



# Helping the Transition

## SNIS ANNUAL REPORT 2015





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# Message from the Director

## by Bernhard Fuhrer



**Dr Bernhard Fuhrer**  
Director of the SNIS

### **If we want sustainable development, we need research-backed policies**

*For the moment, the sustainable development goals (SDGs) launched by the UN in 2015 are mostly on paper. There are goals and targets, but the roadmaps have yet to be created. This is where the SNIS sees its role. Supporting research that translates into concrete action. As Raymond Saner, director of the research NGO "Center for Socio-Eco-Nomic Development (CSEND)" points out in his guest editorial "Business as usual will not do!" and let us add, "ignoring research will not do". The UN is conscious of the dire need for academic input and the SNIS is well poised to answer the call and helping the transition. We bring practitioners and academics together from the start and not only once the research is completed. To further improve the collaboration from the start, the year 2015 has seen further events in the recent funding series called incubator workshops (c.f. page 18).*

### **Interdisciplinarity and multiple partnerships - templates for SDG work**

*The project submissions to the SNIS remain on a high level and keep being very geographically and thematically diverse (c.f. pages 4-5). The projects also show a steadily increasing number of partnerships (c.f. page 6) which points to the importance of efficient networking. This is particularly relevant for projects that span the social and natural sciences such as the one run by Prof. Pawlowski looking into "marine biodiversity" (c.f. page 13). From our vantage point, bringing together the social and natural sciences is crucial for relevant inputs into the SDG process. Interdisciplinarity and multiple partnerships - the hallmarks of SNIS projects - therefore seem like successful templates for relevant SDG work.*

### **Spreading the word (not only with words)**

*The networking and dissemination activities have always been a very important part of the SNIS mission. We organise events (cf. page 21) where practitioners from international organisations (IOs) meet students, where young scholars present their awarded research or plan screenings of documentaries that are based on SNIS funded research. These events are obviously collateral to all the traditional scientific output that is generated within the projects. This year we want you discover a non-exhaustive list of these papers, reports, articles and books, that are mostly available as open access through our website (c.f. page 26).*

### **Steady research support despite tightening budgets**

*It is no secret that public budgets are tight and even research, which has long avoided cuts, now faces difficult times. We answer in our own way. We have adapted to lower revenue from public sources and managed to decrease our overhead (c.f. page 28). Part of the recipe is having a highly productive staff (c.f. page 29) that allows for doing more with the same resources. We know we must be efficient. And we want to be efficient because we believe in our mission. In the words of Francesco Pisano, Director of the United Nations library in Geneva and President of the International Geneva Committee: "This is the best time for the SNIS - the SDGs make it more important and relevant than ever".*

# Guest Editorial

## The Need for Research to Ensure Global Sustainability by 2030

by **Raymond Saner**

**Professor, University of Basel**

**Director, Centre for Socio-Eco-Nomic Development (CSEND), Geneva**



**Raymond Saner**  
Professor, University of Basel  
Director, Centre for Socio-Eco-Nomic Development (CSEND),  
Geneva

*Attempting to achieve the 17 UN sustainable development goals (SDGs) is a formidable task. Business as usual will not do! Implementing the SDGs not only requires financial and human resources but also scientific knowledge. This is where the SNIS has its role to play. It can – and in my opinion must – focus its community’s attention to a few key areas namely:*

- *Focus on targets that have thematic links to more than one of the Geneva based international organisations. This will ensure that the cooperation between researchers, IO staff and research oriented NGOs will be successful due to the benefit of proximity.*
- *Address the deeper root causes of the global system’s vulnerability and imbalance. None of the SDGs are self-contained knowledge domains. SNIS projects focusing on SDGs should be designed on the basis of an intersectoral research methodology.*
- *Put emphasis on a few SDGs that so far have been insufficiently discussed in the Geneva SDG hubs and SDG ecosystem (highlighted by the author), e.g.:*

- 12.1 Implement the 10-Year framework of programmes on **sustainable consumption and production patterns**, all countries taking action, with developed countries taking the lead, taking into account the development and capabilities of developing countries;*
- 16.6 Develop effective, accountable and transparent **institutions at all levels**;*
- 16.7 Ensure responsive, inclusive, participatory and representative decision making at all levels;*
- 17.17 Encourage and promote effective **public, public-private and civil society** partnerships, building on the experience and resourcing strategies of partnerships;*
- 17.18 By 2020, enhance capacity-building support to developing countries, including for least developed countries and small island developing States, to increase significantly **the availability of high-quality, timely and reliable data disaggregated by income, gender, age, race, ethnicity, migratory status, disability, geographic location and other characteristics relevant in national contexts.***

*More generally universities and other research partners should be encouraged to come up with research projects supportive of SDG implementation at different levels (subnational, national, regional, global).*

*Speaking from years of involvement in international cooperation and research, it would be most useful for the international community if the coming SDG research projects financed by SNIS would be able to “translate” their research for policy makers, economic and civil society actors respectively. All too often scientific excellence is shrouded in inaccessible language, which acts as a barrier to policy adoption. The agenda 2030 is complex enough; so let the SNIS supported research outputs become as accessible as possible.*

**Raymond Saner**

# FUNDING ACTIVITIES

Since its creation in 2008, the SNIS has diversified its funding activities. In addition to the annual call for projects, two prestigious academic prizes aimed at encouraging young researchers at the beginning of their career have been created. More recently, a specific workshop support programme to incubate and foster research collaborations has been created. This new scheme intends to promote the early collaboration between academics and IOs so that the resulting projects - potentially funded by the SNIS - benefit from this early partnership. (c.f. our 2012 publication "The Afterlife of Academic Research Projects" for details on how early partnership increases overall output).

## Call for Projects 2015

Annual Theme:  
Marrying development and ...

- affordable and sustainable energy
- protection and sustainable use of terrestrial and maritime ecosystems
- safe and inclusive cities
- sustainable production and consumption regimes
- cyber security

In 2015, the SNIS launched its eighth call for proposals, which was met by 65 pre-proposals. Eight projects have successfully passed the two evaluation rounds and have been accepted for funding (cf. page 7 - abstract of funded projects). As in previous years, the 2015 edition of the SNIS call turned out to be a highly competitive funding round. The SNIS is aware of this and provides researchers that have not been successful with their submissions with detailed feedback and recommendations so that participants can improve their future proposals.

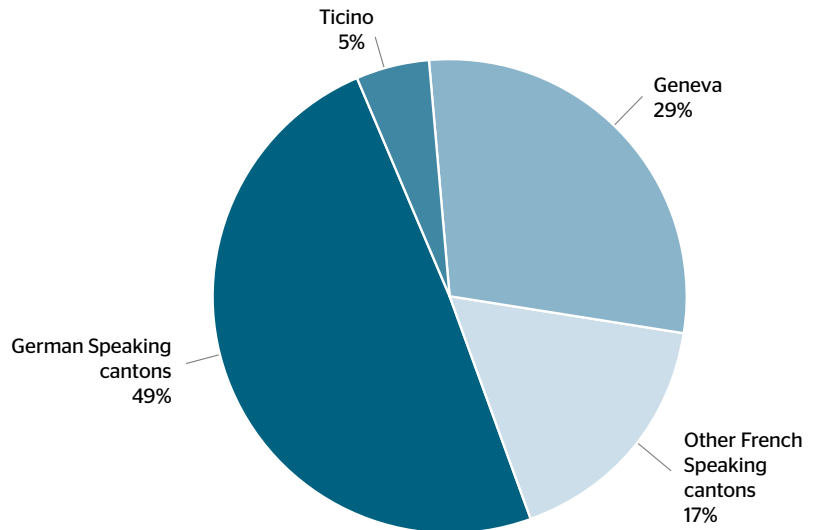
### Pre-proposals received in the first round per submitting institution

Region	Coordinating Institution	Projects	
<b>Basel</b>	University of Basel		<b>7</b>
<b>Bern</b>	University of Bern	4	<b>5</b>
	Bern University of Applied Sciences (BFH)	1	
<b>Fribourg</b>	University of Fribourg		<b>2</b>
<b>Geneva</b>	The Graduate Institute	10	<b>19</b>
	University of Geneva	9	
<b>Luzern</b>	University of Lucerne		<b>1</b>
<b>Neuchâtel</b>	University of Neuchâtel		<b>1</b>
<b>St. Gallen</b>	University of St. Gallen		<b>3</b>
<b>Ticino</b>	Università della Svizzera italiana	1	<b>3</b>
	Scuola universitaria professionale della Svizzera italiana (SUPSI)	2	
<b>Vaud</b>	University of Lausanne	2	<b>7</b>
	Swiss Federal Institute of Technology (EPFL)	5	
<b>Zurich</b>	Swiss Federal Institute of Technology (ETHZ)	5	<b>16</b>
	University of Zurich	9	
	Zürcher Fachhochschule (ZFH)	2	
<b>Inter-regional</b>	University of Applied Sciences and Arts of Western Switzerland		<b>1</b>
		<b>Total</b>	<b>65</b>

