



second international conference on
environmental, cultural, economic & social sustainability
HANOI AND HA LONG BAY, VIETNAM, 9-12 JANUARY 2006

www.SustainabilityConference.com

The Sustainability Conference, 2006



The Second International Conference on Environmental, Cultural, Economic and Social Sustainability is to be held in two significant areas of Vietnam, Hanoi and Ha Long Bay from Monday 9th to Thursday 12th January, 2006. The inaugural Sustainability Conference was held at the East-West Centre, Hawai'i, in February 2005.

Day 1 and Day 2 of the conference will be run in the historic and beautiful capital of Vietnam, Hanoi. Delegates will then travel to Ha Long Bay for Day 3 of the conference. Ha Long Bay is listed as a World Heritage site containing exceptional natural beauty and having aesthetic importance.

The conference will work in a multidisciplinary way across the various fields and perspectives through which we can address the fundamental and related questions of sustainability. Main speakers include some of the leading thinkers in these areas, as well as numerous paper, colloquium and workshop presentations.

Participants are invited to submit presentation proposals for 30 minute papers, 60 minute workshop, or jointly presented 90 minute colloquium sessions. Parallel sessions are loosely grouped into streams reflecting different perspectives or disciplines. Each stream also has its own talking circles a forum for focused discussion of issues.

Presenters may choose to submit written papers for publication before or after the conference in the International Journal of Environmental, Cultural, Economic and Social Sustainability. Presentations submitted for publication will be fully refereed and published in print and electronic formats. For those unable to attend the conference in person, virtual registrations are available, which provide access to the online edition of the conference proceedings. Virtual participants can also submit papers for refereeing and publication in the Journal.

If you would like to know more about this conference, visit the Sustainability Conference website — this site is regularly updated. You might also wish to subscribe to the Conference Newsletter through this site.



ADVISORY BOARD:

The International Conference on Environmental, Cultural, Economic and Social Sustainability and the International Journal of Environmental, Cultural, Economic and Social Sustainability

- Amareswar Galla, Director of Studies, Graduate Studies in Sustainable Heritage Development, Research School of Pacific and Asian Studies, The Australian National University, Canberra, Australia.
- Dr Dang Van Bai, Director, Department of National Cultural Heritage, Ministry of Culture and Information, Vietnam.
- Manfred Steger, Professor of Politics and Government, Illinois State University, and Academic Director, The Globalism Institute, RMIT University, Melbourne, Australia.
- Helena Norberg-Hodge, Founder and Director, The International Society for Ecology and Culture (ISEC).
- John Dryzek, Professor of Social and Political Theory/Political Science, Research School of Social Sciences, Australian National University.
- Robyn Eckersley, Department of Political Science, University of Melbourne.
- Judy Spokes, Director, Cultural Development Network, Melbourne, Australia.
- Paul James, Director, Globalism Institute, RMIT University, Melbourne, Australia.
- Mary Kalantzis, Innovation Research Professor, RMIT University in Melbourne, Australia.
- Peter Phipps, Researcher, Globalism Institute, RMIT University, Melbourne, Australia.
- John Fien, Innovation Professor of Sustainability, RMIT University, Melbourne, Australia.
- Richard M. Clugston, Center for the Respect of Life and the Environment, and University Leaders for a Sustainable Future, Washington DC, USA.
- Lyuba Zarsky, Globalism Institute, RMIT, Australia, and Global Development and Environment Institute, Tufts University, United States.
- Diane Bell, Director, Women's Studies Program and Professor, Department of Anthropology, The George Washington University, Washington DC, USA.
- Lily Kong, Professor, Department of Geography, National University of Singapore, Singapore.
- Steven Engelsman, Directeur, Rijksmuseum voor Volkenkunde, The Netherlands.

Who Should Attend

- Academics in the social sciences, applied sciences, the humanities, the professions and education.
- Research students.
- Public administrators in local, provincial and state government.
- Representatives of the private sector.
- Trainers and industry consultants.

