

# SESSION SUMMARIES

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## **0A-1 0a Sustainable development in post-conflict countries**

These were two very interesting sessions about a new topic of research in sustainability studies: the relationship between sustainability issues and post-conflict societies. An interdisciplinary approach prevailed in the studies that were presented. Three studies researched the question of how the end of armed conflict in Colombia will favor or not the process of deforestation in remote regions of the country. Econometric approaches were used to assess the loss of forest in municipalities where previous presence of the armed guerrilla FARC existed. Studies highlight the importance of national parks and reserves as tools to prevent deforestation in these areas. Another study that used a qualitative approach to this important question was also presented. Authors concluded about the importance of integrating theoretical and methodological approaches in order to discuss contradictory results.

Two additional studies introduced the question of how to implement innovative public policy frameworks for sustainability in a post conflict situation in Colombia. The first one presented how to involve rural communities affected by the conflict as well as ex-combatants to introduce responsible new tourist projects in regions with huge biodiversity and special ecosystems. Social, economic and cultural issues related to this question were presented. An innovative governance model for territorial peace was also presented. The model proposes a bottom up approach with community involvement and the formation of local leaders and the creation of local agencies to steer the post-conflict efforts in regions and municipalities with a special focus of attention to water governance and biodiversity issues.

Another important study presented how to approach sustainability in post-conflict policies in the Northern Ireland case with a special emphasis in how to share political power between State and communities and different governmental levels. From an international perspective, another study discussed the different conceptual approaches and methodological processes worked by international cooperation programs related to post-conflict and sustainability

An interesting research was presented discussing how to relate social capital and capacity of association of rural communities in Colombia order to respond to contextual insecurity in rural areas and how these efforts to associate influence quality of life of individuals.

The authors discussed at the end of the session how to integrate this new line of research into a systematic research effort that can lead to a Book that presents the ongoing research. The need to work out a conceptual approach that focus interdisciplinary approaches and themes was suggested.

## **0B-1 0b Indigenous, afro, and rural communities involvement with sustainability**

### **Session 1 – Questions to papers**

1. Strategies of Successful Anti-Dam-Movements: Evidence from Myanmar and Thailand

Question To paper 1: How to anchor the framing you're using for the anti-damn movements?

The framing should appeal to broad base of the community of interest. This can be done by developing narratives that connect multiple concerns and interests among the communities affected by the developments.

2. Oil palm production and socio-environmental impacts on indigenous lands in the Brazilian Amazon

#### **To paper 2: Have the results of your assessments been shared with the government?**

There is available knowledge about the effects of oil palm plantation but very little interest from the national or regional government to act upon it.

3. Sustainable renewable energy: towards the energy autonomy of rural communities in developing countries

#### **To paper 3: How did you manage the expectations created around the assessments?**

Even though idea in the future is to implement renewable energy projects at the communities where they worked, the assessments were conducted having in mind to not create expectations. There was the commitment to return the collected data to the communities.

They highlighted the need for funding to implement ideas at larger scales.

#### **How is the capacity of the community to deal with new technologies?**

There has been education to be able to deal with new technologies associated with the energy systems. Local people have also shadowed engineers to learn about the technical dimensions of the new systems. People have also maintained links with the companies behind the new energy systems.

#### **Has there been a discussion about alternatives to dams?**

Amongst the movements there has been no discussion about energy alternatives to offset the banning of dam construction. The association with big NGOs has been towards countering the arguments from the dam builders.

4. Collective property leads to household investments: Lessons from land titling in afro-colombian communities

### **To paper 4: How do you define who belongs to specific groups?**

Communities organised themselves at different levels. Some did at the watershed level while others were more localised. It was a very heterogeneous negotiation involving multiple actors.

#### **Session 2**

1. Rural Sustainability through Production-Conservation corridors with Colombian dry-forest Campesino communities
2. The creativity of everyday life in crafting resilient food systems: A framework and case from the Atlantic Forest Coast of Brazil
3. Changes in Traditional Ecological Knowledge teach us adaptive strategies to manage sustainably the tropical rainforest: lessons learnt from the Colombian Amazon
4. Revising the Ontological Status of Traditional Modes of Living: the concepts and their practical consequences in Sustainability issues in China, Kenya, Colombia and Sweden

**Due to the similarity of the papers most of the questions were general and open to all the authors (I was also participating in this session and it was hard to keep track of what people were saying).**

#### **How do you intervene to maintain cooperation and reciprocity?**

Ines Cavalier: Creating spaces for doing so, such as spaces for trading labour and goods in the absence of money. Reciprocity has been encouraged by creating simple rules such as “always share with someone else”.

