

MEET A GEC RESEARCHER

Mine Islar

Together with Sara Brogaard from LUCSUS, Mine Islar got one of the 2014 SSEESS Research Links grants. This grant supported collaborations that link the regional priorities from the three ICSU regional offices with the research themes of Future Earth.

How is your research linked to Global Environmental Change (GEC)?

My research is linked to GEC research in two ways: as I work with sustainability science, I do recognise the strong connections between society and environment and I am interested in societal changes.

Why are you interested in GEC research?

“Transformation of the society towards a more sustainable and socially just future by using clean, carbon-neutral energy sources” is one of my research interests and also a GEC topic. It requires an interdisciplinary approach. Since my PhD as a sustainability scientist within the LUCID programme at Lund University, I’ve been enjoying interdisciplinary research. This allows me to combine social justice research with renewable-energy development.

What are the biggest challenges for you when working on GEC topics?

There is not the one big solution to all the problems that GEC topics deal with. A solution may be ideal for one part of the world but not for others. We should therefore always acknowledge the diversities and interconnectedness of environmental issues when we define the problem.

Job title: Assistant Professor

Organisation: LUCSUS/
Lund University

Research area: Renewable energy, political ecology, energy democracy, water and land rights, sustainability

Favourite research trip: Nepal – to work on a project on sustainable energy with Sara Brogaard



Which of your projects did SSEESS support, and how?

Together with Sara Brogaard from LUCSUS, I got the SSEESS Research Links 2014 grant for our project on exploring the sustainability of the community-run hydropower development in Nepal. This project aims to understand processes and outcomes of transformation to renewable energy by giving a central role to communities.

The SSEESS grant was used to conduct a month of fieldwork where we visited several sites including hydropower projects. Nepalese partners also visited LUCSUS in March 2015 to give seminars on development aid and Nepal’s future.

These personal meetings in Sweden and Nepal have helped Sara and me to establish good connections with the Water conservation programme in Nepal and the Nepal Academy of Science and Technology (NAST), as well as to write, together with our partners from Nepal, a proposal with a potential to get funding from research and developing funding agencies.

Read more about the SSEESS Research Links Grant Programme and Future Earth on the next page





SSEESS

Research Links

This grant aims to enhance the collaboration between scientists affiliated with a Swedish research institute and scientists from developing countries who together conduct research on Global Environmental Change (GEC). This grant is expected to help such North-South collaborations to have a long legacy.

The focus areas of SSEESS Research Links can differ from year to year. The 2014 grants supported especially those research collaborations that link the regional priorities from the three ICSU regional offices with the research themes of the Future Earth.

For more information please visit www.sseess.org.

SSEESS wants to increase the participation of Swedish researchers such as Mine Islar in international GEC programmes.

More information at
www.sseess.org/grants-and-more



Future Earth

Future Earth is a global research platform providing the knowledge and support to accelerate our transformations to a sustainable world. The success of Future Earth will depend on active collaboration between nations, disciplines, programmes, researchers and stakeholders to ensure that knowledge is generated in partnership with society and users of science.

Bringing together and in partnership with existing global environmental change (GEC) programmes, Future Earth will coordinate new inter- and trans-disciplinary approaches to international research on three themes:

- Dynamic Planet
- Global Sustainable Development
- Transformations towards Sustainability

futureearth
research for global sustainability

More information at
www.futureearth.org



SSEESS

The Swedish Secretariat for Environmental Earth System Sciences (SSEESS) is a collaborative partnership between the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences, FORTE, Formas, Vetenskapsrådet, and Sida.



On behalf of the members of the SSEESS partnership, the Secretariat acts as a Swedish link to Global Environmental Change (GEC) Research.

As a Swedish link to GEC research, SSEESS aims to increase the participation of Swedish researchers in international GEC research programmes and organisations.

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