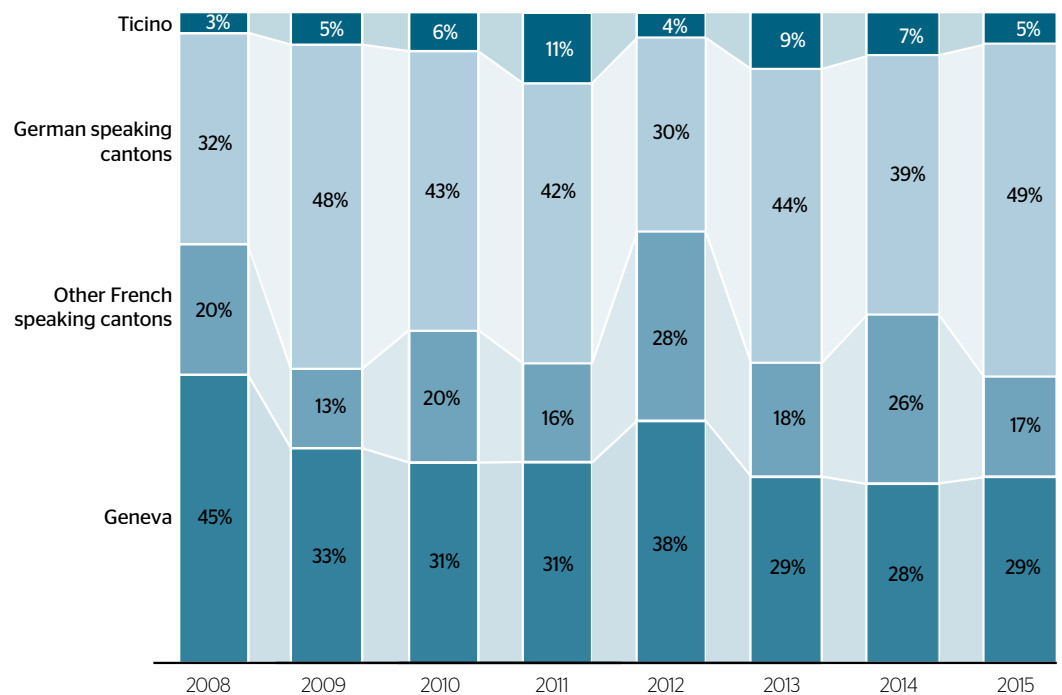
## Geographical Breakdown

The 2015 call for projects achieved a particularly high submission rate of German speaking cantons that accounted for 49% of total applications. Geneva's submission rate was in line with previous years, totalling 29% of submitted pre-proposals. The most fluctuating region seems to be the "Romandie" (outside Geneva) whose submission rate varied between 13% (2009) and 26% (2014).

The 2015 accepted projects mirror the geographical submission pattern: grants are allocated to four projects coordinated by Swiss German universities (St. Gallen, Basel, Zürich and Bern), three by Geneva institutions (two at the Graduate Institute, one at the University of Geneva), and finally one project by the University of Neuchâtel.



Geographical Breakdown Evolution - Call for projects 2008 - 2015 - Pre-proposals



**Partnerships****Average Partnerships per Pre-proposals - 2008 - 2015**

Average number (AN) of partners per project	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
AN of partners per project	3.95	4.08	3.95	5.80	6.49	5.17	6.11	7.34
AN of universities involved	2.65	2.56	3.14	3.12	3.61	3.48	3.34	4.03
AN of Swiss universities involved	1.73	1.64	1.88	1.59	1.74	1.77	1.80	1.92
AN of foreign universities	0.92	1.22	1.26	1.52	1.87	1.71	1.54	2.10
AN of non-governmental organisations	0.40	0.61	0.29	0.76	0.86	1.19	1.43	1.38
AN of international organisations	0.67	0.38	0.31	0.86	0.88	1.05	1.27	1.25
AN of public / state institutions	*	0.16	0.14	0.88	0.91	0.82	1.31	0.38
AN of private companies involved	*	0.07	0.07	0.18	0.23	0.19	0.30	0.26

For the years 2008-2015, the average numbers of partners per project show a continuing upward trend: in the 2015 call, project proposals on average included seven research partner institutions. The most extensive partnerships, as expected, are established with universities, both in Switzerland as well as worldwide.

The research partnerships with international governmental and non-governmental organisations are slightly below those achieved in 2014, but confirm a steady increase since the first editions of the call.





# Abstracts of Funded Projects

## Intertemporal Fairness in Global Climate Cooperation

**Lead:** *Prof. Michael M. Bechtel, Department of Political Science, University of St. Gallen*

**Partners:** University of St.Gallen, Department of Economics - Stanford University; Precourt Institute for Energy and Department of Political Science - *economiesuisse* - Fondazione Eni Enrico Mattei (University of Venezia, Italy) - *myblueplant* - WWF

**Disciplines:** *Political Science - International Relations - Economics - International Economics - Environmental Sciences*

**Geographical Scope:** *France - Germany - United Kingdom - United States of America*

Why do countries find it difficult to realise an effective global climate deal? Limiting global warming requires countries to cooperate over many decades and involves making contentious decisions about the intertemporal and intergenerational distribution of climate costs. So far, however, we lack knowledge about which types of intertemporal cost distributions are likely to find majority support in industrialised emitter countries.

This research project will explore which temporal distribution of climate costs publics support and which types of temporal distributions they prefer for other countries. To this end, we develop a theory of intertemporal fairness in climate cooperation that focuses on the intergenerational dimension of climate policy cost distributions. We evaluate the theoretical arguments using measures of fairness norms and time preferences in combination with randomised conjoint experiments embedded in representative surveys in Germany, France, the United Kingdom, and the United States. These states are major industrialised countries that not only account for a noteworthy share of global emissions but will also have to make significant contributions to tackling climate change that may help realise an effective global climate deal.

The insights gained in this project will advance the academic debate about the role of intertemporal fairness in climate cooperation and the sources of variation in dynamic policy preferences. They also promise to generate scientific knowledge that will enable policymakers to design climate policies that are more likely to be politically acceptable in major emitter countries.

*Which types of intertemporal cost distributions are likely to find majority support in industrialised emitter countries?*



## Individual-Level Attitudes towards Immigrants over Time and across Contexts

**Lead:** *Didier Ruedin, Swiss Forum for Migration and Population Studies, University of Neuchâtel*

**Partners:** University of Geneva, Department of Econometrics - University of Lausanne, Institute of Psychology - University of Oxford, Merton College (UK) - International Labour Organization

**Disciplines:** *Economics - Political Science - Psychology - Sociology*

**Geographical Scope:** *Germany - Switzerland - The Netherlands - United Kingdom*

Countries across Western Europe attract large numbers of immigrants. While some regard immigration positively and underline benefits, others view it with suspicion. Scholars in many fields have studied why some individuals oppose immigration and foreigners more than others. Political scientists, sociologists, social psychologists, and economists have all refined the basic argument of unwanted competition in the labour market and increasingly underline the role of prejudice, ideology, context, and cultural values. However, scholars have not yet adequately addressed how attitudes towards immigration develop and change over time, and under what circumstances they are maintained. This creates the condition for ill-informed policy decisions and a perpetuation of resentment among parts of the population.

This research will remedy this gap by examining the dynamics of individual-level attitudes towards foreigners using panel data in a cross-national framework. The project will examine three related research areas - the role of neighbourhoods in shaping attitudes, socialisation, and the stability or persistence of attitudes. By so doing the study clarifies the relationship between individual background, context, and negative attitudes towards foreigners.

This research is expected to contribute to debates on immigration more widely as it has direct bearings on how the social impact of immigration in receiving countries can be managed. By placing longitudinal data at the heart of the analysis, this project is able to overcome endogeneity biases due to omitted variables and the relatively small number of cases in most existing studies. A dissemination event will actively engage with stakeholders to explore how to alleviate negative feelings and increase social cohesion.