#### **What has been the role of the state in strengthening small-scale food systems?**

There is profound lack of knowledge that always ends up in inappropriate interventions. The state should learn to listen and to collaborate more with the communities to understand better the contexts of food production and develop appropriate programs.

#### **How do you explain the relations between chains (crepes and waffles) and the small-scale producers?**

These corporations have filled a void left by the state and have created new forms of governance and production that have enable small-scale producers to participate in the markets, but at the same time the corporations have learned about ecological dimensions of production and have had to learn to deal with variation and stability of production.

## **1C-2 1c Role of academia (advocacy and education in sustainable development science)**

Different types of research were presented to apply Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) many at Higher Education level. Experiences vary from including sustainability practices in hard sciences courses (like algebra), to courses of Circular Economy in formal programmeps. Several other experiences were also presented with successful examples of academia going outside the University halls, so students and teachers can learn, educate and/or collaborate with the outside stakeholders from local government, private sector to local community (learning with the lay knowledge). This outside initiatives can also contribute to increase student's curiosity that seems to be decreasing in the recent and technological societies. Other studies were also presented related to explore sustainability knowledge acquisition at individual, institution and country level or related with working with older people to improve their sustainability literacy. Older people are a link with the young (grandparents are having an even more important responsibility as educators of grandchildren...), so these initiatives can have an important role within ESD. One final study evaluated in a European country case study that ESD implementation in Universities is a response to society demand and not so much as government demand. On the discussion it was highlighted the importance of continuing the educational initiatives at any level of formal or informal education or type of practices (from curricula, campus operation, external community, among others), but main challenge is still to evaluate the real impact of these initiatives, and how we are really reaching changing behaviors and transition to more sustainable societies. Innovations, stakeholder engagement, collaboration/partnership, participatory action research, integration, are possible keywords for the next research agenda.

## 2A-1 2a Biodiversity, ecosystem and ecosystem service challenges

### Selected key results

- Ecosystem services (ESS) are a bridge concept linking natural, social and cultural sciences with decision makers from different walks of life.
- ESS are a social construct, with definitions based on subjective choices, combined with qualitative or quantitative measurement. As a result, measuring “nature’s contributions to people” can never be an “objective measurement”.
- For democratic decision making, it is important to know what people value, but this is not best expressed in terms of prices. Ordinal scales often offer the best way to structure and communicate the information.
- Definitions hold power, and deciders on definitions wield power over social processes and impacts. Consequently, decision making power over definitions must be legitimate, not only competent.
- Legitimacy is not with science agents, but with democratically chosen representatives. These should make scientifically informed decisions – **science based decisions are not democratically legitimised.**
- Critical self-reflection is necessary for better science, able to defend itself against external criticism in the post-truth age of alternative facts.

### Research needs

- Which facts determine what is being valued by whom, and how can this differentiation be integrated in scientific analysis and political decision making.
- Which is the role of agents and power structures, and societal institutions more general, in valuation processes? How is power integrated with responsibility and liability?
- Science needs to provide research on prospective impact assessments, analysing both ESS and disservices, by the groups affected (incl. future generations), and communicate it to decision makers at all levels and from all walks of life.

## 2B-1 2b Food sovereignty and sustainable agriculture

Food is part of culture, and of agriculture.

Producing food requires seed, knowledge, water and soil.

Only if consumers know about it and demand it, is there a market for organic products.

Inclusive sustainability means people decide at local level what food is produced, how it is produced, how it is prepared and how we come together to eat.

A food systems approach could make an important contribution to development and health.

Farmers are complex people (fathers, mothers, teachers) and their decisions may not always appear rational – we need to respect the complexity and the local priorities!

### Food sovereignty

Innovation with organic farmers helps farmers to understand how they can transform their reality; starts with creating a common language and understanding. History of diverse farming systems, rather than current practice where they all plant the same thing at the same time. Women want to provide healthy food for their families, therefore prefer organic; helping them to sell into the market is complex, but local markets are developing.

Already 15-20% of world food is produced by 800 million people in cities; how organic is it?

Can urban farmers, who are productive, be helped to become more profitable and improve quality. In Maputo, 6,000 urban farmers are involved, in Cape Town about a thousand.

Effectiveness of local participatory guarantee systems (PGS) is being evaluated.

