



EDITORIAL By Onno Roosenschoon (*Alterra*) and Klaus Jacob (*Freie Universität Berlin*). As the European Commission and the Member States prepare for policies to increase the efficiency of the natural resources use, some of the LIAISE partners are exploring potentials for modelling the impacts of such policies on the various aspects of sustainable development. The LIAISE concept of a Reference Model for Impact Assessment Tools (RM-IAT) is at the core of these activities. The RM-IAT is developed (a) to safeguard minimum quality standards for IA tools with respect to testing, modelling approaches, documentation, calibration sets, input data sets etc., and (b) to collect information on behalf of the possible users with respect to objectives and characteristics of IA tools, input and output data, sorts of studies that can be performed, required investments to apply the tool, etc. The second aim is to describe models from a more software engineering and technical viewpoint in the sense that this information will help in linking models to other models and available data. These models and data can be the work of modeller teams and researchers beyond the LIAISE Consortium. Finally, the RM-IAT can be of help to systematically identify gaps and missing aspects that are not covered by current models. A requirement analysis will define to which extent these missing aspects should be investigated and dealt with in order to be able to do further model improvement. Presently, the RM-IAT is being used not only for integrated environmental-economic models for the assessment of resource efficiency policies, but also to support the integration of different models for the assessment of the reformed EU common agricultural policies. If you want to learn more about this work, you are invited to contact the LIAISE teams that are involved in this research (info@liaise-noe.eu).

■ LIAISE News

● **LIAISE - A Network of Impact Assessment Excellence**

In the latest issue of 'International Innovation', Jan Erik Wien, co-ordinator of the LIAISE Network of Excellence, discusses how work developing a shared toolbox is helping to bridge the gap between Impact Assessment and sustainability expertise, providing a platform for improving resource efficiency and attaining sustainable development. 'International Innovation' is the leading global dissemination resource for the wider scientific, technology and research communities, dedicated to disseminating the latest science, research and technological innovations on a global level. More information can be found at the Research Media website.

● **CfP: Nature, Science and Politics, or: Policy Assessment to Promote Sustainable Development?**

Guest editors: Vivien Behrens (UFZ), John Turnpenny (UEA), Sabine Weiland (FUB). As part of the dissemination strategy of LIAISE Work Package 7, the editors invite proposals for papers to a Special Symposium of Nature & Culture, entitled "Nature, science and politics, or: policy assessment to promote sustainable development?". This Special Symposium's focus is how the utilization of scientific knowledge in policy making, and its impact on the policy process, can be better understood. Detailed information is available in the call for contributions. Abstracts (400-500 words) of contributions should be submitted by 30 November 2011 to the editors.

● **LIAISE Innovation Report No. 3, 'Science-policy Interface'**

This innovation report deals with the science-policy interface and the interactions going on at the interface. Drawing on writings from the rich body of literature of knowledge utilization studies in political science and in science and technology studies we look at the conditions of science-policy interaction, review concepts, such as boundary work, used to describe science-policy interaction, and go through publications that deal with concepts to understand and manage the science-policy interface. In the second part, the innovation report as usual contains a number of short reviews of recent publications from the field of impact assessment.

● **LIAISE Contacts with Chinese German Centre for Impact Assessment (CGCIA)**

From August to November 2011, Katharina Helming (ZALF, Müncheberg) is visiting professor at the Institute of Geographic Sciences and Natural Resources Research/ Chinese Academy of Sciences (IGSNRR/CAS). During her stay in Beijing she will further support the activities of the Chinese German Centre for Impact Assessment (CGCIA) which is jointly led by ZALF (Katharina Helming, Hannes König) and IGSNRR (Lin Zhen). She will also discuss opportunities for cooperation between IGSNRR and LIAISE, e.g. through a WP6 test case in China. IGSNRR is a large environmental research centre frequently consulting the government on environmental affairs.

