



Urbanization and Global Environmental Change

AN IHDP CORE PROJECT

January 2011

E-Newsletter

Issue 15

Welcome Note...

Dear Readers,

Greetings from Arizona and happy new year!

We hope that this newsletter finds you well. 2010 was quite the busy year for us, particularly with the successful completion of our first UGEC conference. Now that we've entered into the new year, we've begun to focus on new activities and as the year progresses, will share with you our plans and undertakings as they further develop.

Some of the items to highlight in this issue include the Resilience 2011 conference, also taking place at ASU this March and the Ecocity World Summit in Montreal this August, where there are plans for a UGEC-hosted session. We've also got new follow-up information on our conference website - including new videos, and keep a look out for our 5th issue of *UGEC Viewpoints*, which will compile and synthesize some of the research presented at the event.

Lastly, you will see that we have added five new members to our Scientific Steering Committee, something we are very excited about!

This year we will get back on track by sending more regular bi-monthly newsletters. Please don't forget to update us on your activities and accomplishments. You are

UPCOMING EVENTS

[2011 International Conference on Industrial Transformation, Urbanization, and Human Security in the Asia-Pacific](#)

Taipei, Taiwan

January 14-15, 2011

[Resilience 2011, "Resilience, Innovation, and Sustainability: Navigating the Complexities of Global Change](#)

Tempe, Arizona USA

March 11-16, 2011

[NCCARF 2011 Climate Change Adaptation Conference](#)

Cairns, Queensland Australia

April 06, 2011

[ICLEI Resilient Cities: 2nd World Congress on Cities and Adaptation to Climate Change](#)

Bonn, Germany

June 03-05, 2011

[Ecocity World Summit](#)

Montréal, Quebec Canada

August 22-26, 2011

[Young LOICZ Forum \(YLF 2011\)](#)

Yantai, China

September 08-15, 2011

[LOICZ Open Science Conference: Coastal Systems, Global Change and Sustainability](#)

Yantai, China

September 12-15, 2011

RECENT EVENTS

IAI-ECLAC Training Institute on Urban Responses to Climate Change: Politics, Strategies and Instruments for Latin America and the Caribbean

Santiago, Chile

November 1-6, 2010

Thirty-seven professionals from 15 countries attended the IAI Training Institute (TI) on Urban Responses to Climate Change: Politics, Strategies and Instruments for Latin America. The main goal of the TI was to expand the knowledge and understanding of how urban areas are driving, but also may respond to climate change and integrate those responses with their current and future urban development. These responses are fundamental to guide short and long-term socioeconomic and urban development congruent with the sustainability of the region.

Participants included practitioners working on urban and environmental planning, decision-makers formulating urban growth policies and scientists working on urban and climate issues. Many of them

welcome to send us anything you would like to see included in these issues.

Enjoy and best wishes to all of you in 2011!

- Corrie Griffith and Michail Fragkias, UGEC Project Office

came from ministries of the environment, municipal and regional governments, universities, research centers, as well as international organizations, development banks and technical cooperation agencies.

The event was co-organized in collaboration with the U.N. Economic Commission for Latin America and Caribbean (ECLAC). Co-sponsors were the Spanish Government and the UGEC Project. IAI and ECLAC are discussing the development of a publication for policy makers as an output of the Training Institute. Further information about this event can be found at:

<http://iaibr3.iai.int/twiki/bin/view/TICitiesResponse2010>

ANNOUNCEMENTS

2010 UGEC Conference Update – videos now available

The International Conference on Urbanization and Global Environmental Change: *Opportunities and Challenges for Sustainability in an Urbanizing World* took place at Arizona State University from October 15-17, 2010. We had a very positive turnout of roughly 220 participants, over half of which came from outside of the U.S. Please have a look at our conference website [<http://ugec2010.ugecproject.org/>] to view recently uploaded videos of the plenary sessions, as well as other relevant information such as session summaries, presentations, and photos. And thank you to those of you who took the time to fill out our post-conference survey - this will help us immensely when planning our future conferences!

UGEC Viewpoints, Issue V

In this issue we are aiming towards a reflection over the proceedings of our recent 2010 UGEC Conference: *Opportunities and Challenges for Sustainability in an Urbanizing World*. The issue will include a collection and synthesis of the research and ideas presented at the conference. Articles will represent an array of topics highlighted there, including the interlinkages of urbanization processes with the effects of and responses to climate change, land use and land cover, biodiversity loss and habitat conservation, health, governance and institutions, among many. We anticipate the publication to become available this February.

