

PRE-CONFERENCE WORKSHOP:

“Designing a field experiment for the study of Socio-Ecological Systems”

Juan Cardenas (Universidad de los Andes, Colombia), Jim Murphy (University of Alaska) – instructors

This one day workshop will give a glimpse of how to design field experiments to study the behavior and interactions between humans and socio-ecological systems in developing countries. The approach of the workshop would be the combination of a) short presentations on first-hand experience and methodological issues about designing experiments and b) a hands-on exercise where the workshop participants will work on designing an experiment for a particular question that will be proposed among the workshop participants and the workshop faculty. At the end we will vote for the best experimental designs. We will provide simple examples, basic readings, checklists and hand-outs that would help the participants jump in the water and design a simple experiment for a particular question of their own. The purpose of the workshop is to get the participants to see the basics of designing an experiment that can be conducted in the field for different purposes beyond the scientific goal of producing data about human behavior, including experiments for impact evaluation, for dialogues between government organizations, NGOs and communities of ecosystem users, among others.

Topics to be covered:

- Finding the right (and concrete) question for an experiment
- The tension between simplification and external validity in experiments
- Experimental design: the role of randomization in the laboratory, control and treatment variables.
- Sampling in the field: recruitment of participants, representativeness.
- Combining experiments with other participatory tools: role games, workshops
- Experiments for research, for social change, policy debate, impact evaluation, community capacity building.
- Ethical issues: impacts of economic experiment; potential conflicts

Saturday, June 16, 2012

Salvador Dali Room

2:00 pm – 4:30 pm

SHORT COURSE:

“Economics and policies of climate change in Brazil: knowledge, achievements and challenges”

Presentation of books “Climate Change in Brazil: Economic, Social and Regulatory Aspects” and “The Economics of Climate Change in Brazil: Costs and Opportunities”

Panelists:

- Ronaldo Seroa da Motta, Ipea
- Jorge Hargrave, Ipea
- Carolina Dubeux, Coppe/UFRJ
- Sergio Margulis, Ministry of Environment (MMA)

- **The national policy on climate change: regulatory and governance aspects**
- **Climate change and the Brazilian agriculture: impacts and adaptation**

Panelists:

- Ronaldo Seroa da Motta, Ipea
- José Gustavo Féres, Ipea

- **Sustainability of biofuel production in Brazil**
- **Macroeconomic impacts of climate change**
- **Forest and Biodiversity**

Panelists

- Emilio La Rovere, Coppe/UFRJ
- Carlos Roberto Azzoni – School of Economics, Business and Accounting at the University of São Paulo (FEA-USP) – to be confirmed
- Bernardo Strassburg, (IIS – International Institute for Sustainability)