Developing guidelines for urban organic farmers, to be verified by PGS.

### Food security (Indonesia):

#### Session One (Thursday)

In Indonesia, 398 out of 410 districts are food insecure; by mapping vulnerable districts where resources were not optimally used, and targeting these villages (Kupang district), interventions shifted villages from Category 3 (vulnerable) to Category 5 (less vulnerable).

#### Session Two (Friday)

Integrated livestock paper looked at Catfish, goats, poultry, mushrooms and rice integration in two villages in Indonesia. Government support stressed integrated support.

### Sustainable Agriculture

#### Session One (Thursday)

Welsh dairy farming: how sustainable is it? Lifecycle analysis, and dynamic analysis.

Wales has seen dramatic consolidation of dairy farms, with farms increasing in size rapidly after 2003; needs to look at animal welfare and cow life expectancy on these large farms.

Obstacles and opportunities for Russian organic farming: lots of farmland with low fertiliser use, potential to convert to organics, but some of the available land is difficult to farm. Low Russian grain productivity (2.4 t/ha grain) means that there is high potential for conversion. There is also growing interest in the market (domestic and export), but little training support.

Incredible Edible project near Manchester started planting food on open spaces (without permission)! Public support and participation has seen rapid expansion to thousands of sites in Britain and many more around the world; returns of over £5 per £1 invested have been realised, and the strategy gets food to many who need it, and builds community solidarity.

## Session Two (Friday)

Sustainable vegetable production in the Phillipines – introduced by colonists, now hallmark of area, with markets in the capital. A national organic programme has seen about 6% set as target by Phillipines Government for conversion to organics, with some support provided. Adoption is still low; social relations are critical, need for links between financiers, producers & consumers. Certification is expensive, knowledge is lacking and little training support. Chemical suppliers (poisons and fertilisers) are aggressive with marketing and training. Support will be required, possibly with local participatory guarantee systems (PGS) to assist farmers in accessing high end markets.

Colombian explorations of techniques for producing food efficiently, while reducing GHG emissions. Aerobic soil conditions are a profound driver of healthy food growth – less irrigation of rice means less CO<sub>2</sub> emissions and greater water use efficiency (35% less water used), but NO emissions may increase. No incentive to save water as farmers pay per hectare, not per quantity of water used.

With livestock, more efficient production means less methane emitted, less GHG. Cassava has high tannin levels, and this inhibits methane emission, reduces need for purchased concentrate feed. CIAT and farmers co-designing experiments to decide how to allocate the resources allocated to their village. Women seem to be more interested in reducing GHGs.



**Group photograph of paper presenters at the session.**



## **2C+3A-1 2c3a Resource exhaustion and Climate change, predicting impacts**

### *Summary of discussion and future research topics*

Exhaustion is broader than merely material resource depletion: e.g. the function of ecosystems as carbon sink is getting exhausted.

We use the word “sustainability” too loosely for small, incremental, improvements. That is not a good use of the “icon” of sustainability because it is not addressing hard limits and often not considering the medium and long term.

In many countries, we are not in fact decoupling resource use and economic growth, because we are substituting local production with imports. We need to consider “phantom” resource consumption (from imported goods) in our “decoupling” exercises.

We still have a lot of scope to use more efficiently many of our resources. One example is biomass related to the food cycle, e.g. by recycling waste biomass.

Ultimately all natural resource consumption is the result of demand by consumers. Industry and business have of course their own agendas, and they actively promote consumption, but in fact ALL goods production, with its value chain, is predicated on demand by consumers. Even with technological advances, there will be no effective decoupling if people are not willing to want less, particularly in the richer countries. There has been insufficient research into this issue. Using the words of Pope Francis (Encyclic “Laudato Sí - on care for our common home), our biggest enemies are greed, wastefulness and selfishness.

### **3B+3C-1 3b3c Climate change mitigation and adaptation**

Concerning climate change vulnerabilities and the need to promote adaptation, the risks and consequences of flooding in different areas of the world such as Sweden or Colombia were presented throughout case-studies. The need to assure preventive investments that will lower the costs and damages is crucial and should be performed in the context of a process with the intervention of the different stakeholders from the beginning and with a broader view of the problem. The situation of the erosion of the Arctic coast was also discussed, with impressive results of what is taking place, with a proposed Polar Coastal Risk Index being presented to help as monitor current and future impacts.

