



BIOdiversity and Economics for CONservation

BIOECON Network Highlight

XXII ANNUAL BIOECON CONFERENCE
Integrating natural and social science
for conserving biodiversity
September 17–19, 2021
Jackson Lake Lodge, Grand Teton
National Park, Wyoming, USA

Conference announcement

Latest Job Offers

University of Exeter Business School:

- Postdoctoral Research Associate in Finance Biodiversity
- Postdoctoral Research Associate in Biodiversity Economics (empirical)

German Centre for Integrative Biodiversity Research (iDiv) Halle-Jena-Leipzig

- Postdoctoral Researcher in Biodiversity Economics: Natural capital valuation
- Postdoctoral Researcher in Biodiversity Economics: Economic potential and risks of mesopelagic fisheries

Osnabruck University

- Junior Researcher/PhD position on Sustainable Consumption Behavior

University of Southampton

- PhD Position in Environmental Economics

Foreword

Dear colleagues and friends from the BIOECON network,

The corona crisis continues to affect the BIOECON network, as some BIOECON members have been personally affected, and as we contribute our share to reduce the spread of the virus. Given the start of vaccinating against corona, we hope that at least some of us will be able to meet at this year's BIOECON conference in Wyoming. More about this in this newsletter.



Grand Teton National Park, where BIOECON XII will take place in September 2021

The newsletter also informs about Ben Groom's new position at the University of Exeter, his initiative together with Unai Pascual to involve BIOECON in the IPBES values assessment, a new ERC project at the University of Cambridge, a JEEM special issue, a guest contribution from the Result Based Payment Network and of course some recent BIOECON publications.

Enjoy the newsletter and stay healthy!

Best regards,

Martin, Maria and Fabian

BIOECON News & Recent Initiatives

You find the BIOECON News in the boxes around: Upcoming conference, Latest Job Openings, New Projects, and Recent Publications. The BIOECON network is active as always, and we are sure that this is only part of the ongoing activities. Please regularly send us your updates to keep the network informed.

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BIOECON 2021

The XXII ANNUAL BIOECON CONFERENCE will focus on *Integrating natural and social science for conserving biodiversity and protecting human health*. It will take place September 17–19, 2021 using a hybrid format: onsite at the Jackson Lake Lodge in Grand Teton National Park, Wyoming, USA, and online using a virtual conference platform. The conference will be hosted by the University of Wyoming College of Business, Department of Economics and co-hosted by the University of Wyoming College of Agriculture and Natural Resources, Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics, and Haub School of Environment and Natural Resources.

BIOECON XXII will highlight the integration of natural science and social science, including economics, for conserving biodiversity and protecting human health.

Papers may be submitted for presentation to bioecon@bioecon-network.org no later than May 15, 2021. Only complete papers will be considered by the scientific programme committee. Please include an Abstract of 150 words or less and Key-words with your submission. Unfortunately late papers cannot be considered. It also is possible to submit 3-4 papers together as a suggested session under one of the topics indicated above or an alternative topic. The Scientific Partners reserve the right to accept papers on an individual basis, so even if a session proposal is not successful, individual papers within the session could be accepted. Authors of accepted papers will be notified by email no later than June 15, 2021.

Keynote presentations will be delivered by Carolyn Fischer (Resources for the Future) on "Who's afraid of the WTO? Environmental disputes and trade in natural resources," and Simon Levin (Princeton University) on "Public goods, from microbes to human societies".



Carolyn Fisher and Simon Levin, keynote speakers at BIOECON XXII, 2021

BIOECON Involvement in the IPBES Values Assessment



On the 2nd of February at 11am to 12.30 CEST, Unai Pascual and Coordinating Lead Authors (CLA) of the IPBES "Values Assessment" will present a summary of the report (second-order draft released on January 15th) to the BIOECON network and invited attendees. The purpose of this presentation is to prepare the ground for a BIOECON contribution to the review process prior to the deadline at the end of March. The workshop will consist of 40 mins of presentations by the CLAs, followed by 40 mins of Q&A from the BIOECON network members. The workshop will conclude with an explanation of workshop 2, the following week.

On February the 9th at 11 to 13.30 CEST a second workshop will take place the plan for which is for each chapter to be reviewed in separate sessions. Each chapter session will be facilitated and will be attended by the respective CLA. The workshop as a whole will conclude with a plenary session in which the main points will be summarised.

These sessions are intended to contribute to the transparency of the IPBES reporting and review process, but also to ensure that the values assessment has full coverage of the economic issues and is up to date with the latest research and literature in the area of biodiversity economics. Scope remains to influence the citations that the assessment makes, and to add to some of the topics covered. While individuals will be able to contribute their comments via the typical IPBES review channels irrespective of the workshop, the ultimate aim of the two workshops is to collate a "BIOECON" response to the IPBES values assessment, for submission as a collective review. Depending on the nature of the themes raised in the workshop, the collective review may have the potential to be a collectively authored think-piece.

Moreover, if the workshops and review are successful, a closer connection between BIOECON and IPBES could be developed in the future. This would be a good use of the BIOECON network's expertise in the area.

Dragon Capital chair in Biodiversity Economics

Ben Groom has taken a new position at the University of Exeter as the Dragon Capital chair in Biodiversity Economics. Over the next 5 years Ben will be overseeing work on biodiversity economics, finance and biodiversity and the economic determinants of biodiversity loss and conservation. He will be hoping to host the BIOECON conference in the coming years, both at Exeter and, with Pr Andreas Kontoleon, at Cambridge Kings College.

Two new posts are available under this chair, details of which can be found here:

- Finance and Biodiversity
- Biodiversity Economics (empirical)



New ERC project FIDELIO: Forecasting Social Impacts of Biodiversity Conservation Policies in Europe

FIDELIO is a research project which was funded by a European Research Council starting grant awarded to Dr Nikoleta Jones. The project is a partnership with the Department of Land Economy, University of Cambridge. It aims to explore socio-economic impacts if European "protected areas" and to predict how perceptions of these impacts change through time.



JEEM special issue: Inequality and the Environment

Submission Deadline: 28 February 2021

Guest Editors: Moritz A. Drupp, Jasper N. Meya, Martin F. Quaas and Lutz Sager

Environmental and resource economics is concerned with the allocation of both environmental and human-made resources, goods and services within and across generations. High levels of pollutant emissions, biodiversity loss and resource depletion highlight the challenges faced by environmental management. These issues are receiving increasing attention from policy-makers and the public, and economists are proposing a number of policy instruments to address related market failures. At the same time, there is a renewed interest in the causes and consequences of economic inequality. These two issues—environmental policy and economic inequality—are related: While economic inequality influences environmental appraisal and policy, environmental policy and the loss of environmental services may in turn have important distributional consequences. In particular, distributional aspects are increasingly perceived as key for implementing environmental policies that are fair and politically feasible.

Against this background, the JEEM Special Issue on Inequality and the Environment invites innovative research that explicitly looks at interlinkages between environmental policy and economic inequality in a number of environmental domains, such as biodiversity loss, air pollution, renewable resources and climate change. We welcome empirical and theoretical contributions that address the following questions:

- How do environmental outcomes impact economic inequality?
- How does economic inequality impact environmental outcomes?
- How do inequality, distributive ethics or distributional preferences affect environmental policy appraisal?
- How are costs of environmental policies distributed?
- How should environmental policies be designed to address distributional concerns?

While the focus is primarily on inequality in the endowment with environmental or financial resources, we also welcome submissions that explore the effects of other socio-economic inequalities, including race, gender or location. The JEEM Special Issue is mainly concerned with the distribution across individuals or households, but might consider distributional aspects across other units, such as firms, economic sectors or jurisdictions.

Submissions related to these topics and using rigorous empirical analysis or theoretical as well as applied modelling approaches will be subject to the usual peer-review process.



Result Based Payments Network

Agri-environmental payments in Europe have until now mainly been measure-oriented. A more modern, alternative model for the agri-environmental policy measures are Result Based Payments. In results-based schemes, the farmers are remunerated based on the achievement of specific biodiversity results (in contrast to management-based schemes where the farmer is contracted to undertake specific actions).

The initiative Results-based Payment Network aims to build a network of actors involved in the study, design and implementation of Results based payments with a view to:

- Sharing RBP experiences and challenges across countries and catalysing the results achieved in the field
- Linking researchers, policy makers and farmers in the development of efficient Result Based Payments to vitalize both the academic work and the policy design
- Making contacts and partnerships at local, national and European level
- Accessing up to date information on RBPs developments in different countries and academic fora
- Promoting the knowledge about RBPs to public at large and among farmers
- Increasing the ownership of farmers for biodiversity and climate measures.

On our website www.rbpnetwork.eu we share information about RBP schemes and connect experts on RBP schemes from different countries. Last year we organised two webinars with over 150 participants dealing with the “Implementation of RBPS in the CAP 21-27” and the “Assessment of results-based indicators in the field”. Network activities such as webinars and annual conferences are open to all network members. For more information, please visit www.rbpnetwork.eu.

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