● **Impact Assessment for Land Use and Climate Policies**

Katharina Helming (ZALF) has presented a paper on impact assessment for land use and climate policies at the IALE World Congress 2011 in Beijing, China. The theme of the world congress was landscape ecology for sustainable environment and culture. It included discussion on landscape resilience and adaptive capacity, application of landscape ecology in understanding cultural landscapes, biodiversity responses to climate change, landscape economics and adaptive management.

■ Publications from the LIAISE network

● **Ex Ante Impact Assessment of Policies Affecting Land Use, Part A: Analytical Framework**

A number of researchers involved in the LIAISE Network of Excellence have recently published two articles on the analytical framework and on application of the framework for ex ante assessment of policies affecting land use: 1) Helming, K., K. Diehl, H. Bach, et al. 2011. Ex Ante Impact Assessment of Policies Affecting Land Use, Part A: Analytical Framework. *Ecology and Society* 16 (1): 27. 2) Helming, K., K. Diehl, T. Kuhlman, et al. 2011. Ex Ante Impact Assessment of Policies Affecting Land Use, Part B: Application of the Analytical Framework. *Ecology and Society* 16 (1): 29.

● **Green Economy Discourses in the Run-Up to Rio 2012**

The study, conducted by Klaus Jacob and colleagues from the Environmental Policy Research Centre, FU Berlin, analyses central contributions to the debate on the concept of a Green Economy in the run-up to the 2012 United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development. It does so by identifying the pillars on which the various understandings of a green economy are based as well as analysing policy concepts published and statements made. It concludes that currently there are three distinguishable discourses on the green economy and that the political challenge for the Rio+20 conference will lie in building bridges between these different understanding to build a consensus. A central role for the EESC is seen in supporting the EU's role as a role model and helping to build the bridges and adapt the concept in other countries.

● **Does Research Applying the DPSIR Framework Support Decision Making?**

Katharina Helming of LIAISE partner ZALF and others have written an article on research applying the Driver-Pressure-State-Impact-Response (DPSIR) framework and its effects on decision making: Tscherning, K., Helming, K., Krippner B., Sieber, S., and S. Gomez y Paloma, S. (2012). Does research applying the DPSIR framework support decision making? *Land Use Policy* 29:102-110.

● **Landscape Scenarios and Multifunctionality – Making Land Use Impact Assessment Operational**

Katharina Helming (ZALF) and Marta Perez-Soba of (ALTERRA) have recently edited a special feature on some of the challenges of making land use impact assessment operational for policy making. Helming, K. and M. Perez-Soba (2011). Landscape scenarios and multifunctionality – making land use impact assessment operational. *Ecology & Society* 16(1): 50.

● **Policy Transfer Research**

Andrew Jordan and David Benson publish a journal article on policy transfer research. Benson, D. and A.J. Jordan (2011), What have we learned from policy transfer research? *Dolowitz and Marsh revisited. Political Studies Journal*, 9, 3, 366-378.

- **Sustainable Development Strategies**

A new publication on sustainable development strategies is now available (in German). The publication results from a project called "Meta analysis" in which the Environmental Policy Research Centre at FU Berlin was involved. It provides a national and international comparative overview on selected governmental and business strategies of sustainable development. Thereby, the underlying (meta-) conceptions of sustainable development which are the basis of the different sustainability strategies in politics and economics were identified, categorized, and analysed. Jutta Knopf, Rainer Quitzow, Esther Hoffmann, Maja Rotter (eds.) 2011: Nachhaltigkeitsstrategien in Politik und Wirtschaft: Treiber für Innovation und Kooperation?

- **Policy Instruments in Practice**

Andrew Jordan and David Benson publish a book chapter on Policy Instruments in Practice: Jordan, A.J., Benson, D., Wurzel, R. and A.R. Zito (2011) Policy Instruments in Practice. In: Dryzek, J.S., Norgaard, R.B. and D. Schlosberg (eds) Oxford Handbook of Climate Change and Society. Oxford University Press: Oxford, pp 536-49.