*What are the individual-level attitudes towards foreigners and how do they change over time towards immigration?*



## New Plantations: Migrant Mobility, “Illegality” and Racialization in European Agricultural Labour

**Lead:** *Dr Timothy Raeymaekers, Department of Geography, University of Zurich*

**Partners:** University of Basel, Department of Social Sciences / Centre for Gender Studies - University of Bergamo, Department of Foreign Languages, Literatures and Communication Studies (Italy) - University of Bern, Institute of Social Anthropology - University of Leuven, Interculturalism, Migration and Minorities Research Centre / Institute for Anthropological Research in Africa (Belgium) - University of Torino, Department of Culture, Politics and Society (Italy) - University of Vienna, Department of Political Science (Austria) - Associazione Rurale Italiana - Caritas International - Europäische BürgerInnen Forum - International Labour Organisation (ILO) - l'autre syndicat - Osservatorio Migranti Basilicata - Syndicat Unia - Women in Informal Employment (WIEGO) - Ya Basta!

**Disciplines:** *Anthropology - Geography - Political Science - Sociology*

**Geographical Scope:** *Belgium - Italy - Switzerland*

This project engages in a comparative enquiry into the triple dynamics of race, space and “illegality” in the reproduction of migrant precarious labour conditions in European agro-industrial labour markets. The complex question how and why “illegality” and “race” may become productive in the segmentation of precarious migrant workers across Europe is currently widely discussed.

The project will address this question in a systematic way through five original case studies that are currently almost uncovered by research on migrant labour in Italian, Swiss and Belgian horticulture (specifically the research focuses on Emilia-Romagna, Basilicata; Swiss Midlands and Lake Geneva Region; and Limburg).

This comparative ethnographic analysis of migrant employment regimes is meant to contribute to a better understanding of mechanisms of differential inclusion and segregation of migrant workers in competitive agri-food chains. The projects aims at developing a framework for more socially sustainable production regimes in the studied contexts and at exploring approaches that might improve difficult working conditions of migrants in agriculture.

*What are the mechanisms of differential inclusion and segregation of migrant workers in the agro-industrial labour markets?*



## Feminist Analysis of Social and Solidarity Economy Practices: Views from Latin America and India

**Lead:** *Dr Christine Verschuur, Programme on Gender and Global Change/ Pôle genre et développement, The Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies, Geneva*

**Partners:** French Institute of Pondicherry (India) - Institut de recherche pour le développement (IRD)/Centre d'études en sciences sociales sur les mondes africains, américains et asiatiques - CESSMA (France) - Institute of Social Studies Trust - ISST (India) - Sempreviva Organização Feminista - SOF (Brazil) - Universidad Nacional de General Sarmiento (Argentina) - Universidad Mayor de San Andrés (Bolivia) - United Nations Research Institute for Social Development (UNRISD)

**Disciplines:** *Anthropology - Development - Economics - Environment - Political Science - Sociology*

**Geographical Scope:** *Argentina - Bolivia - Brazil - India*

Production, exchange and redistribution practices based on solidarity can be found in almost all areas of economic activity. After having long been ignored, these Social and Solidarity Economic (SSE) practices are receiving growing attention by scholars and by public authorities. Yet this increasing interest remains gender blind, even though these practices are highly gendered with women playing a major role in them. The SSE practices in the area of social reproduction are still under-recognised. This research project aims at addressing these gaps in analysis and policies from a feminist perspective. It will also contribute to the empirical and theoretical debates on social reproduction.

The research hypothesises that to be truly transformative SSE also needs to address the reorganisation of social reproduction, integrating the political goals of gender equality and more equitable power relations. It aims at understanding practices, social relations and power relations in relation to social reproduction within SSE. It furthermore seeks to explore the contribution of SSE to the renewal of public action and policies in the fields of production and social reproduction.

SSE organisations located in Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil and India have been selected where in-depth studies at the micro-level will be developed, using feminist anthropological approaches. At the meso and macro-level, the project will explore the interactions between SSE and political debate, action and public policies, using feminist economics, sociology and political science approaches. These multi-scalar and pluri-disciplinary studies will produce comparative analyses and contribute to substantial conclusions, both at the theoretical and policy levels.

*What are the practices, social relations and power relations to social reproduction within the Social and Solidarity Economy?*



## Increased Susceptibility to *Plasmodium Falciparum* of Insecticide Resistant *Anopheles* in West Africa

**Lead:** Prof. Thomas Smith, Swiss Tropical and Public Health Institute, University of Basel

**Partners:** Centre de promotion et d'appui pour le développement durable (CEPAD), Cotonou (Benin) - Centre de Recherches Entomologiques de Cotonou (CREC), Cotonou - Centre Suisse de Recherches Scientifiques (CSRS), Abidjan (Ivory Coast) - Institut Pasteur, Dakar (Senegal) - Institut pour la Recherche et le Développement (IRD), Dakar - University Cheick Anta Diop, Dakar - National Malaria Control Programs of Benin, Ivory Coast and Senegal

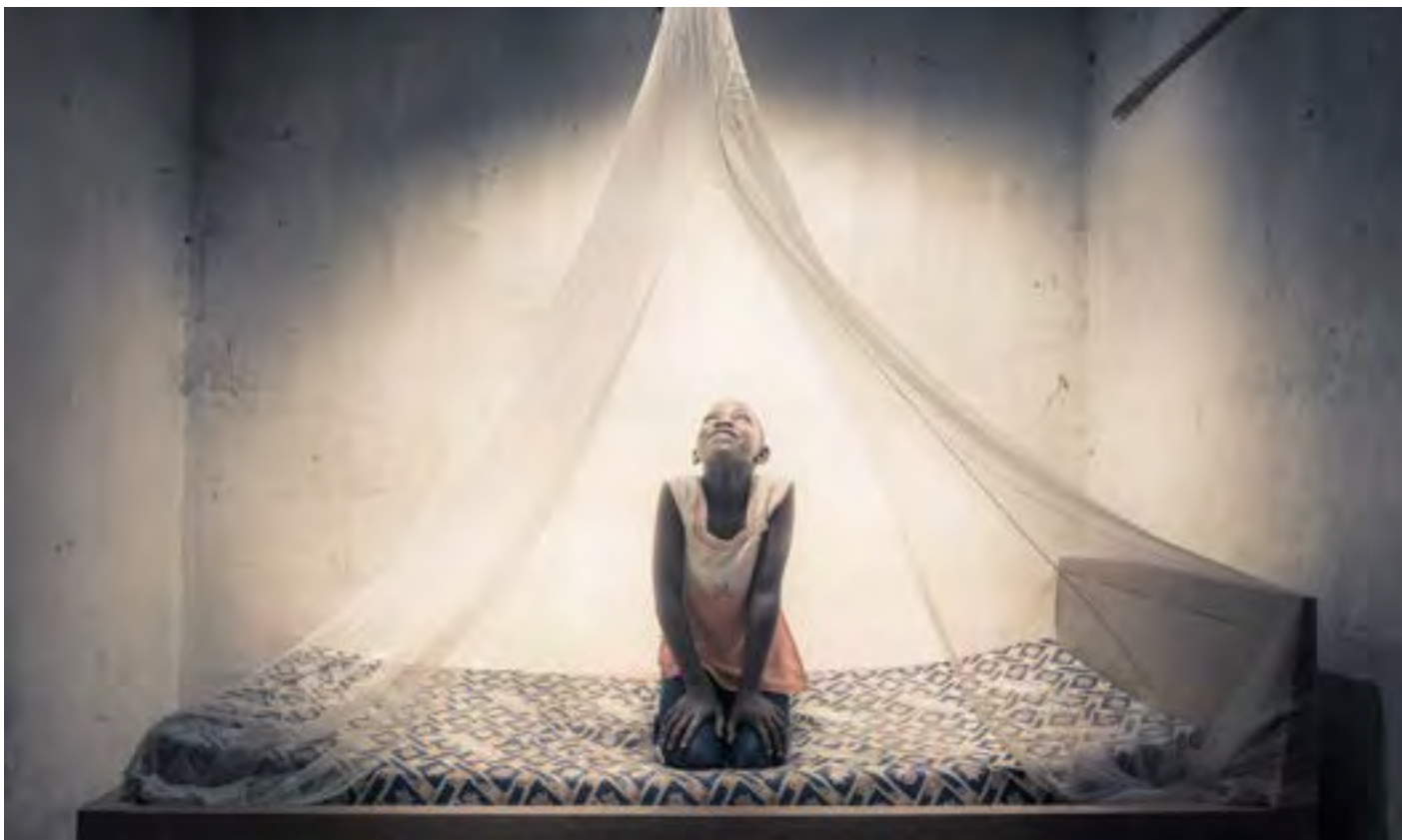
**Disciplines:** Anthropology - Biology - Development - Health / Medicine - Mathematics - Sociology

**Geographical Scope:** Benin - Ivory Coast - Senegal

In the context of rapidly spreading pyrethroid resistance in *Anopheles* mosquitoes and emerging evidence that this insecticide-resistance may increase mosquito susceptibility to *Plasmodium* infection, malaria control faces challenges never seen before. This project aims to assess how widespread the increased susceptibility of insecticide-resistant *Anopheles* to *Plasmodium* infection is, and the risk associated with this phenomenon in relationship to human behaviour regarding the use of bed nets and insecticides in three localities: Dielmo in Senegal, Tiassalé in Ivory Coast, and Tori-Bossito in Benin. *Anopheline* mosquitoes from these localities will be experimentally exposed to infected blood and genotyped to measure how the probability of infection is related to the genotype at the locus responsible for insecticide resistance in these three mosquito populations. A number of other entomological parameters will be measured to assess malaria transmission in each locality, and additional sociological and anthropological data on human behaviour related to prevention of mosquito bites will be collected. These data will be used to assess the risk of setbacks in malaria control (i.e. the risk of halting of the steady decrease in malaria incidence that has been observed in the past few years, or even increasing malaria incidence) and secondly, the risk of malaria transmission being higher with infection-susceptible insecticide resistant mosquitoes than it used to be before the scale-up of insecticide treated nets, when mosquitoes were insecticide susceptible and less susceptible to infection. If the second risk is substantial, this could translate into a crisis for malaria control. This research is expected to influence policy on recommendations about the use of bed nets and insecticides, and will help to plan the future of malaria control.