SUPPORTED AND SPONSORED BY



- The Australian National University, Canberra, Australia Sustainable Heritage Development Programs, Research School of Pacific and Asian Studies, Pacific Asia Observatory for Cultural Diversity and Development, UNESCO, The Australian National University. <http://rspas.anu.edu.au/heritage>
- Department of National Cultural Heritage, Ministry of Culture and Information, Vietnam
- Quang Ninh Province, Vietnam
- Ha Long Bay World Heritage Area, Vietnam
- UNESCO Hanoi Office, Vietnam <http://www.unesco.org.vn/>
- ICOM - Vietnam National Committee
- The Globalism Institute, RMIT University, Melbourne, Australia The Globalism Institute is the public face of a university-wide research strength in globalisation and cultural diversity at RMIT University. The Institute undertakes engaged research into globalisation, transnationalism, nationalism and cultural diversity. It seeks to understand and critically evaluate current directions of global change, with an emphasis on the cultural implications of political and economic transformation. The role of the Institute is to initiate and manage research and community projects involving consortia of academics, researchers and consultants from diverse backgrounds. These collaborative projects draw on expertise from across the university and beyond, in fields such as global politics, international relations, community studies, cross-cultural communication, international education, international trade, productive diversity, global English and media studies. For further information, visit our website, or contact us by email.

Conference Organisers



- Common Ground

PROGRAM

MONDAY 9 JANUARY, 2006 - HANOI

- 8.30am: Conference Opening Ceremony
- Plenary Session 1
- Talking Circles , Session 1
- Parallel Sessions: 30 minute papers; 60 minute workshops; 90 minute colloquia
- Lunch
- Parallel Sessions
- Evening: Official Welcome Dinner

TUESDAY 10 JANUARY, 2006

- 9.00am: Plenary Session 2
- Talking Circles, Session 2
- Parallel Sessions
- Lunch
- Parallel Sessions
- Evening: Traditional water puppets

WEDNESDAY 11 JANUARY 2006

- 9.00am: Parallel Sessions
- Talking Circles, Session 3
- Lunch
- Plenary Session 3
- pm: transfer to Ha Long Bay, via Dong Trieu Ceramic Village
- Culture and Poverty Alleviation Program

THURSDAY 12 JANUARY

- Morning: Site visits 1
- Lunch
- Afternoon: Site visits 2
- Talking Circles, Session 4
- Evening: Closing Ceremony, traditional performance and closing dinner



THEMES 2006

THEME 1: Environmental Sustainability

- The science and technology of environmental sustainability.
- Ecosystemics.
- Sustainable agriculture.
- Urbanisation and its consequences.
- Ecological footprints and ecospace.
- Atmosphere and biosphere: global warming, the ozone layer, pollution.
- Energy: renewable and not.
- Water: sources and uses.
- Land and sea, mountain and savannah, desert and wet zones, forests and coasts: variable impacts on varied environments.
- Biological diversity: its past and prospects.
- Biotechnology and its critics.
- Bioethics.
- Nature as intellectual and physical property.
- Danger signs: rising sea levels, desertification, soil degradation.
- Wastes and waste management.
- Measuring impacts: environmental assessment.

THEME 2: Cultural Sustainability

- The meaning of cultural sustainability.
- Belonging and identity: their environmental, economic and social significance.
- Changing patterns and cultures of consumption.
- Cosmopolis: local cultures, globalisation, diaspora.
- Civic pluralism: multiculturalism and cultural sustainability.
- Cultural and political liberalisation: challenges and dangers.
- Women and men, children and the elderly, families and sustainability.
- Cultural dimensions of childbearing and population growth.
- Cultural resources and indigenous or local intellectual property.
- Cultural tourism.
- Indigenous peoples: self-government, self management and cultural autonomy.
- Indigenous knowledge and traditional practices of sustainability: broadening the scope of valid knowledge.
- The arts and creativity as a resource for sustainability.
- Religion and human sustainability.
- Community and identity as sources of resilience.
- Education sustaining language and culture.

THEME 3: Economic Sustainability

- The economics of environment, culture and society.
- What is economic value?
- Cultural, social and environmental capital.
- The economics of sustainability.
- Needs, wants and demand: reconfiguring the economic equation.
- Business cases: the cost and value of sustainability.
- Risks and risk management: where economy meets environment, culture and society.
- Free trade and fair trade.
- Global flows: finance, trade, technology transfer and debt.
- Sustainable aid and aid for sustainability.
- The dynamics of production and consumption.
- Accountability: beyond financial years and bottom lines.
- Measuring performance and reporting sustainability.
- Organisations and corporations: defining the stakeholders and meeting their interests.
- Corporate values and business ethics.
- Development, underdevelopment and sustainability.
- Tourism and its impacts.
- Sustainable and unsustainable transportation.
- Structures of ownership: private property, public property and the commons.

