

Newsletter june 2010

CEECEC (Civil Society Engagement with Ecological Economics) is a European Commission FP7 funded project co-ordinated by the Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona (ICTA-UAB) that aims to enable Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) to engage in and lead collaborative research with ecological economists. Here's a summary of what we've been up to.

1. Online Course Successfully Launched – Handbook on the Way

As of April 12, the CEECEC online course in Ecological Economics For and Through CSOs was officially launched. It is now being piloted by 25 participants, primarily of civil society / NGO background. The course is now in its 7th week of 12. Opportunities to participate in the pilot are now closed, but do send expressions of interest to Hali Healy at [hhealyatceeccec\[at\]googlemail.com](mailto:hhealyatceeccec[at]googlemail.com) so you can be informed of future opportunities. When writing, please state your full name, your organisational affiliation (if any), and your country of residence. Plans are also underway to launch the online CEECEC Handbook. Read more [here](#).

2. Degrowth and CEECEC

Members of the CEECEC consortium have been increasingly active in the growing Degrowth movement across Europe. Most recently participating in the 2nd International Conference on Sustainable Degrowth held in Barcelona, March 26-29 (<http://www.degrowth.eu/v1/>). Read the full article [here](#).

3. REBRAFF Involved in Global Comparative Study of REDD+ Initiatives

The International Center for Forest Research (CIFOR), based in Bogor Indonesia, has initiated a major global comparative study over 4 years of the efficiency, effectiveness and equity results of REDD+ initiatives in 9 tropical countries. One of the areas included in the study is the state of Mato Grosso in Brazil, which is the focus of the CEECEC case study on PES and REDD+ in the Amazon. CEECEC collaborators at the Instituto Centro de Vida in Mato Grosso, João Andrade and Karin Kaechele are involved in the CIFOR project as a partner organization. Peter May is helping to coordinate the Brazilian segment of the overall comparative project, which also includes to date research underway in Bolivia, Peru, Cameroon, Tanzania, Vietnam and Indonesia. For further information on REDD+ and CIFOR, go to www.forestsclimatechange.org

Brazilian CEECEC collaborators Peter May, João Andrade, Karin Kaechele and Jorge Vivan participated in the kickoff program in early May of the POLICYMIX project in Oslo, Norway, funded by the European Union under FP7. The 9-institution consortium in POLICYMIX, including participants from both European and Latin American countries, will work for the next four years to define combinations of regulatory and economic instruments that can most effectively assure conservation of biodiversity, with lessons that can be transferred to European contexts. CEECEC collaborators Rui Santos and Paula Antunes (ECOMAN UNL) are also involved. In Brazil, case studies will be undertaken for POLICYMIX in Mato Grosso (REDES and ICV) and São Paulo (UNICAMP).

4. Endemit in Serbia

As part of a 2-day seminar in Belgrade entitled "Let's Learn to Live Sustainably (Naučimo da živimo na održivi način)", [Endemit Ecological Society](#), presented the CEECEC project on March 27th 2010. The seminar on environmental education was devoted to primary and secondary school teachers, covering topics such as sustainability, ecological economics, global environmental problems (climate change, biodiversity loss), sustainable management of protected areas, and health and environment. During the presentation of the CEECEC project, special emphasis was put on CEECEC's online course on ecological economics as an important current activity. In describing the case study approach of the project, Endemit also presented its own case study: "Local Communities and Management of Protected Areas in

Serbia”.

5. News on A Sud’s Campania Case Study – EC Ruling on Waste

On March 04, 2010 the European Commission found the Government of Italy guilty of infringing Articles 4 and 5 of Directive 2006/12/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 5 April 2006 on waste. This means that European funds totalling around 500 million € that had been earmarked for use in regional programme for Campania for the period 2007-2013, will remain frozen until a satisfactory waste management programme is in place in Campania. Also named in the lawsuit is the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, as intervenors in support of the Italian Republic. To see the judgement in English, go to: www.corriere.it/cronache/ <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/>

6. International Postgraduate Ecological Economics Course at Buenos Aires University, PROECO, GEPAMA, FADU, UBA

The next International Postgraduate Ecological Economics Course at Buenos Aires University, Proeco, Gepama, Fadu, UBA will run between August and December 2010. The course is directed by Dr Walter A. Pengue (CEECEC participant), and will feature professors such as Joan Martinez Alier, Enrique Ortega, Jorge Morello, Gustavo Buzai and others . It will be run in Spanish, and a call for scholarships is open. See: www.posgradofadu.com.ar/informacion.php?f=carrera_fundamentos&tipo=3&id=129

7. Final Case Study Chapters for Online Handbook

Acción Ecológica (Ecuador) has contributed two chapters to CEECEC. The first one is a study of the transport corridor from Manaus in Brazil to the port of Manta in Ecuador, via the Napo River. This is still a project in its very early stages, so the anticipated environmental and social consequences will be described in this chapter. Look for it in the second week of June in the CEECEC website here: www.ceecec.net/case-studies/ .

The second one is a study of new large copper and gold mining projects by Canadian companies in the Cordillera del Condor, also in Amazon territory, on the border of Peru. This is Shuar land. Gloria Chicaiza of Acción Ecológica has produced a complete report on this on-going conflict, available in Spanish at: www.accionecologica.org/images/2005/mineria/documentos/cordillera.pdf

An English version of the case study is in preparation for the first week on June as well. It will also be here: www.ceecec.net/case-studies/.

On a related point, The European Parliament on 5th May 2010 asked the Commission to forbid open cast gold mining with cyanide in the EU (with particular reference to Bulgaria and Romania). If the resolution is passed, this move could impact mining operations in Canada, and in many Latin American and African countries, possibly leading for example to the labelling of gold to indicate whether or not cyanide was used in its production.

8. Joan Martinez Alier in San Diego at American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS)

CEECEC’s Joan Martinez Alier was in San Diego in February at the “2010 AAAS Annual meeting Sixth EU-US Symposia Series – International Cooperation, Science in Society, Walking the Talk <http://ec.europa.eu/research/science-society/> .

The symposium aimed at presenting and discussing innovative modes of public

engagement in science in a context of global societal challenges where research is called upon to contribute to policies and the involvement of informed citizens is crucial to progress towards sustainable solutions. To access the paper presented by Martinez Alier, go to ec.europa.eu/research/science-society/document_library/

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