

*Call for Papers:  
15th meeting of the young researcher's network of environmental sociology,  
11<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> October 2018 at Goethe-University Frankfurt am Main*

## **Methods of environmental sociological research**

Climate change, resource depletion, environmental pollution: phenomena of the ecological crisis put a pressure on societies to take action. Environmental sociology – with its own particular roots in such ecological questions – has made the claim to contribute to the understanding, but also to the treatment of these existential problems. But what are adequate methods to research the relation between “society” and “nature”? And how can empirical results eventually have an effect in addressing these problems? Environmental sociology is characterised by offering a variety of theories and methods in this regard.

The aim of the 15th meeting of the young researcher's network of environmental sociology is to critically engage with the different premises that exist within different research traditions (and projects) regarding their epistemological and methodological characteristics. What dis-/advantages have decisions for or against a particular method or theory when we take the problem's specifics into account? How are data and results being pre-formed? How adequate is the chosen method with regards to the environmental sociological research subject? How can different methods and research streams be linked reasonably? How do I navigate within the tensions of methodical concepts and empirical creativity/serendipity? The focus, therefore, is positioned somewhere between the triad of theory – method – empiricism.

We ask for contributions that follow qualitative-interpretative but also quantitative approaches in environmental sociology, as well as inter- and transdisciplinary research projects with a connection to environmental sociology. The presentation can focus on theoretical implications as well as on methodical decisions. We also invite young researchers to discuss concrete data for so called “data-sessions”. The meeting provides space to present empirical research in its current phase. Your contribution, however, should explicitly reflect upon the research methods used in the project and discuss its potentials, but also its boundaries.

The meeting of the young researcher's network of environmental sociology explicitly welcomes early stage researchers from sociology and neighbouring disciplines. Possible contributors may be PhD students and early Post-docs, but we also encourage master or bachelor students to present their theses. You can choose between different formats (presentation, workshop, data-session, etc.) and we are open for creative ideas in this regard. Summing up, your abstract should be clear about the intended format of the presentation, the content and current phase of research, and in particular about methodical aspects of the research.

**Please submit your abstract by 1st May 2018 to [sattlegger@isoe.de](mailto:sattlegger@isoe.de).  
The abstract should not be of more than 500 words.**

We're looking forward to your abstracts and attendance!

Larissa Deppisch  
Lukas Sattlegger (ISOE Frankfurt am Main)  
Markus Rudolphi