THEME 4: Social Sustainability

- One, two, three, four, how many 'bottom lines'?
- Good citizenship in fragile environments, cultures, economies, societies.
- Levels of governance: sustainability at local, regional, national, and international levels.
- Domains of responsibility: NGOs, corporations, persons.
- Wellbeing and quality of life: sources and strategies.
- The sources of sustainable innovation.
- Planning for sustainability.
- Capacity building in theory and practice.
- Sustainability and community participation.
- Managing human 'resources'.
- Poverty and its eradication.
- Health in its environmental, cultural, economic and social contexts.
- Population growth and its consequences.
- Urbanisation and the sustainability of human settlement.
- Theories of complexity and uncertainty.
- Knowledge sources, information resources and data collection processes.
- Natural and social sciences: taking an holistic view.
- Researching sustainability.
- Knowledge capacities: developing science and technology locally.
- Public knowledge: the role of the media and government.
- Teaching and learning sustainability: schools, universities, communities.

SCOPE AND CONCERNS

The Sustainability Conference and The International Journal of Sustainability create a forum for discussion and a place for the publication of innovative theories and practices of sustainability.

The Conference and the Journal are cross-disciplinary in their scope, a meeting point for natural and social scientists, researchers and practitioners, professionals and community representatives. Our times call for interdisciplinary and holistic approaches. As the challenges to our human and planetary existence become less capable of being addressed by purely personal, corporate, local or short term solutions, so too narrowness of thinking will no longer suffice. This is not to say that we do not need to develop careful, finely grained, locally nuanced and deeply grounded knowledge and social practices of sustainability. Such perspectives are, if anything, more critical than ever. But increasingly they need also to be situated in the context of longer, broader and deeper views.

Four Fundamentals

Four foundations - four fundamentals - constitute a fourfold 'bottom line' for sustainability.

ENVIRONMENT: nature is a dynamic thing in and of itself, and sometimes convulsively so. Over several millennia, the human species has become one of the forces of nature, a critical part of its destiny, and ever more so today and tomorrow. Perhaps even, the human species may be a catalyst in another convulsion in the course of natural history. As nature more and more becomes an object of human artifice, its prospects become a subject more and more at the forefront of human consciousness. 'What have we done with nature?' we may well ask ourselves. What have been the forms and effects of our interventions? What are the implications of our newfound species-role as a force of nature, and what the responsibilities that accompany this role? How can we create a viable home for ourselves and the other lifeforms of the planet?

CULTURE: this is the stuff of our human natures, our subjectivities, our shared meanings and our memories. Culture is the glue of similarity ('identity', literally) that grounds our sociability. It is also a matter of difference or cultures in the plural, the multilayered combinations of which forms persons in the plural: ways of seeing, ways of thinking, ways of meaning, ways of relating to each other, ways of connecting with nature. The challenge of culture is as much to forge a productive diversity for the human species (ethnos, gender, ecosystemics) as it is to nurture the sources of cohesion and commonality.

ECONOMY: or the dynamics of our material life, where our social relations and our tools mix their energies with the natural world to meet our human needs. Here, the challenge is to create economic systems which are environmentally viable, not destroying or damaging our life sources as natural beings; which are culturally viable, not harming our identities and ultimately what is humane in our natures; and which are socially viable, not creating destructive tensions and unsustainable injustices around axes of inequality of access to material and social resources.

SOCIETY: or our systems of regulation and governance. What allows for all our participation as autonomous yet social beings? What makes for good citizenship? How do we create, manage and propagate knowledge? How do we integrate the four fundamentals of environment, culture, economy and society so we can address our human futures and live to the full our human potentials?

The Conference and the Journal attempt to locate the now, the here and the felt in longer, broader and deeper views of the four fundamentals of sustainability.