Events

- **PSI Training Workshop on Knowledge Brokering Instruments**

Knowledge brokering strategies and instruments offer opportunities to facilitate interaction between policy-makers and researchers so as to relate science, experience and insight to policy. A training workshop will take place on 12 October, 2011, in Budapest, Hungary. The workshop aims at introducing participants to knowledge brokering instruments such as group model building and scenario planning in the context of water management and climate change. The workshop is being delivered through the EU funded PSI-connect project which works to develop, test and disseminate knowledge brokering practices in the field of water management and climate change. The workshop will be followed by the Climate Water Final Symposium and both events are free of charge.

- **Final EXIOPOL Conference - Externality Data and IO Tools for Policy Analysis**

The Final EXIOPOL conference, to be held in Luxembourg on 12 October, 2011, will be devoted to present to the policy and academic spheres the main results of this Integrated Project. The event is organized by Fondazione Eni Enrico Mattei and funded by DG Research of the European Commission, under the 6th Framework Programme. EXIOPOL followed two approaches to support cost-effectiveness and cost-benefit analysis of technologies, policies, and standard setting, at the micro, macro and meso level. The main project's results will be casted on the project's website on October 12th 2011.

- **Global Science Conference on Climate-Smart Agriculture**

The Global Science Conference on 'Climate-Smart Agriculture' (GSCSA), to be held from 24-25 October, 2011, in Ede, The Netherlands, will bring together world experts on climate-smart agriculture to provide a synthesis of the current state of knowledge in order to deliver a set of findings based on multi-disciplinary science and best practices. The objectives of the GSCSA are 1. to take stock of the current state of global knowledge of the science and best practices concerning climate smart agriculture; 2. to identify key priorities for further knowledge development; 3. to summarize key findings for discussion at Durban and the follow up global conference on Food Security and Climate Change in Vietnam in early 2012.

- **BRIDGE Sustainable Urban Planning Conference**

A lot of research has been done on urban environment and urban climate, resulting in an impressive number of available models and data, including many case studies in European cities. However, the link between the science and the urban planning community is mostly missing. In the BRIDGE project an effort was made to bring the available knowledge together in a prototype tool for urban planners. The conference, to be held on 26 and 27 October, 2011 in Brussels, Belgium, will present the results and to discuss remaining gaps and ways to build more bridges between the planning and the research communities.

- **Environmental Footprinting in Europe and Beyond: How Will it Shape the Corporate Agenda?**

The 6th PCF World Summit on 26-27 October, 2011 in Berlin, Germany, will explore the relationship between product carbon footprinting and other environmental aspects and product sustainability labels. The past years have seen a strong focus on building the foundations for assessing GHG emissions in value chains. This work will continue and more emphasis will be placed on sector and product level specifications and actual implementation.

- **Local Renewables 2011 Conference**

The fourth conference of the Local Renewables series will focus on "Green Buildings and the Future of Sustainable Urban Development". Organised by ICLEI and hosted by the City of Freiburg, Germany, from 27-28 October, 2011, the conference will look at the evolving role of renewable energy in sustainable buildings and address the issue of energy efficiency, both from a technological and city development point of view.

- **International Workshop on "Recent Trends in Non-market Valuation"**

Non-market valuation is a collection of methods and techniques for placing a monetary value on goods that are not traded in regular marketplaces. This workshop, to be held on 3-4 November, 2011, in Venice, Italy, is organised by the International Center for Climate Governance in collaboration with the Euro-Mediterranean Centre for Climate Change. Its objective is to examine and discuss recent and emerging methodological and technical issues, solutions to such issues, and applications of existing methods to novel areas and topics.

- **European Gender Summit in Brussels**

Knowledge and innovation are key drivers for sustainable growth and prosperity in Europe. Extensive research has demonstrated that the quality of research and development benefits significantly from adding gender as a critical success factor. The first European Gender Summit, to be held in Brussels from 8-9 November, 2011, will network key players from all sectors to initiate the much-needed changes in the culture of research and innovation. Joint discussions will produce the first ever collective agreement on policy development on gender for innovation, the policy manifesto on "Integrated Action on the Gender Dimension in Research."

- **Leuphana Sustainability Summit 2012 - Enabling a Transdisciplinary Approach**

To achieve transitions towards sustainability, continuous inquiry, learning, and adaptation is needed. And this requires science to go beyond disciplinary – and even interdisciplinary – approaches. By bringing about mutual learning, collaborative research, and problem solving among business, government and civil society, transdisciplinarity can serve as an important guiding concept for sustainability science and practice. Over the last 10 years, progress has been made to better understand and design the interface between sustainability science and transdisciplinarity. The Leuphana Sustainability Summit 2012, to be held from 29 February to 2 March 2011 in Lüneburg, Germany, focuses on three leading questions: What insights about the role of transdisciplinarity for sustainability transitions have we gained over the last 10 years? What gaps in research still remain? How can we fill these gaps? These guiding questions will focus the debates in four topical areas: Biodiversity, Global Sustainability, Education, and Corporate Sustainability.

- **TEEB Conference 2012: "Mainstreaming the Economics of Nature: Challenges for Science and Implementation"**

The TEEB Conference 2012 on "Mainstreaming the Economics of Nature: Challenges for Science and Implementation", to be held in Leipzig, Germany, from 19-22 March, 2012, will address the integration of nature's economic costs and benefits into decision tools and processes, at the interface between science and policy. The conference invites contributions that go beyond the technical aspects of assessment techniques, valuation methods and available instruments, and rather explore their use in real-life situations and processes.

- **International Symposium: The Governance of Adaptation**

A two day conference on "The governance of adaptation" will be held from 22-23 March, 2012, in Amsterdam, the Netherlands. Topics to be discussed include: the framing of adaptation problems and goals, modes of governance and available instruments, agency and leadership in adaptation governance, science-policy interaction and adaptation. Participants will be selected after a review of abstracts of no more than 250 words to be submitted by 15 October, 2011. The purpose of the meeting is twofold: 1) to establish a network of researchers who are analyzing the efforts of both public and private actors to prepare for climate change, 2) to exchange insights on adaptation governance across the world and draw lessons in a coordinated way.

- **Environmental Law Conference: "Rule of Law for Nature"**

The Natural Resources Law Group at the Faculty of Law in Oslo, Norway, is organising an international conference in environmental law, to be held from 9-11 May, 2012. Issues to be addressed include, among others, the legal status of nature and the environment in national and international law, including ideas of rights of and legal standing for natural objects, and how ecosystem services and other natural goods are assessed and valued in Environmental Impact Assessments (EIA) and Strategic Environmental Assessments (SEA), in cost-benefit analyses, and when balanced against other objectives and interests in decision-making.

- **ISEE Conference: Ecological Economics and Rio+20 - Challenges and Contributions for a Green Economy**

The ISEE Conference 2012 will take place from 29 May - 1 June, 2012, in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. ISEE 2012 has been conceived to dovetail with the Rio+20 UNCSO Earth Summit. The Earth Summit has been charged with developing a road map for international cooperation toward a "Green Economy" and for promoting institutions necessary for sustainable development. ISEE 2012 will address UNCSO themes as well as other key debates within ecological

economics and environmental policy. It will promote dialogue with the Summit through a final ministerial panel and the participation of policy makers. The challenge for Ecological Economics at this Summit is to contribute to designing innovative alternatives, to address market and institutional failures, as well as to better understand ecological and economic systems.