In relation to climate change mitigation, a broader view with examples of future pathways towards an extended use of renewable electricity from Japan, Portugal, Iceland, and Colombia were presented as part as a carbon neutral requirement under the Paris Agreement. Several problems, such as the integration of renewable electricity under energy crisis, the scarcity of mineral elements, and the future of storage technology were considered as very relevant. However, other factors such as nature conservation impacts, and particularly the population involvement and current political and business decisions will determine the feasibility of scenarios that should be discussed broadly. All industrial sectors should prioritize the reduction of emissions through a life-cycle analysis as showed in the case of Colombia transformation of clay for use in buildings. Small-scale projects, including at the household scale, can contribute to climate mitigation in a more sustainable way.

The evaluation of the sustainability of energy projects and companies was discussed. An analysis of wind power projects supported by clean development mechanism and an evaluation of the power companies' sustainability, both in Brasil, showed that co-benefits of wind farms are limited and relevant to further analysis, and that power companies should pay greater attention to reducing greenhouse gases under a climate change mitigation strategy.

## **4B+4C-1 4b4c Sustainable communities, landscapes, cities, regions and transportation**

There were four presenters in this session, who presented four quite different studies.

### **1) Envisioning vs realizing products for people in poor communities: The case of Victor Papanek and Nordic designers**

The basic problem addressed is that poor people lack access to good and affordable products. The presenter explored the ideas of Victor Papanek, an Austrian-American designer concerned about Western affluence vs. Third World Poverty.

- His ideas were to produce locally, with local materials, and even decorated by locals.
- His ideas were popular in Nordic countries. The presenter's hypothesis was that that was because Nordic countries were not industrialized and traditional crafts were popular and important culturally.
- She showed examples from Uganda and Guatemala (performed by Design without borders).

Important issues to consider for designers that come to communities:

- Competence on local conditions
- Skills in cross-cultural communication
- Stakeholder involvement

### **2) Informal settlements and community vulnerability: a multiscale strategy to improve local resilience through waste upcycling**

The basic challenge is to address informality and vulnerability: earthquakes, landslides, and flooding. These have a huge impact on housing because up to 70% of the construction sector is informal.

This is addressed by looking at End-Of-Life (EOL) tires (3 000 000 in Ecuador, most of them unmanaged).

- Civil engineering applications for this material.
  - o Difficult to work with the informal sector.
  - o Only one solution that made economic sense: Using tires in foundations and retaining walls.

FINDINGS:

- Dialogue between the policy-makers and the informal sector was found to be **CRUCIAL**.
- Necessary to get actors together to discuss the applicability of the model.
- Two case studies in Ecuador: mountain and coastal villages led to conclude important success conditions:
  - o Economic sense
  - o Reproducibility
  - o Social acceptance
  - o Empowerment
  - o Institutional support
  - o Stakeholder engagement

### **3) Analysis of externalities from transportation in Bogotá**

- Environmental pollution is the problem with the highest impact on health

- Transport is the main source of air pollutants
- Important source of GHG emissions
- Costs of congestion have a significant impact on productivity (GDP)

The authors suggest a static model to explore:

- Effect on welfare
- Optimal levels of
  - o Pricing instruments
  - o Efficiency, frequency, size of the fleet
  - o Local and global pollutants
  - o Mix of instruments

#### **4) Evaluation of the improvement in thermal comfort with the incorporation of sustainable building materials in the ongoing self-construction processes for housing in the district of Bosa in Bogota**

The authors wanted to analyze the incidence of material variation in the thermal performance of self-built housing.

- Qualitative approach: interviews (main problem: houses are very cold)
- Quantitative approach: measuring humidity, temperature and air flow

The authors looked for “sustainable materials” and the possibility of using them in self-built houses (e.g. tetrabrick, wood, wool).

The papers and the way they were presented were of exceptionally good quality. They dealt with various approaches to problems of solving sustainability problems. However, the laptop in the room did not work, and had to be changed to another, which also had a breakdown. In this way we lost ca. 35 minutes. Therefore the presenter had very limited time, and there was almost no time for questions and discussions.

We had four presentations that addressed very different topics, from the analysis of the legacy and high topical contribution of prominent designer Vitor Papanek to reuse of tires in the building techniques sector, to assistance in self-help constructions process in slum areas, to an examination of urban mobility and the externalities created by bus rapid systems in Bogotá. Despite their particularities, they converged in the need to bring academia to the practical arena and find out solutions to overcome sustainability issues and the loss of a culture associated with either the low or high tech optimal use of traditions, waste, reusable materials and local reductions measures.

Presentations: Only three of the five presenters turned up. The three who did had very interesting papers dealing with diverse topics, but with the common denominator that they were top-down approaches. We had an interesting discussion by the end of the session, thanks to engaged and informed presenters and audience.

## **5A+5B-1 5a5b Corporate sustainability strategies and corporate social responsibility and investment (CSRI)**

How do country cultures influence the success of corporate sustainability?

Co-creation between different specific stakeholders: investors, academia, social enterprises, supply chain partners, academia, government, etc. External dynamics around sustainability (e.g. the circular economy) generate internal organisational management challenges and the need for new forms of collaboration.

Session one - 11.30 - 13.00:

In this session we explored empirical research of different initiatives to improve the outcomes of companies in their quest for more successful Corporate Sustainability Strategies.

Firstly, we discussed the interdependency between organisational identity and innovation. The analysis of corporate sustainability reports of Veolia presents the first results on this relationship. Secondly, we discovered that the impact of empathy of social entrepreneurs while applying design thinking on idea transformation. The outcomes of 2 longitudinal case studies show that empathy does increase the contribution of ideas to improve sustainable entrepreneurship. Thirdly, we got a presentation on the case of purchase data of milk and eggs in UK supermarkets, aiming to improve the understanding of the transformation of eco-products from niche markets to mainstream, Big data analysis of a UK supermarket showed that some we should break the lock in of some eco products. Future research should focus on understanding the contribution of breaking this lock-in. Fourthly, the preliminary results of the integration of sustainability in management practices in German water companies showed a discrepancy of the knowledge of employees on sustainable water management. More detailed qualitative research methods will be applied to improve the understanding of this discrepancy.

From the final discussion the following question was abstracted:  
—> How do country cultures influence the success of corporate sustainability?

Session two - 14.00 - 15.30:

In this session we discussed more theoretical explorations aimed at improving the understanding corporate sustainability strategies.

Firstly, we discussed the identification of change agents contributing to the successful integration of corporate sustainability in the organisational system. The outcomes show that a better understanding of world views of change agents in relation to their contribution to the integration of sustainability in the organisational system could contribute to improve the use of human resources. Secondly, we got a presentation on the influence of voluntary environmental programmes on organisational learning in emerging markets. Analysing cases in Colombia confirms this influence. Thirdly, understanding collaboration versus competition and the influence on sustainable innovation in smart grids emphasises co-competition as an alternative perspective to improve the understanding of sustainable innovation. Fourthly, we discussed the exploration of sharing economy principles. Data of a Hungarian case of car sharing supports the development of future research methods aiming for an improved understanding of the sharing economy as a basis for the development of more sustainable business models.

## **5E-1 5e Circular economy, industrial ecology (resource management and sustainable regional economic development)**

### Circular Economy (CE)

Circularity cannot be a dogma, which might not be the best strategy for achieving resource efficiency or sustainable development. CE needs to be considered within the broader perspective of Sustainable Development.

A common framework for Circular Economy is not available yet, since various current frameworks propose different visions of sustainability. CE needs a flexible framework and a specific implementation strategy in Developed and Developing Countries due to different socioeconomic and political conditions.

Further investigations in the following areas were suggested:

- Social aspects related to CE
- Business models of CE
- The role of participatory approach as an essential part of implementing CE
- The socio-political implications and possibilities of shifting current production-consumption-use-waste practices
- The role of economic cycles in the adoption of a CE framework in national economies and industries

Following practices were highlighted:

- Adopting CE models for the construction sector is a priority in particular in Developing Countries, where the population growth in urban areas is higher.
- When designing and implementing the CE framework in Developing Countries, the role and contribution of informal economy needs to be taken into account.
- Normative flexibility is a critical factor to foster CE. In Developing Countries, law enforcement is an additional critical condition.
- Implementing Circular Economy in SME's is an essential action to achieve a sustainable development of industrial systems

### Industrial Symbiosis (IS)

Although some IS scholars have a contrary view, geographical proximity is not a strict condition to set up industrial symbiosis but the geographical context influences the exchange network.

It is necessary to investigate the role and contribution of private brokers and governmental facilitator to foster Industrial Symbiosis.

Further research is needed to integrate urban symbiosis with industrial symbiosis.

