



SUSTAINABILITY AND CONSUMPTION

Virtual Community

NEWSLETTER
April/May 2014

Dear reader,

As usual, this April/May newsletter contains a small bouquet of news, calls, and publications that we think are interesting for our community. (We decided to merge the April and May newsletters to one issue due to a sabbatical [John] and the finishing of a thesis [Adina]). I especially welcome the new Elsevier journal: Energy Research and Social Science, which fills an important gap in the available high-quality publication outlets for our type of research.

Notice that we have extended the deadline for signing up for the VC's Annual Event, 8 July in Paris. This promises to become the biggest gathering of VC members since we started, but there is still room for more participants, so please sign up if you intend to come so that we can plan the practicalities. If you will only know at a later date whether you can participate, drop us a note about it.

Kind regards,

John

NEWS

The Virtual Community's Annual Event 2014 - Registration Deadline Extended

We are happy to announce that you can still sign up for the 2014 VC Annual Event as we have extended the registration deadline **June 15th, 2014**. You can register for the event either by [clicking on this link](#) or on [our website](#).

The Annual Meeting will be organized as a pre-conference in connection with the ICAP conference in Paris in July. The VC Annual Event will be 8 July, prior to the opening ceremony of the ICAP.

You can read further information regarding the event on our website, under [the Events section](#).

Date: Tuesday 8 July 2014

Location: Paris Université IX, Dauphine

Programme

08.30 Welcome and coffee

09.00 Welcome and introduction, John Thøgersen, Aarhus University

09.05 How to get your work published (120 mins)

Short introductions by Robert Gifford, Editor of Journal of Environmental Psychology, Barbara Brown, Editor of Environment & Behavior, Lucia Reisch & John Thøgersen, Editors of Journal of Consumer Policy

Workshop with the editors

11.00 Sustainability & Consumption according to the new IPCC report, John Thøgersen, Aarhus University, Denmark

12.00 – 13.00 LUNCH BREAK (60 mins)

13.00 EU prospects for sustainable lifestyles and Horizon 2020, Domenico Rossetti di Valdalbero, Principal Administrator, European Commission, DG Research and Innovation

13.45 Round table discussion on future trends in Sustainability & Consumption research (45 mins)

Chair: John Thøgersen

Panel: Domenico Rossetti di Valdalbero, Lucia Reisch, Wes Schultz, Linda Steg, Ellen Matthies, Bas Verplanken, Bob Gifford

14.30 Coffee break

14.45 Workshops (60 mins) - Theme 1-6, headed by panelists

15.45 Wrap up (30 mins) - Chair: John Thøgersen

[Download the programme in PDF version here](#)

Thanks to our sponsors!



Energy Research & Social Science Journal

A new Elsevier journal of interest to the VC is publishing its first issue this spring: [Energy Research and Social Science](#). The editor is Benjamin Sovacool of Aarhus University, Denmark. Among the articles in the first issue are Paul Stern: "Individual and Household Interactions with Energy Systems: Toward Integrated Understanding."

The Prosperity Quintet 2014 - Measuring Prosperity in Germany and Other Early Industrialised Countries

The Denkwerk Zukunft - Foundation for Cultural Renewal has updated its proposal on how to measure prosperity in early industrialised countries, consisting of the GDP per capita, the 80/20 ratio, the social exclusion rate, the ecological footprint relative to global biocapacity per capita and the public debt rate.

The results are summarised in the report "The Prosperity Quintet 2014 - Measuring Prosperity in Germany and Other Early Industrialised Countries".

[Read more](#)

UNEP Post 2015 Note #2

UNEP has posted its second Post 2015 Note about SCP and the Sustainable Development Goals. The note opens with the following observations: "Achieving sustainable consumption and production patterns is not just an environmental issue; it is about maintaining the natural capital and hence productivity and capacity of our planet to meet human needs and sustains economic activities. Natural capital combines finite non-renewable and renewable natural resources, including ecological services and the capacity of biophysical systems to absorb pollution, and underpins human welfare and development. If this capital is eroded not only does productivity decrease, but so also does the potential to lift people out of poverty. By maintaining or even increasing natural capital, a shift to sustainable consumption and production (SCP) patterns creates expanded and even new opportunities for poverty eradication, and for enhancing prosperity for all."