LONGER VIEWS

On a length dimension, we may wish to question the now-ness of our interests and actions: organisations which measure performance in solely in terms financial years; people who measure wellbeing in terms of instant gratification; communities which compromise future generations by satisfying their wants in the present. Of course, we need to live in the here and now, but that living is limited if it is purely for the here and the now and so prejudices environment, culture, economy or society in the longer view.

BROADER VIEWS

On a breadth dimension, we may question the here-ness of our interests and actions: acting locally without thinking globally; living personally without knowing politically; living in our cultures but sensitive to the diversity of others; operating to narrow economic or social goals without taking into account their ecosystemic sources and effects.

DEEPER VIEWS

On a depth dimension, we may question the this-ness of our interests: what we feel in our everyday lifeworlds in relation to deep and less immediately tangible social, economic and ecological structures; our individual and corporate motivations in relation to human and ecological values; monetary value in relation to human value; the hidden hand of personal self interest as opposed to the conscious hand of good governance, responsible citizenship and the values of caring for nature and each other.

The Sustainability Conference and the Journal of Environmental, Cultural, Economic and Social Sustainability provide a forum for discussion of the connections between environment, culture, economy and society. The perspectives presented range from big picture analyses which address global and universal concerns, to detailed case studies which speak of localised applications of the principles and practices of sustainability. Conference presentations and published papers traverse a broad terrain, sometimes technically and other times socially oriented, sometimes theoretical and other times practical in their perspective, and sometimes reflecting dispassionate analysis whilst at other times suggesting interested strategies for action.

STREAMS

The conference is divided into streams. These are very loosely grouped, approximating perspectives, knowledge-bases, professional practices or disciplines. As much as possible, we try to program parallel sessions relating to each stream into the same room. This means that it would be possible, if one wished, to follow the same stream for the whole conference. Each stream also has its own talking circle, a forum for focused discussion of issues.

You will be asked to select one or more streams when you submit a presentation proposal. If you select more than one stream or 'other', the conference organisers will choose a stream based on a reading of your title and abstract, or which seems to fit best with other presentation proposals that have been submitted.

- Environmental Sustainability
- Cultural Sustainability
- Economic Sustainability
- Social Sustainability
- Other





The International Journal of Environmental, Cultural, Economic and Social Sustainability

The proceedings of the Second Sustainability Conference are published in the International Journal of Environmental, Cultural, Economic and Social Sustainability. All papers are fully refereed. To submit, at least one author of each paper must be registered to attend the Conference (to a maximum of one paper per registered author - which means, for instance, that two registered authors may submit two jointly authored papers).

Registration may be for in-person presentation, or virtual presentation. Registration for a virtual presentation means that your presentation will be included in the conference proceedings, and your paper will be refereed for publication. As well as a hard copy offprint of your paper, virtual presenters will also be provided access to the full electronic version of that year's conference proceedings in CD format. Papers are published continuously to the Journal's online bookstore, as soon as the publication process is completed for each paper (and that can be any time before the conference, and continues after the conference as papers are refereed). The conference proceedings for each year constitute one volume of the Journal.

It is possible to attend and present at the Conference without submitting or publishing a formal written paper if you choose not to do so.

REGISTRATION OPTIONS

Residential Registration Package
- Single
\$AU1975.00 (\$US1536.35 | €1250.37)

Residential Registration Package
- Twin
\$AU1695.00 (\$US1318.54 | €1073.10)
Full Registration

\$AU850.00 (\$US661.22 | €538.13)

Virtual Registration
\$AU300.00 (\$US233.37 | €189.93)

FOR DETAILS OF THESE OPTIONS,
visit www.SustainabilityConference.com

CONTACT

WEBSITE:
www.SustainabilityConference.com

EMAIL ENQUIRIES
info-S06@commongroundconferences.com

SYDNEY:
Registration, Program & General Enquiries

PO Box K481, Haymarket
NSW 2000 Australia
Ph: +61 (0)2 9519 0303
Fax: +61 (0)2 9519 2203
Office: Level 3, 6A Nelson Street, Annandale,
New South Wales, Australia

MELBOURNE:
Publication, Journal and Referee Enquiries

PO Box 463, Altona
Victoria 3018 Australia
Ph: +61 (0)3 9398 8000
Fax: +61 (0)3 9398 8088
Office: Cnr Millers Rd & Esplanade, Altona,
Victoria, Australia

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