

## **Negotiating diverging values, interests and institutions in the spatial governance of commons**

*Chair: Piotr Matczak*

*Organisers: Piotr Matczak (Adam Mickiewicz University, Poland), Krzysztof Niedziałkowski (Institute of Philosophy and Sociology, Polish Academy of Sciences)*

The environmental commons are increasingly endangered worldwide despite efforts to protect them. Biodiversity, habitat stability, floods risk protection, cultural landscapes are examples the commons which without effective policy measures will continue to deteriorate as a result of economic and climate pressures. A particularly powerful policy tool is spatial planning. However, its efficiency and effectiveness are disputable and locally embedded. Spatial planning brings together interests of different spatial and temporal levels, economic and fiscal limitations, formal and informal institutions and administrative contexts, as well as different groups of actors with different influence and resources who want to have their interests, values and discourses translated into the planning institutions. Institutional design of the process can facilitate expression of communities and interests, but it can also hamper the access of particularly less organised groups thus compromising environmental justice. The planning process is also structured by the wider context of policy making including political and cultural dimensions which sustain or destabilise institutional paths of spatial policy. In this session we look at the factors contributing to or undermining effective land use planning aimed at sustainable governing of commons. We are interested in trajectories of land use policies and their cross-country comparisons, as well as case studies investigating development of particular planning instruments and fields, such as forest planning, water and flood risk management, and protection of cultural landscapes. The session will contribute to the theme of the ESEE 2017 conference by highlighting the role of ecological economic research in analysing and advocating land use solutions considering future generations and environmental justice. Its scope addresses sub-themes “Ecological Economics as Policy Science for Institutional Change” and “Ecological Economics as Critical Inquiry for Advocacy and Justice”.

Papers/contributors:

K. Niedziałkowski (Institute of Philosophy and Sociology, Polish Academy of Sciences): “When commons and private goods collide - deinstitutionalization of the land use planning system in Poland following the socio-economic transformation”.

Land use planning system in Poland developed in the late 1940s and 1950s following a centralized design characteristic for communist countries of Central and Eastern Europe. It was built on a strong premise of superiority of the common good over private interests and despite organisational problems survived until the democratic transformation of 1989. In 1994, a new Land Use Act was implemented which undermined organisational and discursive backbone of the old system, promoting a new neoliberal discourse and contributing to the chaos in land use planning in Poland which affected many commons, especially connected with cultural landscapes and flood management. The paper identifies discursive and institutional factors that contributed to the crisis and its impact on environmental justice.

P. Matczak (Adam Mickiewicz University, Poland): “Coordination of spatial planning and flood risk management in six EU countries (Belgium, England, France, the Netherlands, Poland, Sweden)”.

In this article, it is examined to what extent proactive spatial planning is being developed in the analysed countries. It is investigated what factors both constrain and/or facilitate taking of proactive spatial planning measures into flood risk management, and it is discussed on the perspectives that can be drawn from good practices to propose a definition of pro-active spatial planning that would take on the challenge of the articulation with flood risk prevention.

S. Bruzzone (Ecole Nationale des Ponts et Chaussées, France): “The bargaining between spatial planning processes and water quality of urban runoffs: some examples from the Parisian region”.

The European directive of 2000 has introduced an ambitious goal for the preservation of water resources. Urban runoffs are now acknowledged as an important source of pollutants. The contribution explore the way in which management practices for the control of micropollutants found in road runoff are implemented in the Parisian region. The integration of stormwater quality objectives in spatial planning still appears to be characterized by great political and scientific uncertainty.

K. Ek and M. Pettersson (Luleå University of Technology, Sweden): “Lack of spatial planning in Swedish forest governance: consequences for flood risk management”

The Swedish forest sector is of considerable importance in terms of export and production values but the forest serves many uses; it also produces significant indirect and non-use values, including berry and mushroom picking, recreation, tourism, biodiversity, flood mitigation and habitat protection. One of the most significant forestry related conflicts is rooted in the divergence between production forest and protection of forest land. From a governance perspective this is primarily due to the mixed and unclear control of the forest land. While virtually all land and water areas in Sweden are subject to decentralised physical planning, the planning system does not include forests. Instead, it is the landowners who are responsible for the forest planning, controlled by the Swedish Forest Agency who has the formal (regulatory) authority over the sector. The forest industry thus has no incentive to consider other values than productive values. This implies that the other uses of forests to a large extent become under-valued and under-exploited. This in turn has consequences for the possibilities to make use of e.g. the forest flood mitigation capacity.