[Read more](#)

First ever global assessment of best practices in green growth reveals pathways for success

The Green Growth Best Practice (GGBP) initiative released a synthesis of key findings from its review of green growth approaches taken in different countries and regions around the world. In pursuing a green growth strategy, the GGBP highlights the importance of an integrated approach that links a well-coordinated process for policy planning and implementation, robust analysis of benefits, opportunities, risks and options, and monitoring and evaluation into an iterative and reinforcing cycle.

[Read the GGBP synthesis here](#)

SEI Research Synthesis: Sustainable consumption, production and trade

The brief is based on an assessment of SEI's work on the topic of sustainable consumption, production and trade under the Rethinking Development research theme. It presents key insights from this work, setting out what has been learned, and it also highlights major activities and charts paths for future research.

[Read more](#)

CALLS

ERSCP 2014 - Abstract Deadline extended

The deadline for the ERSCP 2014 Call for Papers has been extended to May 15th, 2014.

[Read more](#)

PUBLICATIONS

Special issue

Environmental Conservation, European Psychologist (2014), 19 (2), p. 81 - 131. [Available online here](#).

Dogan, E., Bolderdijk, J., & Steg, L. (2014). Making Small Numbers Count: Environmental and Financial Feedback in Promoting Eco-driving Behaviours. Journal of Consumer Policy, 1-10. doi: 10.1007/s10603-014-9259-z

Stern, P. C. (2014). Individual and household interactions with energy systems: Toward integrated understanding. Energy Research & Social Science(0). doi: http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.erss.2014.03.003

Thøgersen, J. (2014). The Mediated Influences of Perceived Norms on Pro-environmental Behavior Revue d'Economie Politique, 124(1), 179-193.

Thøgersen, J. (2014). Unsustainable consumption: Basic causes and implications for policy. European Psychologist, 19, 84-95.

EVENTS

2014

05 - 06 June	The European edition of the Sustainable Foods Summit	Amsterdam, Netherlands
08 - 11 June	GRF-SPaC global research conference	Shanghai, China
12 - 15 June	ACSEE2014 - The Fourth Asian Conference on Sustainability, Energy and the Environment	Osaka, Japan
16 - 18 June	Gronen research conference	Helsinki, Finland
18 - 20 June	ISDRS' 20th Annual conference	Trondheim, Norway
19 - 21 June	The Greening of Everyday Life: Reimagining Environmentalism in Postindustrial Societies	Munich, Germany
23 - 27 June	The 23rd IAPS Conference	Timisoara, Romania
01 - 03 July	Norwich Conference on Earth System Governance	Norwich, England
04 - 05 July	5th ICAR symposium	Kiel, Germany
08 July	The Annual Event of the Virtual Community on Sustainability and Consumption 2014 - pre-conference in connection with the 28th ICAP	Paris, France
08 - 13 July	The 28th International Congress of Applied Psychology (ICAP) 2014	Paris, France
27 - 29 August	5th International Sustainability Transitions (IST) Conference	Utrecht, The Netherlands
02 - 06 September	The 4th International Conference on Degrowth for Ecological Sustainability and Social Equity	Leipzig, Germany
29 - 30 September	The ICCR 2014: Challenges for Consumer Research and Consumer Policy in Europe.	Bonn, Germany
30 Sept. - 1 Oct.	SCORAI (Europe) Workshop on Sustainable Consumption	London, UK
14-16 October	European Roundtable on Sustainability Consumption and production 2014	Portoroz, Slovenia
10 - 12 November	World Conference on Education for Sustainable Development	Nagoya, Japan

[Read more](#)

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Board of the VC:

- > **John Thøgersen** Aarhus University (chair of the board)
- > **Anders Biel** University of Gothenburg
- > **Mario Teisl** University of Maine
- > **Linda Steg** University of Groningen
- > **Lucia Reisch** Copenhagen Business School
- > **Ulf Schrader** Technical University of Berlin
- > **Paul Stern** NAS, Washington DC
- > **Tim Jackson** University of Surrey
- > **Bas Verplanken** University of Bath
- > **Ellen Matthies** Otto-von-Guericke-University Magdeburg
- > **Satoshi Fujii** Kyoto University

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