## **6B-1 6b Quality of life**

The track introduced the idea of defining sustainability as quality of life of present and future generation with different methodological and theoretical approaches. Sustainability as an ethical framework that puts human wellbeing as the main question was theoretically discussed. An interesting study discussed how to research eco-systemic cultural services to traditional cultural heritage and practices in different regions in Colombia and how this contributes to enhance the wellbeing of individuals and communities. In a similar approach a case study in the Pacific region of Colombia discussed how afro-Colombians communities understand the concept of sustainable development. Quality of life as sustainability was also discussed in the analysis of urban agricultural projects for the livelihood and improved quality of life of displaced people in Bogotá. Dilemmas in public policy between health and environment was also discussed. The session highlighted the importance to consider quality of life as a pillar for the definition of sustainability

## **6C+6D-1 6c6d Social Sustainability, impacts threats and opportunities, Lifestyles and consumer behaviour**

The ideas that connect the presentations of these tracks from studies using diverse methodologies (ranging from design thinking, system thinking, business models to social impact assessment) applied to different countries (Brazil, India, Colombia, Syria, Hungary, Costa Rica) and different research areas (e.g. waste management, food waste, health services, agriculture, clean technologies, tourism, immigration communities) have to do with the following:

- the need to consider both environmental and social dimensions, since optimal environmental options (e.g., renewable energy) can entail social conflicts (e.g., problems arising from sizable migrations);
- the importance of reconciling the individualized poverty alleviation solutions with collective approaches;
- the limited role of social enterprises in providing bridging, bonding and linking social capital to underprivileged citizens; and,
- the use of concepts such as enforceable trust and bounded solidarity to understand the realities of isolated populations.

The need to go beyond green washing to look for different business models and to search for structural flaws

Focus both on the mitigation and adaptation challenges of environmental and social sustainability



## **6E-1 6e African perspective on the old and new world challenges for sustainable development**

A total of seven papers were presented during the session on African perspective on the old and new world challenges for sustainable development. The papers presented difference cases in from six countries (Nigeria, Ghana, Tanzania, Malawi, South Africa, and Ethiopia) in Africa. Two of the papers were presented virtually (video and Skype) from Ethiopian participants. This is a unique method which should be encouraged in future conferences as it promotes inclusive participation. Generally, the papers were practical and prescriptive in outlook with directions for policy implementation and research uptake. The fundamental rigour of research and simplicity of presentation make the session very engaging.

The session suggests the need for further research on policy alignment of development outcomes with the sustainable development goals in the African continent. The session also identified education, citizenship empowerment and capacity development as necessary steps for unleashing sustainable development in the continent. The session identified sustainable agricultural systems as the catalysts for transformation to inclusive sustainable development in Africa.

## **7A+7B+7F-1 7a7b7f Local and regional governance (institutions), Global governance (after Rio+20), Collaborative Governance for sustainable development**

The main topics that emerged out of the discussions in the three panels associated with these tracks were:

- Explore in greater depth the linkages and tradeoffs between the different dimensions of Sustainable Development (SD), in particular the connections between the environmental and social dimensions of SD
- To further unpack and understand intersections and interactions between: governance, social resilience and environmental sustainability
- Mapping more bottom up initiatives to address environmental issues
- How governance mediates social disruption?
- To better understand large scale participatory processes from the point of view of the people engaged in these processes
- To include different, varied voices in our research about governance processes and to explain these processes using the perceptions of the different publics
- To advance studies using a multicultural perspectives
- To increase principles of procedural justice in our research, and to look at the objects of study to consider more seriously the voices of marginalized populations
- To move the emphasis of governance studies from outputs and outcomes to unpack the processes involved in different models of governance
- To add a track to the conference to further discuss issues of education and communication in different governance schemes
- To study the dynamics, problems and solutions that emerge from the different timeframes between SD policies (long term) and SD political processes (short term, electoral cycles)
- To improve our understanding of the interphases between the different levels at which governance is enacted: local, regional, national and global scales
- Finally, to include more cases studying failure in our samples to further explore those instances and to better understand the role of failures in governance processes.

## **7C+7E-1 7c7e Advocacy & public participation and Legal aspects of sustainable development**

Research on importance of giving stakeholders the right to the “right” information on the background of fake information and the kind of “right” information including in particular on the definition of alternatives

Research on potential and effective longterm effects on upcoming and existing projects which tend to be overlooked or underestimated by decision makers

Comparative research across and within continents on Public Participation in terms of access to information, administrative procedures and justice in Strategic Environmental Assessments on the plan and program level

Comparative research across and within continents on the effectiveness of Public Participation in terms of access to information, administrative procedures and justice