



January 2012 Newsletter

Dear SCORAI,

Happy New Year!

This month's newsletter is the first of 2012 and Emily's last as editor (at least for a while) as she will be occupied with a new baby.

The new year is replete with multimedia: a new iPhone app for ascertaining just how much carbon is emitted as we hop to conferences the world over and two new films related to sustainable consumption.

Of course, no newsletter would be complete without the usual suspects: job opportunities, published material relating to sustainable consumption, and conferences.

We hope this newsletter finds you well, rested, and ready for a new year.

Emily & Maurie

PS: Many SCORAI-ers have had a chance to communicate with Emily directly over the last few months while she has been heading up our efforts to get the newsletter out each month on a timely basis. She actually went into labor while still finalizing this issue! Talk about dedication! Thanks, Emily, for all your great work and all our best wishes. We look forward to pictures in coming weeks! In the mean time, if any SCORAI-ers would like to help out with the newsletter during Emily's absence do get in touch with me at mcohen@adm.njit.edu--Maurie

New UN iPhone App

A new UN iPhone application (called: UNEP carbon calculator) highlights the role of ecosystems in tackling climate change. Users of the application can calculate their personal carbon footprint for journeys taken by air, train, or road. They will then be shown the equivalent area of a particular ecosystem (such as a tropical forest) that can store this amount of carbon dioxide. The app is free and can be downloaded from the Apple store. A more direct downloading location than the Apple Store is accessible [here](#).

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Executive Board



Jeffrey Barber
Integrative Strategies Forum

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Clark University

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New Jersey Institute of
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John Stutz
Tellus Institute

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Tellus Institute and Clark
University

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Sustainable Consumption in the Movies

The Center for a New American Dream has released a new video entitled [The High Price of Materialism](#). In this short animation, psychologist Tim Kasser discusses how America's culture of consumerism undermines our well-being. When people buy into the ever-present marketing messages that "the good life" is "the goods life," they not only use up Earth's limited resources, but they are less happy and less inclined toward helping others. The video both lays out the problems of excess materialism and points toward solutions that promise a healthier, more just, and more sustainable life.

GrowthBusters released a documentary called [Hooked on Growth](#) that is described on their website as "One man takes on city hall, Wall Street, and the Pope as he questions society's most fundamental beliefs about prosperity."

Job Opportunities

Eindhoven University of Technology has a vacancy for Lecturer (Docent) in System Innovation and Sustainability Transitions. More information is available [here](#).

Arizona State University is hiring faculty either at the tenure-track assistant professor level or tenured associate professor level. The appointment is in an innovative interdisciplinary academic program in sustainability (see <http://schoolofsustainability.asu.edu>). To review and apply to this position, please visit <http://www.academicjobsonline.org> and search for the Global Institute of Sustainability. The initial application deadline is **January 8, 2011**. Applications will continue to be accepted and reviewed weekly thereafter until the search is closed.

Fellowships in Sustainability

The **Sustainability Science Program** at Harvard University invites applications for resident fellowships in sustainability science for the academic year beginning in September 2012. The fellowship competition is open to advanced doctoral and post-doctoral students, and to mid-career professionals engaged in research or practice to facilitate the design, implementation, and evaluation of effective interventions that promote sustainable development. Due date is **January 15, 2012**, and successful applicants will be notified by March, 2012. See <http://www.hks.harvard.edu/centers/cid/programs/sustsci> for more information.

Each summer, the **International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis** (IIASA), located in Schloss Laxenburg near Vienna, Austria, hosts a selected group of graduate students, primarily doctoral, from around the world in its Young Scientists Summer Program (YSSP). These students work closely with an IIASA senior scientist mentor on a

project proposed by the student, related to his or her graduate research. For students selected to participate, funding is available for travel and living support, principally from IIASA's sixteen National Member Organizations (NMOs). The United States NMO funds both American citizens and non-citizens who are studying in the country. The deadline for applications is **January 16, 2012**. See the IIASA Website for information on the program and for application form and guidelines: <http://www.iiasa.ac.at>.