The contributing authors to this issue include:

- **Anastasia Svirejeva-Hopkins**; PIK, Potsdam, Germany
- **Andrea Ferraz Young**; Unicamp, Brazil
- **Camille Nolasco**; National Institute for Space Research (INPE), Brazil
- **Chandrashekar Biradar**; University of Oklahoma, USA
- **Chantal Pacteau**; The Paris Research Consortium Climate-Environnement-Société, France
- **Darryn McEvoy**; Climate Change Adaptation Program, RMIT University, Australia
- **H.S. Sudhira**; Gubbi Labs, Karnataka, India
- **Maik Netzband**; Ruhr-University, Bochum, Germany
- **P. K. Joshi**; TERI University, New Delhi, India
- **Prakash C. Tiwari**; Kumaon University, India
- **Stephen Wheeler**; University of California at Davis, USA
- **Tyler Frazier**; Technische Universität Berlin, Germany
- **Xiangrong Wang**; Fudan University, China
- **Xiangzheng Deng**; Institute of Geographic Sciences and Natural Resources Research, Chinese Academy of Sciences, China

Spring 2011 Graduate Workshop: Urban Dimensions of the IPCC AR5

This spring, Dr. Michail Fragkias will lead a graduate workshop for ASU's School of Sustainability that will engage students in the forthcoming 5th Assessment Report (AR5) of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC). Students will be tasked with writing review papers that will explore topics related to urban settlements and climate change. These review papers will be guided by IPCC Lead Authors including Bill Solecki (Hunter College, CUNY and UGEC SSC member); Karen Seto (Yale University and UGEC SSC co-chair); and Shuaib Lwasa (Makerere University, Uganda and UGEC SSC member). The goal is that these review papers will be published in academic journals and delivered to the IPCC AR (Coordinating) Lead Author(s) with the target of being utilized as they produce the text of the IPCC AR5. Click [here](#) to read more about this upcoming workshop.

ABOUT US

MEMBERS OF THE UGEC (SSC)

CONTACT INFORMATION



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michail.fragkias@asu.edu

New UGEC SSC Members

UGEC is proud to announce the addition of five prominent scholars to its Scientific Steering Committee; we expect that the new composition will add significant value to the project operations and will allow UGEC to develop new frameworks and perspectives in the next five years. The selected individuals are really exceptional. Here's the list of the five new members:

- **Christopher Boone**, Professor, School of Sustainability, Arizona State University, USA
- **Xiangzheng Deng**, Associate Professor, Institute of Geographic Sciences and Natural Resources Research, Chinese Academy of Sciences, China
- **Shu-Li Huang**, Vice President; Professor of Graduate Institute of Urban Planning, National Taipei University, Taiwan
- **Shuaib Lwasa**, Lecturer, Department of Geography, Makerere University, Uganda
- **Darryn McEvoy**, Principal Researcher in Climate Change Adaptation and Leader - Climate Change Adaptation Programme, Global Cities Research Institute, RMIT University, Melbourne, Australia

The new members join **Roberto Sanchez-Rodriguez**, **Karen C. Seto**, **Bill Solecki** and **David Simon** to form the new UGEC SSC. UGEC is deeply honored by the service of Frauke Kraas, Cheikh Gueye and Xue Desheng as former SSC members who rotated off the committee in 2010.

OTHER NEWS

UN HABITAT State of the World's Cities 2012/2013

In fulfilling a commission from UN-HABITAT, a UGEC team led by David Simon of the Royal Holloway University of London (including Michail Fragkias, Arizona State University; Karen Seto, Yale University; Bill Solecki, Hunter College of the City University of New York; Roberto Sánchez-Rodríguez, El Colegio de la Frontera Norte, Mexico/University of California, Riverside and Robin Leichenko, Rutgers University) is writing a background paper on 'The Green Economy and the Prosperity of Cities' for the UN HABITAT State of the World's Cities 2012/2013 report.

International Institute for Peace through Tourism (IIPT) Scholarship Award

IIPT will provide a US\$1500 scholarship award to the interdisciplinary team of 3 to 5 university students who write the best paper on the theme of the 5th IIPT African Conference, 'Meeting the Challenges of Climate Change to Tourism in Africa and the Developing World.' Participating students must be enrolled in an African or developing country university. Interested students are invited to seek further information or submit papers by February 15, 2011 to Ian Kelly, Coordinator, IIPT Educators Network. The winning paper will be announced by March 04, 2011. E-mail: iankelly34@bigpond.com. For more information about the conference please visit: www.iipt.org

NEW UGEC Website Design - on the horizon

We are currently in the middle of redesigning our main website: www.ugec.org. We are hoping that the new design will make the site more user friendly and better organized for easier navigation to our news and events, publications, and other materials. We are hoping to have this project completed in March and will update you on its progression! Also, any ideas or suggestions for this redesign are welcomed.

Project Associates & Endorsements

We are continually looking for projects to endorse and interested members of the community to become UGEC project associates in order to enhance and expand our network of scholars and practitioners. Please click [here](#) to learn more about these opportunities and to fill out an [application](#).

New Publications by UGEC Project Affiliates

Seto K., Sánchez-Rodríguez R., Fragkias M. (2010). The New Geography of Contemporary Urbanization and the Environment, *Annual Review of Environment and Resources*, 35, 167-194.

(... [see all 2010 publications](#))