• **10th EurSafe Congress on "Climate Change and Sustainable Development: Ethical Perspectives on Land Use and Food Production"**

The 10th EurSafe Congress on "Climate Change and Sustainable Development: Ethical Perspectives on Land Use and Food Production", to be held from 30 May - 2 June, 2012, in Tübingen, Germany, will address the topic of climate change and sustainable development under four main perspectives: (1) food production, (2) preservation of natural resources, (3) lifestyles (4) general philosophical and historical issues. Abstract submission has been extended until 30 September, 2011. Proposals for sessions and workshops are also welcome.

• **Rio+20 United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development**

This Conference will take place in Brazil on 4-6 June, 2012, to mark the 20th anniversary of the 1992 United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED), in Rio de Janeiro, and the 10th anniversary of the 2002 World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) in Johannesburg. It is envisaged as a Conference at the highest possible level, including Heads of State and Government or other representatives. The Conference will focus on two themes: (a) a green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication; and (b) the institutional framework for sustainable development. The Conference will result in a focused political document.

• **International Congress on Environmental Modelling and Software (iEMSs)**

The aim of the conference, to be held in Leipzig, Germany, from 1-5 July, 2012, is to enhance understanding of environmental processes and decision making by fostering the discussion and interchange of challenges, solutions, ideas, new methods and techniques, and future research lines in environmental modelling and software. How can researchers and scientists that professionally deal with complex systems cope with questions of environmental resource management that our societies are faced with?



Policies

• **European Commission Presents Indicators to Measure Resource Efficiency**

The European Commission has decided to use a consumption-to-GDP ratio as the lead indicator for measuring resource efficiency. This is a first step as part of the overall roadmap towards a more resource efficient Europe which will be complemented by other measures at a later point. The Roadmap which has been adopted is hence a framework for future action.

• **European Environment Agency Report on Landscape Fragmentation**

The European Environment Agency, together with the Swiss Federal Office for the Environment, has recently published a report on the fragmentation of landscapes in Europe. It finds demonstrates how smaller pieces of land frequently are home to less biodiversity and how the expansion of infrastructure hence endangers the European wildlife. The full report is available on the EEA website.

• **New EEA Report: Europe's Environment: An Assessment of Assessments**

The Assessment of Assessments focuses on greening the economy as well as themes of water and water-related eco-systems. The report documents the benefits of a 'Regular reporting Process' of environmental assessment, which is based on the Shared Environmental Information System (SEIS). Based on the findings of the Assessment of Assessments, it is expected that Ministers at the 7th 'Environment for Europe' Ministerial Conference, running from 21-23 September, 2011 in Astana will decide to establish a regular process of environmental assessment and to develop SEIS across the region.

• **Earth System Governance Project: The Policy Assessment on the Institutional Framework for Sustainable Development**

The Earth System Governance Project has been mandated to compile a fast-track policy-relevant assessment of the state of research on the institutional framework for sustainable development. This policy assessment seeks to make science-based policy recommendations to strengthen the institutional framework for sustainable development by providing a policy-relevant summary of social science findings. The assessment shall provide the lead input of the scientific community to the international policy process that leads to the Rio+20 Conference's theme of "institutional framework for sustainable development".

• **EU Commission Considers Resource Efficiency Targets**

DG Environment developed a draft roadmap on resource efficiency that foresees research efficiency targets by 2013. The roadmap suggests that analysing the impact of a proposed policy on resource efficiency should be included in the impact assessment of the Commission. Furthermore, this roadmap envisages establishing a headline indicator on resource productivity and several complementary indicators monitor the progress towards increased resource efficiency and to develop a common methodology to measure the environmental footprint of companies.

• **Report: Sustainability and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency**

The National Research Council of the United States presents a framework for incorporating aspects of sustainable development into the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) decision making. This report is intended to help EPA to better assess the social, environmental and economic impacts in the decision-making process. The sustainability approach recommended in this report both incorporates and goes beyond an approach based on assessing and managing the risks posed by pollutants that has largely shaped environmental policy in the U.S. since the 1980s. In addition, the report describes a more intensive process called "sustainability assessment and management" that EPA can use to incorporate sustainability in specifically chosen activities and decisions and gives recommendations on how to design this process.