*How widespread is the increased susceptibility of insecticide-resistant *Anopheles* mosquitoes to *Plasmodium* infection and what are the risks associated with this phenomenon in relationship to the use of bed nets and insecticides?*

*What policies should be adopted to reduce the associated risk of a crisis in malaria control?*



## How to Break the Gridlock in Global Health Governance

**Lead:** *Prof. Ilona Kickbusch, Global Health Programme, Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies, Geneva*

**Partners:** University of Durham, School of Government and International Affairs (UK) - University of Wisconsin-Madison, Global Health Institute, Nelson Institute - Centre for Sustainability and the Global Environment (USA) - Swiss Tropical and Public Health Institute, Department of Epidemiology and Public Health - Geneva Centre for the Democratic Control of Armed Forces (DCAF) - UNITAID - World Health Organisation - World Vision International

**Disciplines:** *Development Studies - Health / Medicine - International Relations - Law - Political Science - Sociology*

**Geographical Scope:** *Worldwide*

Over the last twenty years, available funding for global health and the number of global health actors have both increased exponentially, making it one of the most dynamic and innovative arenas of global governance. This being said, the Millennium Development Goals related to health have largely gone unmet and health crises such as the recent Ebola outbreak have powerfully underscored the fact that increased number of institutions and funding streams have not translated into sustainable health systems, effective governance, or decisive global health leadership. Indeed, this proliferation of actors and institutions has led to fragmentation, competition, and - in a word - "gridlock" in global health governance.

Gridlock describes the tendency to stall in pressing international negotiations and leads to the breakdown of the major tools of global policy making. Gridlock decreases the ability of international actors to coordinate effectively at a time when there is increased interdependence and need for collective action to protect global public goods.

This project seeks to operationalise the concept of gridlock in order to account for the deficiencies in global health governance and to illuminate the potential for reform. It will explore if, and how, the four pathways to gridlock (i.e. growing multipolarity, institutional inertia, harder problems, and fragmentation) can be applied to global health. The research bridges existing literature gaps and draws on studies conducted on gridlock in other areas of global governance (including security, environment, and the economy) to conduct a comparative analysis to understand not only the pathways to gridlock in global health governance, but more importantly, how to break the impasse.

*To what extent can the concept of gridlock be applied to the deficiencies in global health governance and what is the potential for reform?*



## Monitoring Marine Biodiversity in Genomic Era

**Lead:** Prof. Jan Pawlowski, Department of Genetics and Evolution, University of Geneva

**Partners:** Aarhus Universitet, Department of Bioscience and Aquatic Biology (Denmark) - University of Geneva, Section of Earth and Environmental Sciences - University of California, Scripps Institution of Oceanography (USA) - Université Pierre et Marie Curie, Paris 6 (France) - University of Southampton, National Oceanography Center (UK) - Swiss Federal Institute of Aquatic Science and Technology (EAWAG) - International Seabed Authority - International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN)

**Disciplines:** Biology - Environmental Sciences - Marine law

**Geographical Scope:** Chile - Great Britain - USA

Rapidly increasing impacts of industrial activities on marine biodiversity strongly affects marine ecosystem health and services. Yet, the growing demand for measuring and mitigating these impacts can hardly be satisfied by classical monitoring tools based on morphological species identification. New technologies based on environmental DNA (eDNA) could potentially overcome these limitations, but their application for biomonitoring and environmental impact assessment is currently very limited.

The main objective of this project is to explore the potential utility of genomic approaches for environmental monitoring of marine ecosystems from biological, legal and economic perspectives. The first part of the project aims to establish the ecogenomic markers for measuring the environmental impact on sea bottom diversity in the case of two types of industrial activity: marine aquaculture and deep-sea mining. The second part of the project will focus on understanding the legal and institutional framework surrounding environmental monitoring and future application of ecogenomic markers.

The outcome of the project will provide regulators and environmental managers with an evaluation of the effectiveness of the eDNA approach as a tool for measuring the status of marine biodiversity. At the same time, the project will provide policy makers and stakeholders at the national and international levels with the information required to devise policies able to monitor, observe and protect the marine environment.

*How effective is the eDNA approach as a tool for measuring the status of marine biodiversity?*

## Diffusion of International Law: A Textual Analysis of International Investment Agreements

**Lead:** Prof. Manfred Elsig, World Trade Institute (University of Bern)

**Partners:** Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Zurich (ETHZ) - University of Maryland, Department of Government and Politics (USA) - University of Tulane, Murphy Institute of Political Economy (USA) - University of Victoria, School of Law (Canada) - University of Zurich, Institute of Computational Linguistics - World Bank Group

**Disciplines:** International Law - Language Studies - Economics - Political Science

**Geographical Scope:** Worldwide

The global investment regime is governed by various types of international investment agreements (IIAs). Currently, there are some 3,000 bilateral investment treaties (BITs) in place and investment disciplines are also found in preferential trade agreements (PTAs). The broader investment regime also encompasses commitments on trade in services under the General Agreement on Trade in Services (GATS) and obligations from double taxation agreements (DTAs). IIAs provide protection to foreign investors and their investments including specific investor-state dispute settlement (ISDS) mechanisms that allow foreign investors to challenge governmental actions outside local courts. The number of ISDS cases has significantly increased in the past 15 years, raising concerns about the high sums involved and the legitimacy of arbitral tribunals.

This project has two main objectives: First, the creation of a new database of IIAs that complements existing endeavours, including texts of BITs, and the relevant parts of PTAs, GATS and DTAs, in one single format and standardised by language. This will help assessing more systematically and accurately the levels of the commitments in light of multiple agreements with partially contradicting obligations. Second, this new database will serve as the empirical backbone for answering a set of important questions related to understanding the design, evolution and effects of IIA. It will provide new measures for structures and the content of treaty texts, map similarities, explore the patterns of diffusion and link different measures of treaty design with outcomes such as investment flows. From a policy standpoint, the project will develop a new toolkit that can be used both in treaty negotiations as well as arbitration.

*What are the design, evolution and effects of the international investment agreements currently in practice?*

# SNIS Award for the Best Thesis in International Studies

The SNIS received eighteen PhD theses for assessment within the sixth edition of the SNIS Award, prized at CHF 5'000. The jury attributed the award ex aequo to Dr Ayelet Berman and Dr Jaci Leigh Eisenberg. Both winners come from the Graduate Institute (Geneva) and received the grade “summa cum laude”.

Winning theses:

## **Dr. Jaci Leigh Eisenberg**

### **“American Women and International Geneva: 1919-1939”**

February 2014, Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies, under the supervision of Professor André Liebich

This thesis examines the contributions of American women to interwar international Geneva, that is, the League of Nations universe. This grouping of women is based on the underlying hypothesis that they were “double outsiders”: outsiders as Americans, due to US non-accession to the League of Nations, and outsiders as women, given their de facto exclusion from most League work. Four cases wherein American women attempted to impact the League universe are presented: involvement with educational issues; efforts to influence the delegates attending the 1932 World Disarmament Conference; the global fight for women’s legal equality; and finally, the quest for US accession to the International Labour Organization, ultimately achieved in 1934. In probing these women’s agendas and rationales, as well as by noting their channels of action and the ultimate outcomes of these efforts, this work concludes that their outsider position often helped them influence the League, particularly when they were also able to wield the power of the purse. Additionally, it demonstrates that American women in interwar international Geneva often exercised their own foreign policy, different from that of their government. These points serve to qualify this construct as a grouping of elites.

