

Latin American Symposium on Climate Change Adaptation

Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, 10th-12th November 2015

<http://www.haw-hamburg.de/en/ftz-als/veranstaltungen/latinamerica2016.html>

Aims of Symposium:

- I. To provide research institutions, universities, NGOs, government agencies and enterprises from Latin America with an opportunity to display and present their works in the field of climate change adaptation;
- II. To foster the exchange of information, ideas and experiences acquired in the execution of climate change adaptation projects, especially successful initiatives and good practice across the region;
- III. To discuss methodological approaches and experiences deriving from case studies and projects, which aim to show how climate change adaptation may be implemented in practice;
- IV. To network the participants and provide a platform so they can explore possibilities for cooperation.

Current sessions:

Session 1: Climate Change Adaptation, Resilience and Hazards (including droughts/extreme rainfall induced landslides/floods)

Session 2: Climate Change Territory and Society

Session 3: Climate Change Adaptation in Urban Areas, Cities, and Countries and via Outreach Programmes

Session 4: Information, Communication, Education and Training on Climate Change

Session 5: Climate Change and Health

Session 6: Local Climate Change Adaptation Governance

Relevance:

Emergent trends in climate change governance on an international scale present significant challenges as well as opportunities for local governments. A recent shift in paradigm signals an urgent need for new forms of collaborative governance and decision making in order to respond to the challenges faced by local governments and communities, and to take advantage of emerging opportunities. This shift is observed in the international agreement reached at the COP21 including a series of national commitments (INDC's), the accumulation of scientific evidence and increased interest in research on adaptation related issues, the emergence of significant climate development assistance opportunities for adaptation, increasing interest by corporations and the private sector to provide climate solutions and investments, and expanding networks of city, civil society and community efforts to adapt to the effects of

climate change. Collaborative climate governance must be truly interdisciplinary in nature, in order to assure the participation of actors representing a wide variety of sectors and scales, necessary to generate cohesive responses and to avoid maladaptation.

This session will involve a spirited exchange of information and experiences from a variety of perspectives, with a specific focus on climate change adaptation governance on a local level. Open to participants representing local governments, civil society, academia, local communities, as well as the private sector, the session will highlight local experiences regarding the implementation of adaptation measures, planning, new forms of institutionality, adaptation management, and decision making in the context of climate change adaptation governance. This session is expected to contribute to improving synergies between these diverse groups of actors, with the goal of establishing design principles for effective local climate action. It represents a space for discussion explicitly focused on key issues surrounding local level adaptation governance.

Key questions to be addressed:

- What are the roles of each sector (public, civil society, private, academic) in achieving effective local-level adaptation? How do (should) these sectors interact with one another?
- What action is needed by other actors (at the regional and national level, for example) in order to produce conditions/opportunities for successful local adaptation?
- Where are the key knowledge gaps relevant to local climate change adaptation, and what tools and methodologies can address these gaps?

Organizers:

The Federal University of Rio de Janeiro,
Oswaldo Cruz Foundation,
The Research and Transfer Centre “Applications of Life Sciences” of the Hamburg University of Applied Sciences (Germany), the International Climate Change Information Programme (ICCIP)

Key dates:

Deadline for submission of abstracts: **20th April 2016**

Deadline for submission of papers: 30th June 2016

Deadline for the submission of revised papers: 30th September 2016

Deadline for registrations: 30th September 2016



Webpage:

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The Co-Chairs:

Prof. **Walter Leal**, HAW Hamburg (Germany) and Manchester Metropolitan University (UK)

Professor Edmundo Gallo, Oswaldo Cruz Foundation, Brazil

Professor Ana Luiza Coelho Netto, Geoscience Institute of Federal University of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil