of Bern
- Thursday, November 12th, from 12:15 to 13:30
Restrictive practices in energy trade and consistency with WTO law : the case of the OPEC cartel, by Anna Marhold, PhD Candidate, International Law, European University Institute
- Thursday, November 26th, from 12:15 to 13:30
Preventing environmental and human implications of resource extraction - A rights-based approach, by Lys Kulamadayil, PhD Candidate, International Law, The Graduate Institute
- Thursday, December 3rd, from 12:15 to 13:30
The EU directive on sustainable use of pesticides and legal interpretation in the era of interdisciplinarity, by Gor Movsisyan, PhD Candidate, International Law, The Graduate Institute
- Thursday, December 10th, from 12:15 to 13:30
Persons displaced by natural disasters: Refugee rights? Human rights? Or no rights?, by Alexandra Goossens, PhD Candidate, International Law, The Graduate Institute



To register, graduateinstitute.ch/cies/events

CIES latest publications

CIES Research papers

- "The value of air quality in Chinese cities: evidence from labor and property market outcomes", B. Lanz and X. Huang, 2015, CIES research paper n°38.
- "Avertive expenditures, endogenous quality perception, and the demand for non-market goods: an instrumental variable approach", B. Lanz, 2015, CIES research paper n°36.
- "Using discrete choice experiments to regulate the provision of water services: do status quo choices reflect preferences?", B. Lanz and A. Provins, 2015, CIES research paper n°35.
- "Emissions trading in the presence of price-regulated polluting firms: how costly are free allowances?", B. Lanz and S. Rausch, 2015, CIES research paper n°34.
- "Multinational firms and the internationalisation of green R&D: a review of the evidence and policy implications", J. Noailly and D. Ryfisch, 2014, CIES research paper n°33.

Resource and environmental economics seminars series

- Thursday, October 1st, from 16.15 to 17.30
This mine is mine! How minerals fuel conflicts in Africa, by Dominique Rohner, University of Lausanne
- Thursday, October 8th, from 16.15 to 17.30
Transnational climate initiatives: an alternative way to climate change mitigation?, by Katja Michaelowa, ETH Zurich
- Thursday, October 15th, from 16.15 to 17.30
Willingness to pay to reduce health risks related to air quality : Evidence from a choice experiment survey in Beijing, by Henrik Andersson, Toulouse School of Economics
- Thursday, October 22nd, from 16.15 to 17.30
Discounting disentangled : A survey of experts on the long run social discount rate, by Ben Groom, London School of Economics

Geneva Dialogue series

- Tuesday, November 24th, from 18.30 to 20.00
Energy technology innovation and the role of domestic and international actors, by Laura Diaz Anadon, Assistant Professor in Public Policy and Associate Director of the Science, Technology, and Public Policy Program Harvard University, John F. Kennedy School of Government

Books and articles

- "Indigenous and local people", Hufty M., 2015, article in: Orsini, A. and Morin J.-F. (Eds): *Essential Concepts of Global Environmental Governance*, Routledge/Earthscan, pp. 95-98.
- "Human Rights and Investment Disciplines : Integration in Progress", Dupuy, P.-M. and J. E. Viñuales, 2015, article in: M. Bungenberg, J. Griebel, S. Hobe, A., Reinisch (eds), *International Investment Law*, Frankfurt/London, C.H. Beck/Hart/Nomos, pp. 1739-1767.
- "Climate-ready seeds and patent rights: a question of climate (in) justice?", A. Saab, 2015, special issue: Law and Boundaries, *Global Jurist*.
- "Multilevel embeddedness: the case of the global fisheries governance complex", J. Hollway and J. Koskinen, 2015, *Social networks*.
- "Ecology of the Himalaya", Shaila Seshia Galvin, 2015, Oxford University Press, article in *Oxford Bibliographies*.