**Dr Jaci Leigh Eisenberg**



“*The study is a very good example of how international history and international politics may speak to each other. Put differently, the thesis is a good example of how the historical method may generate insights into the dynamics of international politics.*”

“*This work makes a significant contribution to historical scholarship by placing women’s history and the history of international organisations into closer dialogue with each other, and by demonstrating the utility of a prosopographical approach in illuminating hidden connections, particularly for poorly documented figures.*”

**Evaluation remarks by the jury**



## Dr. Ayelet Berman

### "Reining in the Regulators? Transnational Regulatory Networks and Accountability"

June 2014, Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies, under the supervision of Professor Joost Pauwelyn

The nature of international relations is changing. International cooperation has traditionally been the purview of states and intergovernmental organisations. But in the past two decades, with globalisation and growing interdependence, national regulators have stepped in, and are collaborating with their foreign counterparts. Such "transnational regulatory networks" (TRNs) have not come without their problems, and in particular have generated criticism about their accountability. That is the topic of this thesis - the accountability of TRNs.

This thesis addresses this question by looking at TRNs that are in the business of harmonising health related standards - the International Conference on Harmonization (ICH), the International Cooperation on Harmonization of Technical Requirements for Registration of Veterinary Medicinal Products (VICH), the International Medical Devices Regulators Forum (IMDRF) and the International Cooperation on Cosmetics Regulation (ICCR). The thesis demonstrates that TRNs have historically been more accountable than perceived to be by the literature. Furthermore, they are evolving to become more accountable bodies, e.g. through the introduction of more transparency, and by allowing for greater participation of stakeholders. The research further concludes that while the literature has mostly focused on accountability measures available at the transnational level, one should expand the analysis to include the domestic level as well. Domestic administrative law has (and should have) a role in holding TRNs accountable. Finally, despite positive developments towards more accountability, problems remain.

Dr Ayelet Berman



“ *The thesis has a strong disciplinary appeal in pushing the boundaries of the relatively new field of transnational (informal) law.* ”

“ *The thesis makes an important contribution to the functioning of TRNs and their evolution to become more transparent and accountable.* ”

**Evaluation remarks by the jury**

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# International Geneva Award 2015

*“Describing the interconnection between the local, the national and the global level by describing how a local Canadian initiative has infused the global norms of UNESCO world heritage is an original way of showing the multi- and inter-scalar nature of global governance”.*

*“This work is pertinent for practitioners in international organisations because it explores the interplay between global norms created and espoused by international organisations and the local communities to which these norms apply”.*

**Assessment remarks by the jury members**

The jury, composed of members of the International Geneva Committee attributed the 2015 International Geneva Award to the following peer reviewed articles in the field of international studies. These articles were selected out of eighteen submissions received. Each paper is awarded with a prize of CHF 5'000.

## **Scaling the Local: Canada's Rideau Canal and Shifting World Heritage Norms**

**Published in: Journal of World History, Volume 26, Number 3, pages 491-520, September 2015**

**Authors:**

**Aurélie Gfeller** (The Graduate Institute, Geneva), **Jaci Eisenberg** (The Graduate Institute, Geneva)

**Abstract:**

Challenges to the predominantly European conception of heritage enshrined in the 1972 World Heritage Convention arose in the early 1990s, both from the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) and its member states. In 1992, the Friends of the Rideau, a Canadian non-governmental organisation in charge of the eponymous canal's heritage, launched a campaign to inscribe their site on the UNESCO World Heritage List.

The Canadian government took the lead in orchestrating the diplomatic ballet necessary to validate canals as a form of World Heritage - one that challenged the predominantly European aesthetic understanding of heritage. The Friends' and Canada's interactions in favour of inscribing the Rideau demonstrate how global norms can be appropriated by local communities, and how the process can in turn influence the very same global norms. In essence this case study shows an exchange from the global level to the local level, and back up to the global level, rather than simply a uni-directional flow from global to local. Furthermore, this case provides empirical evidence for the legitimizing function of expertise in international organisations.

Rideau Canal, Canada



*“Excellent paper, well argued and thoroughly substantiated.”*

*“The article is relatively short but provides a very well structured and concise analysis of the topic, with acknowledgement of the areas/elements which have not been considered and the possible consequences of missing them.”*

**Assessment remarks by the jury members**

## **Crisis-Proof Services: Why Trade in Services did not Suffer During the 2008-2009 Collapse**

**Published in: Journal of International Economics, Volume 98, pages 138-149, January 2016**

**Author:**

**Andrea Ariu**

*Institute of Economics and Econometrics, University of Geneva*

**Abstract:**

During the 2008-2009 crisis, trade in goods fell by almost 30%. In contrast, trade in business, telecommunication and financial services continued growing at their pre-crisis rates and only services related to transport declined. Using trade data at the firm-product-destination level for Belgium, the paper shows that during the crisis the elasticity of services exports with respect to GDP growth in destination countries was significantly different from that of goods exports. In particular, the negative income shock in partner countries affected exports of goods but not exports of services. This difference is economically sizable: if goods exports had had the same elasticity to GDP growth as services exports, their fall during the 2008-2009 collapse would have been only half what was observed.

*“This study provides new insight into a timely question on the transparency and the independence of civil servants at the international level”.*

*“The originality is given by the fact that despite a vast literature in this field, there has so far been little research about the specific research question asked by the study”.*

**Assessment remarks by the jury members**

## **Conflicts of Interest in International Organisations: Evidence from two United Nations Humanitarian Agencies**

**Published in: Public Administration, Vol. 94, Issue 2, pages 490-508, June 2016**

**Authors:**

**Valentina Mele** (Bocconi University), **Simon Anderfuhren-Biget** (University of Geneva),

**Frédéric Varone** (University of Geneva)

**Abstract:**

The independence of international civil servants (ICSs) from their country of origin is often presumed but rarely accounted for empirically. In order to address this gap, we investigate whether ICSs face conflicts between national and international interests and which conditions are more conducive to the manifestation of this conflict in international organisations. We adopt a mixed-methods design, including a survey with 1,400 respondents working in two United Nations humanitarian organisations, followed by semi-structured interviews with a purposive sample of respondents. The findings show that such conflicts matter for ICSs and that hierarchical grade has stronger explanatory power than the other factors. The higher the level in the international organisation, the less frequently ICSs face conflicts. The qualitative analysis explains these results by pointing to the effects of socialization among ICSs but also by shedding light on a related effect: dilution of national identity, as well as on the implications of locally recruiting lower-level staff.

# Incubator Workshops

*The third edition of this support programme that aims at fostering research collaboration between Swiss academia and international and non-governmental organisations has met increased attention. While the call is open to academic institutions, IOs and NGOs alike, proposals stemming from universities prevailed. Eleven workshop proposals covering topics such as international law and trade politics, education, regional governance, peacebuilding and sustainable development were submitted.*

The jury, composed of the President of the International Geneva Committee (Francesco Pisano, UNOG) and the President of the Scientific Committee (Prof. Jacques Silber), selected two workshops for funding. The topics of the selected proposals were considered to be on top of the current international agenda and therefore very promising in terms of further research. An envelope of CHF 5'000 is attributed to each workshop.

## The UN Agenda on Business and Human Rights and the Role of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights

**Organised by:** *University of Zurich (Centre for Human Rights Studies), and the UN Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights*

**Date:** *15 July 2016*

In July 2012, the UN Secretary General launched a report on the "Contribution of the United Nations system as a whole to the advancement of the business and human rights agenda and the dissemination and implementation of the Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights". The report identifies opportunities and provides recommendations for advancing the business and human rights agenda within the United Nations system by embedding the agenda, and particularly the Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights (UNGPs).

While the new consensus on the relevance of business activities in the implementation of human rights and the related uptake of the UNGPs is a significant progress, some caveats remain as the approach of addressing these issues varies significantly in the different UN institutions. The unbridled and unchecked mainstreaming process of the UNGPs within the UN institutions thus bears the risk of fragmentation and inconsistent interpretations of the UNGPs.

The Centre for Human Rights Studies of the University of Zurich has supported the UN Working Group on Business and Human Rights since spring 2015 in preparing an extensive mapping study on existing decisions, observations, reports and general comments of the UN Treaty Bodies and representatives of the Human Rights Committee's special procedures related to the central issues of business and human rights.

The Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights has started to work on a General Comment regarding State obligations related to business pertaining to the ESC-Rights. By spring 2016, the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights will be ready to discuss its first draft of the General Comment at the workshop.

The workshop fosters the exchange of past and current experiences in the implementation of the UN Guiding Principles at this timely moment in the drafting procedure. It strengthens the knowledge transfer between academia and the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights at a crucial moment during the elaboration process of the new General Comment on Business and Human Rights.