• **RIO+20 Policy Brief No. 3: Transforming Governance And Institutions For A Planet Under Pressure**

The Earth System Governance Project released its new Policy Brief "Transforming Governance and Institutions for a Planet under Pressure. Revitalizing the Institutional Framework for Global Sustainability". The Policy Brief offers a concise assessment of the state of knowledge on the institutional framework for sustainable development and on possible reform options. It brings together various strands of research and schools of thought and will serve as key input of the scientific community in this field to the current preparations for the 2012 United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development ("Rio+20").

• **EEA Report: 'Global Governance: The Rise of Non-state Actors'**

Climate change, growing consumption and urbanisation, spiralling resource use and new health risks are just some of the global pressures the world will face in the 21st Century. The EEA has released a supporting background report, "Global Governance: the Rise of the Non-State Actors", which describes how non-state actors such as multinational corporations (MNCs), non-governmental organisations (NGOs) and scientific organisations are increasingly involved in global governance. These relatively new actors are now taking part in formulating, negotiating and implementing policy at local, regional and global levels. Evidence of this change can be seen in the number of NGOs holding advisory status to the UN Economic and Social Council, which has increased constantly from approximately 700 in 1992 to almost 3,200 now.

• **European Union Emission Inventory Report 1990–2009, under the UNECE Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution (LRTAP)**

This report includes information on the formal institutional arrangements underpinning the EU's emission inventory, the emission trends for the EU Member States, and the main individual emission sources that contribute to total emissions. Sector group emission trends for key pollutants, information on recalculations and future planned improvements are also included. Emissions of almost all main air pollutants fell across the EU-27 in 2009, which confirms a long-term trend of decline for most air pollutants. Analyses show that the economic recession is an important factor in this development.

• **European Union Emissions Inventory Report Published**

The European Environment Agency has recently published the European Union Emissions Inventory Report. The document covering the period 1990-2009 has been issued under the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe and includes information on the formal institutional arrangements that underpin the European Union's emission inventory, emission trends for the EU-27 and Member States, and the contribution of important individual emission sources to total emissions, sector group emission trends for key pollutants, information on recalculations and future planned improvements.

• **Waste opportunities - Past and Future Climate Benefits From Better Municipal Waste Management in Europe**

The European Environment Agency has published a new report on the climate benefits of improved municipal waste management in Europe. It employs a life-cycle perspective and is illustrated by three scenarios on the future development of municipal waste and the corresponding emissions. The full report is available online.

- **[Impact Indicators to Play Key Role in Future Agri-Environment Funding](#)**

Addressing the effectiveness of agri-environmental measures, a recent report by the European Court of Auditors comes to the conclusion that the objectives of agri-environmental payments are not sufficiently specific to assess whether they have been achieved. The Auditors' report puts large emphasis on the role of impact assessment and specifically of impact indicators. Impact Indicators are used to measure the long-term socio-economic and environmental effects of rural development programmes as part of the CAP. The indicators relevant for agri-environment are: reversal in biodiversity decline, trends in farmland bird populations, maintenance of high nature value farmland and forestry, improvement in water quality and contribution to combating climatic change.

- **[European Environment Agency Calls for New Bioenergy Policy](#)**

The Scientific Committee of the European Environment Agency (EEA) unanimously passed an opinion calling for 'a major revision of EU policies and directives related to bioenergy.' It argues that the assumption that bioenergy was carbon neutral is wrong and results in measurement errors. The opinion provides an in-depth discussion on this accounting errors. It concludes that the potential consequences of the incorrect GHG accounting are 'immense' and may even result in increased carbon emissions when fossil energy is replaced by bioenergy - which would accelerate global warming.

Training

- **[PhD Training Courses at Department of Forest Economics, Swedish University of Agricultural Science](#)**

The department of Forest Economics at the Swedish University of Agricultural Science, Umea, is offering PhD courses in economics and statistics. The fall 2011 and spring 2012 courses include: Natural Resource Economics (9 November - 15 December, 2011), Forest Economics (23 January - 24 February, 2012), Introduction to the statistical program R (23 April - 2 May, 2012), Stated preference methods: state-of-the-art modelling (2 May - 1 June, 2012). There are no tuition fees, the student pays for travel costs, accommodation and literature.

- **[International Training Course: Application of Satellite Remote Sensing Technologies in Management of Land Reclamation Projects and Environmental Management](#)**

The Greek Committee on ICID, the Agricultural University of Athens and Zoelectronic Ltd offer a new course in Application of Satellite Remote Sensing Technologies in Management of Land Reclamation Projects and Environmental Management. It will take place in Athens, Greece, from 1-30 November, 2011. The course will provide plenty of practical skills and applied knowledge to enable the participants to become highly competent practising geospatial experts and planners.

- **[PhD Training Course: Motivation and Behaviour in Relation to Climate Change](#)**

The aim of this course, to be held in Copenhagen, Denmark, from 14-18 November 2011, is to introduce PhD students to different theoretical approaches in the study of motivation and behaviour in relation to climate change. The deadline for registration is 15 October, 2011.

- **[International Capacity Building Symposium: Strategic Planning in the Water Sector](#)**

Strategic Planning is vital to coordinate financing systems, secure donor assistance, promote development and ensure good governance. This four-day course, to be held in London, UK, from 28 November to 2 December, 2011, has been specially designed to provide an in-depth examination of the key planning, organisational and supply requirements necessary for producing and implementing effective strategies. Throughout the course participants will develop essential skills for understanding regulation, governance and sustainability of the water sector.

- **[International Summer School on Public Policy Evaluation Research](#)**

The Public Policy Evaluation Researchers Network (RCEPP) is organising a second International Summer School on Public Policy Evaluation Research around the theme of evaluation methods. This Summer School will be held in partnership with Sciences Po Bordeaux (Emile Durkheim Laboratory) from 28-31 August, 2012.

Links

- **[IN-STREAM: A Project for the Integration of Economic Indicators with Development Objectives](#)**

The IN-STREAM Project on the integration of mainstream economic indicators into sustainable development objectives has recently published new results of its research. IN-STREAM is a collaborative research project, funded by the European Commission. The new publications, available at the IN-STREAM Website, include: Correlations of Indicators; Valuation of environmental damages; Composite Indicators; Assessment of Indicators.

- **[CORPUS Website: The Sustainable Consumption and Production \(SCP\) Knowledge Hub](#)**

The project "Enhancing the Connectivity between Research and Policy-Making in Sustainable Consumption" (CORPUS) explores and tests new ways of knowledge brokerage in the areas of household consumption with the largest impacts on the environment (mobility, housing and food) to enhance the policy impact of research. The CORPUS-Project has launched a new website that connects policy makers and researchers and provides a space to exchange knowledge. It is possible to register to the website to access the latest information on Sustainable Consumption and Production (SCP) in the areas of housing, mobility and food. Next to information on CORPUS workshops, information on other relevant publications and events is available on this website.

- **[New UNEP-UNDP Online Guide on Mainstreaming Climate Change Adaption](#)**

The UNEP-UNDP Poverty-Environment Initiative launched the new guide "Mainstreaming Climate Change Adaptation into Development Planning: A Guide for Practitioners". This guide provides practical, step-by-step guidance on how governments and other national actors can mainstream climate change adaptation into national development planning as part of broader mainstreaming efforts. It is aimed at public decision makers and practitioners in developing countries dealing with climate change adaptation. The guide draws on substantial experience and lessons learned by the UNDP-UNEP Poverty-Environment Initiative in working with governments to integrate environmental management for pro-poor economic growth and development into national development planning and decision making.

