Excerpt from mission statement: The Sustainable Consumption Research and Action Initiative (SCORAI) is an international knowledge network of professionals working at the interface of material consumption, human well-being, and technological and cultural change.
Brief History and Background

- Launched in the United States in 2008 by five sustainable consumption researchers with an interest in developing a professional network of academics and policy makers working on sustainable consumption.

- Overall network has grown in size over the years and now encompasses more than 700 colleagues around the world.

- Independent partner networks with their own governing bodies now exist in North America and Europe and discussions are presently underway to establish similar organizations in Latin America, South Africa, the Middle East, and “Greater Asia.”

- The North American and European partner networks independently organize a regular series of workshops, conferences, training seminars, and other events (see website for details), as well as facilitate the publication of books, special journal issues, and reports.

- Communication among members of the SCORAI community takes place via a listserv (subscribe from the SCORAI website at http://www.scorai.org) and a monthly electronic newsletter that provides updates on program activities, conferences, job announcements, and so forth.
Examples of Current Events and Activities

- SCORAI-Europe held a workshop at the Royal Society of Arts in London in September on the theme of Sustainable Consumption, Social Practices, and Design (see website for the workshop report).

- SCORAI-Europe is organizing a workshop in Switzerland in December on the Role of Interdisciplinarity in Sustainable Consumption Research.

- SCORAI-NA convened a workshop earlier this month in collaboration with the North American Urban Sustainability Directors Network on the theme of Sustainable Consumption and Cities.

- SCORAI-NA is holding a year-long colloquium with monthly seminars featuring John Sterman (MIT), Klaus Offe (Hertie School of Governance), Juliet Schor (Boston College), Erik Olin Wright (University of Wisconsin), and George Ritzer (University of Maryland), and others. Videos of sessions are posted to the SCORAI website.
Initial meeting was held at the Conference of the Global Research Forum on Sustainable Consumption and Production in Shanghai in June 2014 to assess interest in establishing SCORAI-China.

Working with colleagues at Wageningen University, a decision was made to establish a Working Group on the Creation of SCORAI-China under the direction of Professor ZHANG Lei.

Professor ZHANG volunteered to coordinate a workshop, to arrange with the School of Environment and Natural Resources at Renmin University to be the secretariat of a potential SCORAI-China, and to enlist the support of the Environmental Sociology Committee of the Chinese Sociological Association.

Time has been reserved on the agenda later today for a discussion about formally establishing SCORAI-China and enlisting participation to develop it as a full partner within the international SCORAI network.
Why Become an Affiliate of SCORAI?

- Access to an international community of colleagues and participation in a global network of professional peers.

- Connect with project collaborators and funding programs.

- Receive notification on opportunities to participate in special journal issues, book projects, and other publishing opportunities.

- Stay up to date on “hot topics” and ongoing debates in the field of sustainable consumption research.