As a follow-up research project, a comprehensive guidance instrument might be developed, to foster a coherent mainstreaming of the UNGPs within the UN human rights mechanisms and to avoid the risk of fragmentation and interpretation problems.

## Geneva's Impact on Sustainable Development Goals Implementation

### Implementing the SDGs: Creating and Sharing Knowledge

**Organised by:** *Dr. Joachim Monkelbaan, Independent Consultant and Faculty Member, Institute of Environmental Studies, University of Geneva*

**Date:** 27 April 2016

**Partner organisations:** *United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), Geneva, International Environment Forum (IEF), Geneva*

The sustainable development goals (SDGs) provide a vision for global progress for the next 15 years. The framework of 17 SDGs contains 169 targets and covers a vast range of areas, including poverty eradication, climate change, health, and employment. The SDGs overlap with the societal challenges that numerous efforts by academics and practitioners in Geneva aim to address, particularly in the fields of human rights, trade, health, employment and environment.

Geneva hosts numerous international organisations, which have the technical expertise that is required for leveraging scientific inputs and implementing the SDGs successfully. There is a clear impetus for international actors in Geneva to achieve multiple SDGs simultaneously because almost every goal requires multi-sectorial and multi-stakeholder engagement to harness these « deep interconnections » and « cross-cutting elements » with other goals.

Based on this need for multi-stakeholder collaboration, the University of Geneva, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), and the International Environment Forum (IEF) organised this workshop that represented a first step towards a longer-term collaborative and participatory process of SDG implementation.



**1 NO POVERTY**

**Eradicate poverty for all people everywhere, currently measured as people living on less than \$1.25 a day**

# EVENTS

## International Geneva Debate Series

*The University of Geneva (Prof. Frédéric Giraut, Department of Geography and Environment) hosted the debate on challenges faced by cities in the Global South to cope with the rapid urbanisation. The debate aimed at gathering diverse perspectives on questions such as current policies and approaches towards urbanisation, challenges in terms of housing, access to water and sanitation, safety and pollution, and potential benefits of effective urban planning to mitigate negative effects of rapid urban growth.*



International Geneva Debate Series  
Rethinking Development

### Smarter, Safer, Resilient and Sustainable Cities?

Land Management and Territorial Development in the Global South:  
Challenges in Urban Contexts

**Monday, 16 March 2015 - 14:00 - 15:30 - University of Geneva**  
Uni Mail - Boulevard du Pont d'Arve 40, Geneva - Room MS.040.

Cities are home to more than half of the world's population. Urbanization rates in the global South continue to rise as rural-to-urban migration reaches new heights. Cities are facing unprecedented demographic, environmental, economic, social and spatial challenges. In the absence of effective urban planning, the consequences of the rapid urbanization impact billions of people. What are the current policies and approaches towards urbanization? What are the challenges in terms of housing, access to water and sanitation, safety and pollution? How can effective urban planning contribute to mitigate negative effects of rapid urban growth?

The following speakers of international governmental, non-governmental and private sector organizations will address the topic:

**World Alliance of Cities against Poverty**  
**Adam Rogers**, Assistant Director, Europe Regional Representation, United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation (UNOSSC)

**UrbaMonde**  
**Cyril Royez**, Coordinator

**IBM Switzerland (Smarter Cities Challenge)**  
**Nuri Twebti**, Higher Education and Research

**Chair and Moderation**  
**Professor Frédéric Giraut**, Director of the Department of Geography and Environment, University of Geneva

Participation is free  
Prior registration is requested by e-mail to: [communication@enis.ch](mailto:communication@enis.ch)



## Smarter, Safer, Resilient and Sustainable Cities

*The debate brought together speakers from international organisations, NGOs and the private sector:*

*Adam Rogers, Regional Representative for Europe, United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation and Coordinator for the World Alliance of Cities Against Poverty*

*Cyril Royez, Coordinator, UrbaMonde, Geneva*

*Nuri Twebti, Client Executive, Higher Education and Research, IBM*

Adam Rogers focused on the importance of legal land ownership and well-planned urban development. He underlined the key importance of property rights that enable residents to have access to credits, home improvement loans and the possibility to start new businesses, which are all factors leading to empowerment.

An innovative approach was presented by UrbaMonde, a Geneva based NGO, whose core mission is to support sustainable cities built "by and for their inhabitants". Cyril Royez presented the various community-led habitat projects not only in the Global South but also in Switzerland. What emerged from his intervention is that the so-called social production of habitat is gaining growing importance, as the traditional public-private partnerships need to include civil society actors.

Cities - home to more than half of the world population - are increasingly instrumented, interconnected and intelligent. Nuri Twebti gave an overview on how technology and the use of intelligence can positively affect transportation, resource management, healthcare, education and public safety. He presented IBM's Smarter Cities Challenge: The Smarter Cities Challenge deploys IBM experts to help cities around the world to address their most critical challenges. Teams are put on the ground for three weeks to work closely with city leaders and deliver recommendations on how to make the city smarter and more effective. In Ho Chi Minh (Vietnam), the smarter city challenge yielded recommendations on how to improve water quality by addressing factors such as flooding and pollution and the transportation system. Furthermore mechanisms were put in place to quickly identify and shut down contamination events. In 2014, sixteen cities spread over all continents have benefitted of this philanthropic initiative.

The ensuing discussion with the audience addressed questions such as the access and procurement of technology, public-private collaborations, community-based projects and public health issues.

# International Geneva Award Ceremony

The SNIS paid tribute to the winners of the International Geneva Award 2014: Liliana B. Andonova (The Graduate Institute, Geneva), Fernando Prieto Ramos (Centre for Legal and Institutional Translation Studies, University of Geneva) and Dominic Rohner (Department of Econometrics and Political Economy, University of Lausanne).

The laureates individually presented their awarded articles and related research. The jury members who had assessed the winning articles highlighted in their laudatio the policy relevance and direct applicability.

Liliana B. Andonova, author of the awarded article that looks at the conditions under which states engage in transnational public-private partnerships (PPs) for the environment, expressed her thanks for receiving the prize as it not only recognises the academic work, but also the contribution to the policy work in actively seeking new forms of governance to address complex problems.

In her laudation Charlotte Warakaulle mentioned that International Geneva is really a place where PPs are increasingly seen as an opportunity for the international community, but it is only with academia and other stakeholders that we are able to really understand and improve the use of this tool. The article therefore presents a very important step in this direction.

Dominic Rohner presented the key findings of his article that considers that instigators of strategic mass killings can be guided by merely rational economic calculations. A defeated group and reduced population are likely to get a smaller share of the available resources in the future.

Francesco Pisano, host of the award ceremony that took place at UNITAR, lauded the paper co-authored by Dominic Rohner by underlining that this contribution brings to the fore the highly problematic link between mass violence and economic considerations and that its findings should be taken up by UN agencies that deal with peacekeeping operations.

Andrea Aeby praised the work of Fernando Ramos who analysed in his article the defining features of legal translation in the development of international and supranational law. "The prize that you are awarded with today addresses a topic that is highly relevant to International Geneva since we simply rely on high quality translations without considering how meanings can be affected in the process. You certainly made us aware of the crucial role interpreters have not only in conveying accurate translations but also of their role in pointing out potential ambiguities in texts we submit to them." Fernando Prieto Ramos reminded that international law is multilingual and relies on translation for its creation and application, the reason why legal translations are relevant to international studies. Legal translations are vital for shaping institutional discourses and his research has been looking into the associated processes in general at the role of legal translators in particular.

from left to right: Bernhard Fuhrer, Dominic Rohner, Fernando Prieto Ramos, Liliana B. Andonova



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# Project Launch Workshop

The project coordinators and teams members of the projects accepted for funding within the 2015 call for projects (cf. overview on pages 7-13) met on 8 October 2015 at the Villa Moynier in Geneva for the traditional launch workshop. The gathering offered an excellent opportunity for researchers to get acquainted with SNIS project management procedures. The kick-off meeting also provided the teams to informally engage amongst themselves and with the staff of the SNIS secretariat in view of the future cooperation.





# Research DISSEMINATION

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## Multimedia outputs

The SNIS strongly emphasises that the dissemination of research results is as important as their production. Currently, over sixty project working papers are available in open access on the SNIS website. Recently, the Network has also started delivering “academic” videos on selected projects. After the success of the documentary film “Rubber in a Rice Bowl”, the SNIS will continue producing films in different formats as they have proved to be useful not only to reach out to a wider public, but also as effective tools for teaching purposes.

In 2014-2015, Helena Zihel and Reto Steffen from the SNIS staff have partnered with Dr Marlyne Sahakian (University of Lausanne), co-coordinator and lead researcher of the project “(Un)Sustainable food consumption dynamics in South/Southeast Asia”, to produce six short films that reveal the complexity of food consumption patterns among the middle classes in two rapidly changing, urban centres: Metro Manila, the Philippines and Bangalore, India.

***These six films talk about food consumption in Metro Manila and Bangalore. How did the films emerge?***

The films build on a two-year academic research project focused on the changing food consumption practices, patterns and policies related to the middle classes in Metro Manila and Bangalore. Middle classes, in the plural, as this turns out to be quite a heterogeneous group of people with varying income and education levels, housing types, and lifestyles. Oftentimes the middle classes in South and Southeast Asia are portrayed as resource predators, aspiring to Western lifestyles. We wanted to present a more nuanced picture. The heart of this research project was to use ethnographic methods, interviewing household members and observing food consumption in the home, at work, in restaurants and in a variety of other settings. In addition to uncovering everyday practices related to food consumption, we were interested in the environmental impacts of food consumption, as well as how policies related to food production and waste are evolving in each context.

***How do you apprehend food consumption practices in these two different settings?***

We wanted to deflect attention away from the notion of the individual and rational consumer, but rather look at what people are doing and saying in their everyday lives and in relation to social practices. We explicitly considered norms and prescriptions around food consumption, but also the material dimension of food – where it could be accessed, stored, prepared and be disposed. This approach was very useful to us, as we discovered that preparing and eating meals has to do with many other factors, not just people and their decision-making processes. We saw a major trend towards eating out, for example, and the role the service sector could play in reducing food waste. We also saw the role that domestic helpers play in managing food stock and avoiding food waste, in the home. In Metro Manila, we ended up exploring the significance of condominium lifestyles on food storage, preparation and consumption – the size of a kitchen and cost of air-conditioning play a role in food consumption practices – towards the trend in eating out. In Bangalore, we realised that collective conventions around what makes for a tasty meal has to do with freshness of produce, which has a consequence for food waste. When produce is accessed and cooked on a daily basis, there’s less stock to manage and thus less waste.



*Marlyne Sahakian, University of Lausanne, co-coordinator and lead researcher of the project “(Un)Sustainable food consumption dynamics in South/Southeast Asia”.*

*She speaks in this interview about how the films emerged and how the research question of food consumption practices was approached in the two different settings.*

*Film Screening Events:*

*The Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies, Geneva - Film screening and panel discussion, May 2015*

*Mara's Original Market Salon - Manila, Philippines, February 2016*

*Ashoka Trust for Research in Ecology and the Environment - Bangalore, India, March 2016*

*BLISS school (Building Learning in Sustainability Science) TERI University - New Delhi, India, April 2016*

*Ateneo University, The Institute of Philippine Culture, Quezon City, Metro Manila, the Philippines, May 2016*

***You mention patterns of consumption; did you also measure food consumption and waste?***

We attempted to measure food flows, considering the home as part of a Material Flow Analysis - a tool drawn from industrial ecology. In Metro Manila, we asked about thirty household members to consider what they had eaten in the past week. This is what's called a memory recall method, used for example in national surveys. We were able to get at quantities and weights, but these estimates are only proxies for actual measurements. In Bangalore, we did engage with several households to actually measure the food going in and out of the home. It's a resource intensive process and also relies on households who are willing to go along. Most importantly, in both cases, we found that it was important to keep a reflexive stance between the qualitative and quantitative research: you can get measurements, but what do they mean and how do they come about? You can describe practices, but are they significant when it comes to environmental impact?

The working papers and executive summaries can be found on the SNIS website

The six short films can be viewed on the documentary's website: [www.foodconsumption.snis.ch](http://www.foodconsumption.snis.ch)



**Food consumption dynamics among the urban middle classes in South and Southeast Asia.  
A research project: 2013-2015.**



## Rubber in a Rice Bowl

This SNIS documentary film, released in 2014, was screened at the Swiss Pavilion at the Milan Universal Exhibition 2015, where it was the starting point of the event "Trade, Land Acquisitions and the Right to Food", organised by the International Film Festival and Forum on Human Rights (FIFDH), in partnership with the City of Geneva.



After a successful touring in Switzerland and abroad in the framework of various events and as a course tool on the subject of large-scale acquisitions, the SNIS has set up a collaboration with the Canton of Geneva to propose the documentary film along with a pedagogical kit intended for secondary level teachers.

# Publications

The SNIS projects, which are funded over a two-year period, produce manifold outputs: publications, peer reviewed articles, working papers and executive summaries. SNIS rules and regulations foresee that research teams must provide open access to the research results. However, in view of not interfering with exclusive copyrights granted to third parties, the recipients of SNIS subsidies must provide a working paper and executive summary that are publicly available. The SNIS website proposes a rich open access library of over sixty working papers.

## Recent research outputs:

### PROJECT

#### Trends and Influence of Private Finance on Global Health Initiatives and Development Goals in Resource-constrained Countries

coordinated by **Marcel Tanner**  
(Swiss Tropical and Public Health Institute, University of Basel)

**Working Paper and Executive Summary**

### PROJECT

#### Integrated Analysis of Human Dimensions and Policy Implications of Cross-Border Migration and Vector-Borne Neglected Tropical Diseases in the Andes-Amazon Region

coordinated by **Esther Schelling**  
(Swiss Tropical and Public Health Institute, University of Basel))

**Working Paper:**

Migration and the ecology of American Cutaneous Leishmaniasis in Madre de Dios, Peru, and Acre, Brazil: A mixed methods approach

**Article:**

Migração peruana no Acre, Amazônia: determinantes, vulnerabilidades e oportunidades para promoção de saúde – Revista Latino-americana de Población

**Conference paper :**

O migrante invisível da fronteira Brasil -Peru

### PROJECT

#### Time to Look at Girls: Adolescent Girls Migration and Development

coordinated by **Katarzyna Grabska**  
(The Graduate Institute, Geneva)

**Final Reports and Executive Summaries:**

Adolescent Migration in Ethiopia  
Adolescent Migration in Bangladesh  
Adolescent Migration in Sudan

PROJECT

## WASH in the Context of Maternal Health and Menstrual Hygiene

coordinated by Christoph Lüthi (EAWAG)

**Conference Report:**

Key Elements for a New Urban Agenda: Integrated Management for a New Urban Agenda

PROJECT

## Diffusion of Clean Energy Technology for Green Economy in Developing Countries

coordinated by Liliana B. Andanova (The Graduate Institute, Geneva)

**Working Paper 1:**

*The light at the end of the tunnel: The impact of policy on the global diffusion of fluorescent lamps*

**Working Paper 2:**

*Redefining success in the fossil fuel subsidy reform in Indonesia*

PROJECT

## (Un)sustainable Food Consumption Dynamics in South/Southeast Asia

coordinated by Suren Erkman (University of Lausanne)

**Final Report and Executive Summary:**

*Report on Consumption Patterns, Material flow analysis (MFA) Environmental Impacts Eating out and Food Waste in Bangalore*

PROJECT

## Sustainable Land Management in Mountain Regions of Bolivia and Nepal in the Context of Outmigration, Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction

coordinated by Michel Jaboyedoff (University of Lausanne)

**Working Paper and Executive Summary**

PROJECT

## Governance by Contract? The impact of the International Finance Corporation's Social Conditionality on Worker Organisation and Social Dialogue

coordinated by Jean-Christophe Graz (University of Lausanne)

**Working Paper and Executive Summary**

PROJECT

## The Children of Refugees in Europe: Aspirations, Social and Economic Lives, Identity and Transnational Linkages

coordinated by Milena Chimienti (University of Applied Sciences and Arts, Western Switzerland)

**Working Papers and Final Report**

PROJECT

## The Intersectionality of Human Rights Violations and Multiple Grounds of Discrimination

coordinated by Patrice Meyer-Bisch (University of Fribourg)

**Working Paper (Final Report) and Executive Summary**

PROJECT

## Environmental Change and Migration

coordinated by Vally Koubi (Center for International and Comparative Studies, University of Zurich / University of Bern)

**Working Papers:**

*Environmental Change and Migration Environmental Migration Flows in Vietnam Environmental Stressors and Migration: Evidence from Vietnam*

# FINANCIAL and administrative matters

## Financial Statement for the Year 2015

The financial year 2015 closed with a positive balance of CHF 9'608, well above the forecasted result of a negative balance of CHF 12'723. This is mainly due to a significant decrease in operating costs.

The subsidies provided by the Swiss Confederation (State Secretariat for Education, Research and Innovation - SERI) and the Canton of Geneva are the principal income to the SNIS budget. In the financial year 2015, remainders of closed projects amounting to CHF 106'421 were reassigned into the overall budget.

A slight decrease in the expenses compared to the previous year can be noticed, both for scientific activities (-1.3%) as well as for operating costs that decreased by 5.1%, reaching a level close to the one realised in 2012.

The objective of allocating as much as possible of the available funds for scientific activities has also been achieved in 2015: 83% of the overall budget is spent for the different funding opportunities (research projects, awards and incubator workshops).

### Overview of the results of the financial year 2015

#### Incomes

##### Subsidies

Swiss Confederation	CHF	1'350'000
Canton of Geneva	CHF	1'193'566
Interest Rates	CHF	85
Dissolution of Remainders (Project Funds)	CHF	160'421
Various others	CHF	2'489

<b>Total</b>	<b>CHF</b>	<b>2'706'561</b>
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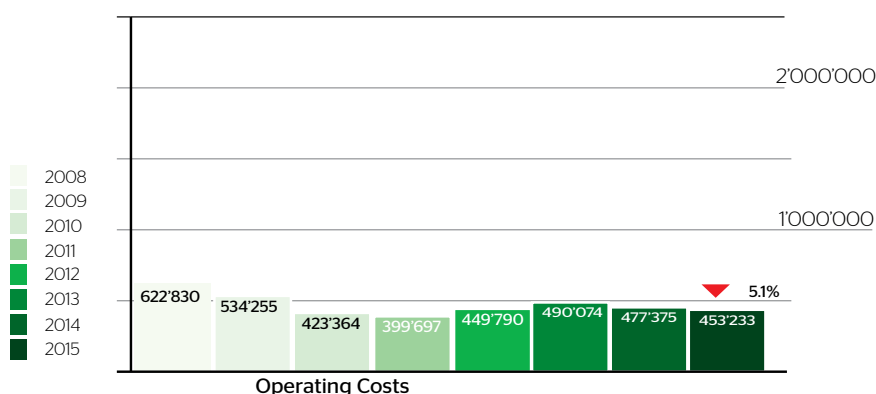
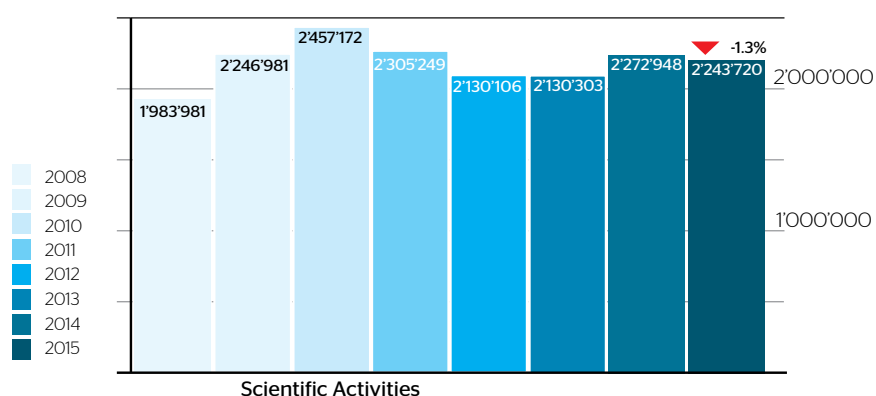
#### Expenses

Scientific Activities	CHF	2'243'720
Operating Costs (Administration and Salaries)	CHF	453'233

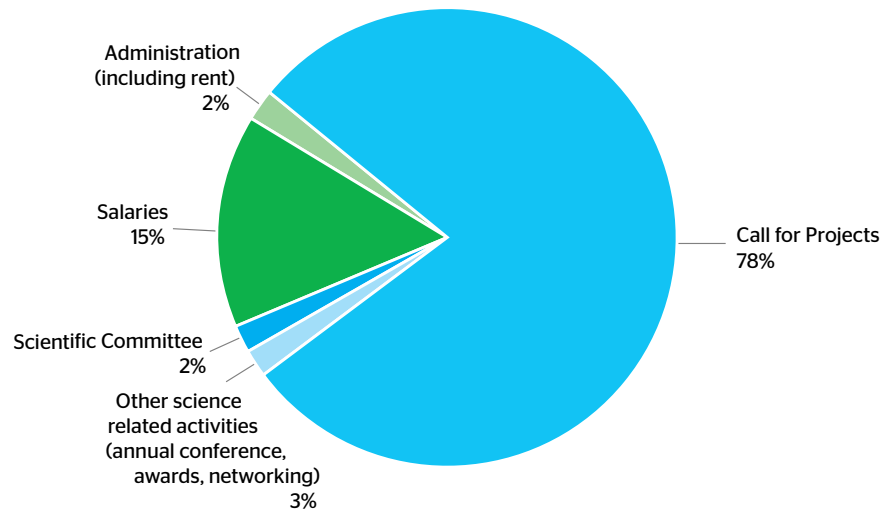
<b>Total</b>	<b>CHF</b>	<b>2'696'953</b>
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<b>Result</b>	<b>CHF</b>	<b>9'608</b>
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### Scientific activities and expenses 2008 - 2015



**Breakdown of expenses in 2015**



## Staff

For the last three years the same core team is handling the day-to-day management of the SNIS Secretariat.

- Dr Bernhard Fuhrer, Director (80%)
- Christa Allot, Communication and Events Manager (50%)
- Reto Steffen, IT and Multimedia Manager (60%)
- Helena Ziherl, Programme Manager (80%)

In November 2015, Dr Maria-Ruxandra Stoicescu (Independent Researcher) joined the SNIS to replace Helena Ziherl during her maternity leave.

Max Hauri, a civil service collaborator, gave more than a helping hand from August to December taking up various tasks in the field of communication, project management and multimedia productions.

# Outlook

**More research-based documentaries, an important conference, and a revised structure for the SNIS governing board; the next year will be rife with novelties at the SNIS.**

The next year will bring one more SNIS produced research-documentary, sharing the sustainable development theme on land management and gender equality. The film entitled “Dhōdār” (Dilemma) addresses the issue of men moving away from Nepali villages in search for work, leaving behind their mothers, wives and daughters who struggle in their daily life to adapt to changing environmental conditions.

At the same time, we will also ramp up our support to project leaders to take filming matters in their own hands. We will offer courses introducing researchers to this emerging field of visual academic communication.

Also on the agenda of 2016 is the SNIS biennial conference problematising “political and economic inequalities” at the ETH in Zurich, a very timely topic and covering a large spectrum of the SDG engagement.

As regards “internal” matters, the board of the SNIS will undergo some slight changes as more members from across Switzerland join this important committee. It goes without saying that broadened institutional support will be crucial when it comes to securing the resources for the funding period 2017-2020. We hope that the evaluation due next year will recognise that our “modus operandi” is – and has always been – an impact oriented approach.



# Structure of the SNIS (as of 31.12.15 - current status available on the SNIS website)

## Governing Committee

**heads** the Swiss Network for International Studies and the bodies and organs created within

**validates** the selection of projects made by the Scientific Committee defines and **takes decision** with regard to the budget

**defines** long term strategies

**approves** the selections made the Jury of the SNIS Award as well as of the International Geneva Award

### Members

Thomas BERNAUER  
Philippe BURRIN  
Joseph FRANCOIS  
Sandrine KOTT  
Jacques de WERRA

## Scientific Committee

acts as in **independent body** in its decisions

**evaluates and selects research projects** submitted in the annual call for projects

**evaluates** the funded projects in their intermediary phase and their final version

### President

Jacques SILBER

### Members

Jane COWAN  
Axel DREHER  
Wolf-Dieter EBERWEIN  
Bernice ELGER  
Madeleine HERREN-OESCH  
Stephan KLASEN  
Ulrike MÜLLER-BÖKER  
Krista NADAKAVUKAREN SCHEFFER

## International Geneva Committee

is composed by **representatives of scientific branches of international organisations (IOs)** in order to establish the link between Swiss scientists and IOs

defines the yearly thematic issue for the call for projects

contributes to the **round-table debate series** organised in various academic institutions in Switzerland

**acts as a Jury of the International Geneva Award** that rewards three outstanding scientific articles from the point of view of policy relevance

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## SNIS Award Jury

**evaluates the PhD thesis** submitted to the SNIS Award for the best thesis in international studies

is **independent in its decisions** and convenes annually to determine the winner of the Award by consensus

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## The Secretariat

is the **executive body** of the Swiss Network for International Studies

**implements decisions** taken by the Governing Committee

**organises** the annual call for projects and supports the Scientific Committee

**ensures** the follow-up of funded research projects

involves the International Geneva Committee in SNIS activities in order to **create a network** between IOs and researchers in Switzerland

**promotes international studies** in Switzerland

**establishes the budget line** and controls available funds

is responsible for the **SNIS communication** through various tools

**organises** events and conferences

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Bernhard FUHRER

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