



July 2010 Newsletter

Dear SCORAI,

Greetings from SCORAI!

We hope your summer months are off to a fantastic and sustainable start. On the top right of the eNewsletter, you will find a menu, "In This Issue", that serves as a Table of Contents to help you navigate through the eNewsletter.

In keeping with the time of year, this is a somewhat more abbreviated issue of the SCORAI eNewsletter. Just a reminder...if you have newsworthy items that you would like to appear in the August issue, please send them to me no later than July 25 (LStanik@rutgers.edu). Please note that the deadline to submit items for future eNewsletters will be the 25th of each month.

Warmly,
Laura Stanik
SCORAI Communications Coordinator

SCORAI Tops 125 Participants

I am delighted to report that SCORAI has reached an important milestone. Participation in our knowledge network has reached 125 people. While we should, of course, remain skeptical of heedless growth, this development is indicative of the formation of a definable community of practice around issues at the confluence of material consumption, human fulfillment, lifestyle satisfaction, and technological change. I would also like to point out that extension of the network has taken place exclusively on the basis of social networking rather than through any outward communication or active recruitment. Consistent with this philosophy, I would like to encourage all SCORAI-ers to use the "forwarding" feature on the bottom of this newsletter to pass along a copy of this eNewsletter to five colleagues who might be interested in becoming part of this initiative and allow them to select themselves into the network.

Allow me to also take this opportunity to express my own appreciation for the support that SCORAI has received from the Boston-based Tellus Institute which has been a champion of our activities from the very beginning.

Submitted by Maurie Cohen

Rio+20 Statement & EU Raw Materials "Diplomacy"

On May 8-10, 2010, the UN Division for Sustainable Development hosted a workshop with sustainability experts from different disciplines entitled "[The Challenge of Sustainability: Towards Rio+20](#)." The aim of this event was to address the long-term imperatives and directions for change in order to achieve sustainability. A Joint Statement was produced by the participants and is now available online [at](#)

http://www.un.org/esa/dsd/dsd_aofw_sdkp/sdkp_pdf/sdkp_workshop_0510/joint_statement.pdf.

I am sure this rich statement that touches on everything from the limits to economic growth to the "civilizational response" needed for a new economy will be of interest to SCORAI members.

As an interesting point of comparison, you may also be interested in the fact that the European Union is becoming increasingly worried about how it will access natural resources over the coming decades. Recently, the EU has been looking at ways to enable its industry to "gain easier access to [resources] in the future." For details refer to

<http://www.euractiv.com/en/sustainability/eu-step-up-raw-materials-diplomacy-news-495397>

In This Issue

SCORAI Tops 125
Participants
Rio+20 statement & EU
raw materials
"diplomacy"
AHM...it's time to
interrupt everything
Hot Off the Presses
Workshops and
Conferences

Executive Board



Jeffrey Barber
Integrative Strategies Forum

Halina Brown
Clark University

Maurie Cohen
New Jersey Institute of
Technology

Michael Maniates
Allegheny College

John Stutz
Tellus Institute

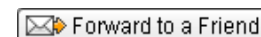
Philip Vergragt
Tellus Institute and Clark
University

Richard Wilk
Indiana University

Quick Links

SCORAI.org
Subscribe to Listserv

Subscribe to eNewsletters



Dependency on imports for resources is also acknowledged in the EU's 2008 "[Sustainable Consumption and Production and Sustainable Industrial Policy Action Plan](#)," but the "solutions" brought forward in this document are largely focused on leaner production, improvements in resource efficiency, and deployment of a "dynamic policy framework for smarter consumption and better products." The plan has little to say that is remotely close to anything that actually addresses the real scale and drivers of the problem (i.e., such as those highlighted in that UN Workshop Joint Statement).

As Bill Rees mentioned in his June 14 message to the SCORAI listserv, "Until the discussion accepts biophysical reality and explicitly addresses such uncomfortable solutions as [a steady-state economy within global carrying capacity accompanied by a global tax regime designed for income equalization/redistribution], there can be no global pattern of sustainable production and consumption."

Submitted by Emmanuel Prinnet
[One Earth Initiative](#)
emmanuel@oneearthweb.org

AHEM...it's time to interrupt everything

Laura Stanik, SCORAI member and Communications Coordinator, recently founded the Anti Human Extinction Movement (AHEM), a coalition of global citizens committed to combating the eminent threat of human extinction. Movement participants agree to the following key premises:

- We are all humans, and we only have one planet where we all live
- We need clean air, clean water, healthy food, and nonviolence to survive
- We need to tackle health and poverty issues that threaten our survival
- We depend on the diversity, health, and survival of other species to exist
- We do not want to go extinct so we need to start advocating for our survival

Positioning humans, not as the conservationists but as the "endangered", the movement aims to highlight the interrelated nature of human survival. AHEM believes that recognizing the interdependence of the cross-cutting issues humans face, rather than seeing them as competing aims, will enable humans to ensure our continued existence on planet Earth.

Since its launch a few weeks ago, more than 120 people have joined the movement via facebook and the AHEM website. If you agree that it is time to declare our interdependence, you can help the movement grow by liking [AHEM on facebook](#), reading the [AHEM blog](#), and visiting the [AHEM website](#) where you can sign up for updates.

Submitted by Laura Stanik
<http://interrupteverything.org>

Hot Off the Presses: New Publications by SCORAI Members and Friends

Journal Articles

Dauvergne, P. 2010. The Problem of Consumption. *Global Environmental Politics* 10(2):1-10.

Thørgersen, J. 2010. Country differences in sustainable consumption: the case of organic food. *Journal of Macromarketing* 30(2):171-185.

Soron, D. 2010. Sustainability, self-identity and the sociology of consumption. *Sustainable Development* 18(3):172-181.

Berg, A. 2010. Not roadmaps but toolboxes: analysing pioneering national programmes for sustainable consumption and production. *Journal of Consumer Policy*, in press.

Papathanasopoulou, E. 2010. Household consumption, associated fossil fuel demand and carbon dioxide emissions: the case of Greece between 1990 and 2006. *Energy Policy*, in press.

Yu, Y., K. Hubaek, K. Feng, and D. Guan. Assessing regional and global water footprints for the UK. *Ecological Economics* 69(5):1140-1147.

Liu, J., R. Wang, J. Yang, and Y. Shi. 2010. The relationship between consumption and production systems and its implications for sustainable development of China. *Ecological Complexity*, in press.

Davies, P., F. Fahy, H. Rau, and J. Paper. 2010. Sustainable consumption and governance: reflecting on a research agenda for Ireland. *Irish Geography* 43(1):59-79.

Reports

Tellus Institute. 2010. *Global Scenarios for the Century Ahead: Searching for Sustainability*. Boston: Tellus Institute and Global Scenario Group (available at http://www.tellus.org/publications/files/Global_Scenarios_for_the_Century_Ahead.pdf).

New Journal Launched

Solutions: For a Sustainable and Desirable Future (<http://www.thesolutionsjournal.com>)

The current issue includes feature articles by Jeffrey Hollender et al, "Creating a Game Plan for the Transition to a Sustainable U.S. Economy, " and a piece by Gus Speth, "Towards a New economy and a New Politics."

Upcoming Workshops and Conferences

Gordon Research Conference
Industrial Ecology: From Analysis to Design
Colby-Sawyer College
New London, NH
July 11-16, 2010
<http://grc.org/programs.aspx/?year=2010&program=industeco>
*plus the Gordon-Kenan Research Seminar, for post-docs and graduate students, July 10-11, 2010

Consumer Culture: Between Aesthetics, Social Distinction and Ecological Activism
Art Centre of Palacký University
Olomouc, Czech Republic
October 7-9, 2010
<http://oltk.upol.cz/consumerculture>

International Symposium on Sustainability Science: The Emerging Paradigm and the Urban Environment
Montclair State University
October 25-27, 2010
<http://csam.montclair.edu/sustainabilitystudies/conferences>

MILEN International Conference 2010
Visions and Strategies to Address Sustainable Energy and Climate Change
University of Oslo
November 25-26, 2010
<http://www.milen.uio.no>

[Forward email](#)



This email was sent to mcohen@adm.njit.edu by mcohen@adm.njit.edu | [Update Profile/Email Address](#) | Instant removal with [SafeUnsubscribe™](#) | [Privacy Policy](#).



Sustainable Consumption Research and Action Initiative (SCORAI) | c/o Tellus Institute | 11 Arlington Street | Boston | NJ | 02116