Industry Canada Partners with Business School to Establish Sustainability Council

Industry Canada (IC) has commissioned the Network for Business Sustainability (NBS) at the Ivey School of Business (University of Western Ontario) to establish an Industry Association Sustainability Leadership Council. IC and NBS are currently reaching out to industry associations across Canada to advise them of this unique undertaking and the first meeting of the Council in Toronto at the end of February.

The purpose of the Council is to bring together senior leaders of industry associations to identify sustainability challenges facing industry associations and their members, to share best practices, knowledge and education, and identify gaps for further research and knowledge dissemination. The Council will be able to leverage NBS best practice knowledge (briefings and webinars), participate in custom projects and facilitated dialogues, and link up with leading academics all with a view to moving closer to a shared agenda and vision for sustainability in Canada. For more information, please contact Georgina Wainwright Kemdirim at Industry Canada (georgina.wainwright-kemdirim@ic.gc.ca).

Special Issues Seeking Content

Academic editorial contributors are being sought to contribute to a new reference work about biomes and ecosystems to be published by Salem Press in 2013. With approximately 600 articles in four volumes, **Biomes and Ecosystems: An Encyclopedia** is a comprehensive review of key biological and geographic classifications tied to the high-school and college curriculum. New article assignments are currently in the works, with a final deadline of **January 13, 2012**. Each article ranges from 600 to 3500 words and is signed by the contributor. The General Editor for the encyclopedia is Dr. Robert Warren Howarth, Cornell University, who will review all the articles for editorial content and academic consistency.

If you would like to contribute to building a truly outstanding reference with **Biomes and Ecosystems: An Encyclopedia**, please contact Joseph Golson (Author Manager) at biomes@golsonmedia.com. Provide a brief summary of your background in biology, ecology, and environmental topics.

New Publications and Reports by SCORAI

Members and Friends

A special issue of *Natural Resources Forum* on the Green Economy and Sustainable Development has many articles of relevance to the SCORAI community. See the journal's [website](#) for contents.

Several reports from the Government of Canada that may be of interest:

1. SME Sustainability Roadmap (http://www.ic.gc.ca/eic/site/csr-rse.nsf/eng/h_rs00174.html).
2. The Government of Canada's national submission to the upcoming Rio+20 conference (<http://www.uncsd2012.org/rio20/index.php?page=view&type=510&nr=33&menu=115>
3. Canadian Commissioner for Environment and Sustainable Development comments on Canada's federal strategy for sustainable development. The report was tabled in the House of Commons on December 13 (http://www.oag-bvg.gc.ca/internet/English/parl_cesd_201112_e_36027.html)

Didham, Robert J., Ed. *The Role of Governments in Education for Sustainable Consumption: Strengthening Capacity for Effective Implementation in China, Japan, and Republic of Korea*. IGES Policy Report. Summary below:

The report presents three country case studies that look at the current institutional frameworks and governmental capacities for implementing effective ESC from China, Japan, and Republic of Korea. Despite diverse policy dialogues and many initiatives on SCP, there is still a lack of knowledge and experience on how we actually can educate nations and their citizens for sustainable consumption.

The main focus of the recommendations is on improving the wider policy and institutional frameworks for ESC implementation and to discuss how ESC can be better linked with wider policies for both sustainable production and consumption (SCP) and education for sustainable development (ESD). Download the report [here](#).

Upcoming Conferences & Workshops

Eighth International Conference on Environmental, Cultural, Economic, and Social Sustainability, January 10-12, 2012, University of British Columbia, Vancouver, Canada See: <http://www.SustainabilityConference.com>.

The RESPONDER Project. The project links sustainable consumption and growth debates and takes into account aspects of green growth, non-growth and degrowth. See <http://www.scp-responder.eu>.

Next events as part of RESPONDER:

26-27 January 2012 Multinational knowledge brokerage event on Sustainable Food Consumption (Lisbon)

15-17 February 2012 Multinational knowledge brokerage event on Sustainable Household Electronics (Vienna).

7-9 March 2012 Multinational knowledge brokerage event on Sustainable Household Savings and Debts (London).

21-23 March 2012 Multinational knowledge brokerage event on Sustainable Mobility (Bratislava).

28-30 March 2012 Multinational knowledge brokerage event on Sustainable Housing (Barcelona).

