



The International Human Dimensions Programme on Global Environmental Change

Vision:

- foster, coordinate, and conduct social science research that helps to understand and address the challenges of global environmental change and improve societal responses
- contribute to the interdisciplinary attempts to understand the interactions of humans with the natural environment that cause global environmental change
- strengthen the capacities of research and policy communities toward a shared understanding of the social causes and implications of global changes
- facilitate dialogue between science and policy

 International Human Dimensions Programme on Global Environmental Change
Hermann-Ehlers-Str. 10; 53113 Bonn, Germany; www.ihdp.org

Research Projects, Cross-Cutting Themes, and Methodologies

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Environmental Change, Human Security and Social Justice

Environmental change is an issue of human security

The effects of global environmental change are likely to be highly unevenly distributed across geographical and social scales

The source and outcome of global environmental change are closely connected with prevailing rights and power structures

Human security is achieved when individuals and society have options and the capacity to mitigate or adapt to threats to their human, environmental and social rights.

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The Role of - Governance

The interrelated system of formal and informal rules, rule-making systems, and actor-networks at all levels of human society that steer societies towards preventing, mitigating, and adapting to environmental change within the context of sustainable development.

Decision making about human-environment interactions from the smallest to biggest scales and from local to global governments

Addresses problems of architecture, agency, adaptiveness, accountability and legitimacy, and access and allocation



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The Role of – Vulnerability, Resilience and Adaptation

How resilient, vulnerable or adaptable are social and ecological systems to change?

Understanding and incorporating the elements of transitions, interactions, impacts, thresholds, feedbacks and responses to change

Recognising the interactions of social dimensions such as poverty and health with ecological degradation and reduced adaptive capacity



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The Role of – Social Learning and Knowledge

Essential for all elements of society, from health to equitable sharing of ecosystem services

Active participation by all people at all societal levels in building a sustainable global society

Behavioural change – through understanding of complex connections between knowledge and learning and the determinants of change

Communicating knowledge and active learning – production, movement and across cultures and geographical scales

Enhancing political and scientific responses to needs of the global society and its environment



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Thank you

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