

MEET A GEC RESEARCHER

Sara Brogaard

Together with Mine Islar from LUCSUS, Sara Brogaard 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)?

I aim to work on sustainability issues that link natural resources with livelihood or governance perspectives, often with the main geographical focus on the global south.

Why are you interested in GEC research?

We live in a globalised world where increasingly urgent natural-resource problems need both research and practical approaches that work across scales and look at challenges from several dimensions (such as natural and social perspectives).

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

There are three big challenges:

- The loss of your identity as a researcher – you may have to find a new research identity. I see myself as a sustainable researcher nowadays.
- Dealing with complexity – what solutions exist, and in what context and for whom are they valid?
- Lack of funding opportunities for projects that cross traditional geographical regions and disciplines.

Job title: Senior Lecturer/Co-director

Organisation: LUCSUS/
Lund university

Research area: Land-climate interactions mainly approached from sustainability science perspectives

Favourite research trip: I have enjoyed all my fieldwork trips, including the trip to Nepal in November 2014. Fieldwork always gives me important and new insights.



Which of your projects did SSEESS support, and how?

Together with Mine Islar 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 fieldwork where we visited several sites including hydropower projects. Mine spent a month in Nepal while I stayed for two weeks. 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 Mine 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 Sara Brogaard 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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Swedish Secretariat for Environmental
Earth System Sciences
Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences
Box 50005, SE-104 05 Stockholm
info@sseess.kva.se