- **[IEEP Paper on EU Budget and Climate Change](#)**

This paper, by the Institute for European Environmental Policy (IEEP), analyses the mainstreaming of climate change, biodiversity and resource efficiency in the European Commission's proposals for the next EU budget. It underlines the positive elements that have been put forward but also raises a number of issues where the mainstreaming approach could falter and offers recommendations on how to ensure mainstreaming delivers in practice.

- **[Survey on Environmental Indicators - Participation Still Possible](#)**

As part of the release of 2012 Environmental Performance Index in January 2012, the Yale Center for Environmental Law and Policy (YCELP) and CIESIN of The Earth Institute at Columbia University are planning to publish profiles focusing on "real world" examples of the use of environmental indicators for public sector management decision making. If you are developing or using environmental indicators in management contexts, they would appreciate it if you could fill out this 10-question survey regarding your initiative.

- **[STREAM - Sustainable Technologies and Research for European Aquatic Management](#)**

STREAM is an EU-funded project dealing with the dissemination of water technologies research. It aims in general at reducing the gap between research on water, policy making and industry, by bringing together actors from these three most relevant stakeholders in knowledge exchange dedicated events but also through target knowledge sharing experiences such as e-Learning addressed to the three groups and summer schools addressed especially to researchers and industry/SME.

- **[SEI Paper: "Regional-Global Linkages in the Energy-Climate-Development Policy Nexus: the Case of Biofuels in the EU Renewable Energy Direction"](#)**

In this report, the biofuels components of the Directive are evaluated - particularly the sustainability criteria - in terms of their relation to the EU energy strategy and the resulting effects on energy, climate, and development policy objectives. It is found that the design and implementation of the sustainability criteria weaken the effect of the Directive's potential impacts on global energy markets and international development objectives, while somewhat strengthening the internal EU market and technology objectives.

- **[Newsletter by Intergovernmental Science-policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services \(IPBES\)](#)**

IPBES, the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services, has launched a new newsletter. The launch is linked to the first meeting of the platform which will take place in early October in Nairobi, Kenya. This first session will discuss principles and procedures governing the work of IPBES, its governance structure, processes for nomination and selection of host institutions and host country, and initial elements of the work programme. It will be followed by a second session in early 2012.

- **CLAMER: Climate Change and European Marine Ecosystem Research**

CLAMER is a European Union 7th Framework Programme project Climate Change and Marine Ecosystem Research, involving 17 marine research institutes and universities from 11 European countries covering all regional seas. The project builds upon the concept that there is a gap between what is known through research and what policy makers and the public know and understand about the effects of climate change on the oceans; this gap needs to be filled to help catalyse formulation and acceptance of the necessary mitigation and adaptation measures for the marine environment. Therefore, CLAMER will compile and summarize all existing scientific material & outreach products on this topic and carry out a pan-European poll to investigate the awareness/perception in various European coastal regions.

- **Reference Guide to Computer Modelling Measuring Air Pollution by EEA**

The European Environment Agency has presented a new reference guide (FAIRMODE) on computer models measuring air pollution across Europe. It aims at making existing models and their outputs more reliable and comparable. The report includes a list of first recommendations for developing model evaluation protocols. As modelling methods and data sources improve, it is expected that models will increasingly be used by those working to improve air quality. FAIRMODE was established in 2008 in order to facilitate model comparability, documentation and reliability.



Jobs & Funding

Please visit our website for opportunities in the field of Impact Assessment and Sustainable Development. You are invited to send your vacancies, research programs, events or other relevant content to liaise@feem.it



LIAISE - *Linking Impact Assessment Instruments to Sustainability Expertise* has received funding under the European Community's Seventh Framework Programme (FP7/2007-2013) THEME 6 Environment (including Climate Change). Grant agreement n. 243826.