European Seminar on the "Geography of Innovation," January 26-28, 2012, Saint-Etienne, France. See:

<http://www.eurolio.eu>.

NEW: Beyond LEED. Regenerative Design: A Symposium. January 27-28. The University of Texas (Austin). For more information and registration see: www.beyondLEED.org.

"Challenging Consumerism: Toward Living Well Sustainably". The Sustainable Consumption Research and Action Initiative (SCORAI) is collaborating with the Liu Institute for Global Issues at the University of British Columbia (UBC) and the One Earth Initiative Society to convene the Third SCORAI Workshop on the UBC campus on 8-10 March 2012.

The Partnership for Education and Research About Responsible Living (PERL) will host "Beyond Consumption. Pathways to Responsible Living" 19-20 March, 2012 in Berlin. You will find the Call for Proposals on the PERL website at <http://www.perlprojects.org/Project-sites/PERL/News-Events/News/PERL-conference-Berlin-March-2012>.

NEW: Planet Under Pressure: New Knowledge Toward Solutions, 26-29 March, 2012, London, UK. See www.planetunderpressure2012.net for more details on this conference relating to solutions to the global sustainability challenge.

European Roundtable on Sustainable Consumption & Production (ERSCP), 2-4 May, 2012, Bregenz, Austria. See <http://www.erscp2012.eu> for more details.

NEW: International Conference on Degrowth in the Americas, May 13-19, 2012, Montreal, Canada. Deadline for proposals is **January 31, 2012**. More information is at: <http://www.montreal.degrowth.org/index.html>.

The International Society for Ecological Economics is holding its next biennial conference in Rio de Janeiro, 29 May-1 June, 2012 to dovetail with Rio+20 UNCSD. For details see <http://www.ecoeco.org/content/2011/06/2012-isee-conference-call-for-papers>.

The International Association for Society & Natural Resources (ISSRM) is holding its annual symposium June 17-21, 2012 in

Edmonton, Alberta, Canada. Abstracts for traditional science paper presentations are due by **January 15, 2012**. For details see <http://www.issrm2012.iasnr.org>

NEW: 18th Annual International Sustainable Development Research Conference, 24-26th June 2012, University of Hull, UK. Abstracts (up to 1,000 words) should be submitted to one of the conference tracks for review (see website for individual calls for papers relating to tracks within each of the major themes). Deadline for abstract submission is **15 January 2012**. Abstracts will be reviewed by track chairs and their decisions notified by 20 February 2012. For details see <http://www.hull.ac.uk/isdrc18>.

The World Congress on Global Well-Being will be held July 16-21, 2012 in Melbourne, Australia. See the conference website for more details: <http://www.ifhe2012.org/>.

NEW: XIII World Congress of Rural Sociology, July 29-August 4, 2012, Lisbon, Portugal. Session 43-Consuming the Rural: Food, Nature, and Space. Deadline for submissions (abstracts of 150 words) is **15 January 2012**. Apply at: <http://irsa2012.com/event/irsa-2012/proposals>.

The International Conference on Culture, Politics, and Climate Change will be held September 13-15, 2012 in Boulder, Colorado USA. Deadline for abstracts: **January 10**. For more details see <http://www.climateculturepolitics.org>.

3rd International Conference on Degrowth for Ecological Sustainability and Social Equity will be held September 19-23, 2012 in Venice, Italy. See the conference website for more details at <http://www.venezia2012.it>.

"Beyond the Culture of Nature: Rethinking Canadian and Environmental Studies" will be held September 29-30, 2012 at the University of British Columbia, Vancouver, Canada. Proposal deadline is Wednesday, **February 1, 2012**. Please send queries and proposals to Matthew Evenden, Chair of Canadian Studies, UBC: CNS-conference2012@geog.ubc.ca.

New SCORAI Affiliates

SCORAI welcomes the following new affiliates to the network during the month of November. Total membership is currently 307 people. And remember, the 350th SCORAI affiliate will receive a free copy of the new boardgame **Catan: Oil Springs** courtesy of developer Erik Assadourian!

Ensi Ghorbanzadeh
Christoph Gran
Amanda Gregor
Nicole Harper
Frida Samuelsson
Ann Thorpe
Luke Wreford

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